



ELNEC

END-OF-LIFE NURSING EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

Advancing Palliative Care

End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium

Celebrating 15 years

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DEDICATED TO
EDUCATION AND
PROMOTING
EXCELLENT
PALLIATIVE CARE



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RESEARCH · TREATMENT · CURES



American Association
of Colleges of Nursing

END-OF-LIFE NURSING EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

Millions this year will need your help to live their last days with dignity and comfort. Are you prepared to provide the excellent quality of care they deserve?

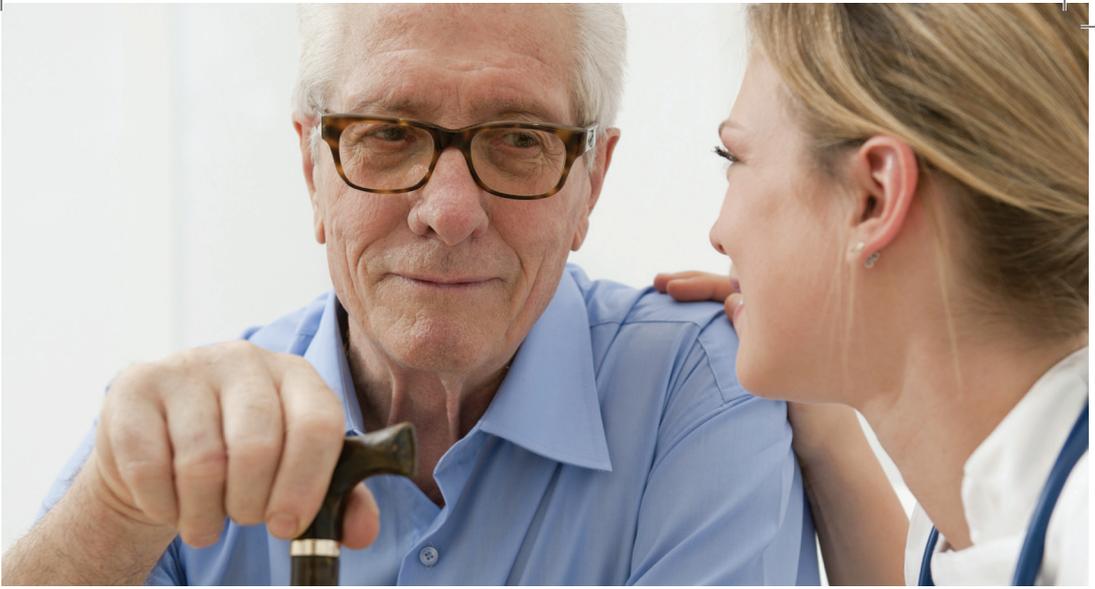
WHAT IS ELNEC?

The End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) project is an international education initiative to improve palliative care. The project provides training in palliative care with essential information to nursing students and practicing nurses, including undergraduate and graduate nursing faculty, continuing education providers, staff development educators, specialty nurses in pediatrics, oncology, critical care, geriatrics and advanced practice nurses. ELNEC also welcomes other health care professionals.

The project, which began in February 2000, was initially funded by a major grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additional funding has been received from Aetna Foundation, Archstone Foundation, California HealthCare Foundation, Cambia Health Foundation, Milbank Foundation, National Cancer Institute, Oncology Nursing Foundation, Open Society Foundation and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The ELNEC project is administered by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) in Washington, D.C., and City of Hope, in Duarte, CA. The esteemed faculty includes a national cadre of nursing leaders in palliative care.

Between January 2001 and January 2015, over 19,500 nurses and other health care professionals have attended national/international ELNEC Train the Trainer courses.



ELNEC trainers then go on to host professional development seminars for practicing nurses within their institution, incorporating ELNEC content into nursing curriculum, hosting regional training sessions to expand ELNEC's reach into rural and underserved communities, presenting ELNEC at national and international conferences, coordinating community partnerships and improving the quality of nursing care in other innovative ways.

How many have been trained?

- Over 19,500 health care professionals



- Representing all 50 U.S. states and 85 countries

- Trainers have returned to their settings and trained an estimated 585,000 health care professionals.



SIX AVAILABLE CURRICULA:

ELNEC - Core

ELNEC - Pediatric Palliative Care

ELNEC - Critical Care

ELNEC - Geriatric

ELNEC - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

ELNEC - International

ELNEC'S CORE MODULES

1 Palliative Nursing Care	2 Pain Management	3 Symptom Management
Overview of the need to improve palliative care and the role of the nurse as a member of an interdisciplinary team in providing quality care. Basic definitions and principles of hospice and palliative care are presented within a quality-of-life framework.	Basic principles of pain assessment and management with a focus on pain at the end of life.	Addresses other symptoms common in serious illness and the role of the nurse in managing these symptoms.
4 Ethical Issues	5 Culture	6 Communication
Discusses key ethical issues and legal concerns in end-of-life/palliative care and resources to address these in practice.	Reviews dimensions of culture and spirituality, which influence care in advanced disease. Assessment of culture is emphasized as essential for effective communication and providing culturally competent care.	Emphasizes the importance of communication in end-of-life care. The complexities of communicating with patients and families at this critical time are described along with suggestions for care.
7 Loss, Grief and Bereavement	8 Final Hours	
Addresses the challenging aspects of grief, loss and bereavement of patients and families, as well as the loss experienced by health care professionals.	Focuses on care at the actual time of death, emphasizing the preparation necessary to ensure the best care at this critical event in the trajectory of illness.	

ELNEC - Core serves as the base of all ELNEC curricula.

ELNEC - Core

ELNEC - Core was the first of the ELNEC curricula to be developed. It debuted in January 2001 in Pasadena, CA, and was designed for undergraduate and graduate nursing faculty, CE providers and staff development educators, hospice nurses, homecare nurses and staff nurses working in acute care settings (i.e., oncology, medical/surgical, palliative care settings, etc.)

Other members of the interdisciplinary team are welcome to attend with the understanding that the curriculum is written by nurses for nurses.

ELNEC - Pediatric

ELNEC - Pediatric Palliative Care (ELNEC - PPC) was developed by 20 pediatric palliative care experts, who recognized the unique needs of children and their families. Since its inception in August 2003, more than 21 national courses have been provided across the U.S., along with seven Association for Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses collaborative courses. Over 2,000 pediatric nurses and other health care providers have attended one of these national train-the-trainer courses. In 2009, the curriculum was updated to include enhanced perinatal and neonatal content.



All the information and materials will be extremely helpful. I'll be able with other staff members — to improve quality of interactions with our

ELNEC - Critical Care

ELNEC - Critical Care curriculum debuted in 2006 and was developed for nurses who work in intensive care, coronary care, burn unit, dialysis units, emergency departments and other clinical areas encompassing critical care.

To date, over 1,115 critical care nurses have attended one of the national ELNEC - Critical Care train-the-trainer programs.



ELNEC - Geriatric

The ELNEC- Geriatric curriculum, which was developed in 2006, addresses the unique needs of geriatric nurses who work in long-term care and skilled nursing facilities, and hospices that service these facilities. Nurses from acute care settings, clinics and homecare also find the training helpful to their practice of caring for the older adult. In addition, the curriculum includes supplemental



teaching strategies for educating unlicensed personnel that work with geriatric patients and their families. Currently, over 1,000 geriatric nurses and other interdisciplinary team members have attended one of the national courses.

to use in my own interactions with patients and their families — along
r patients and their families.

— ELNEC - Pediatric Palliative Care Participant, 2014

ELNEC - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)

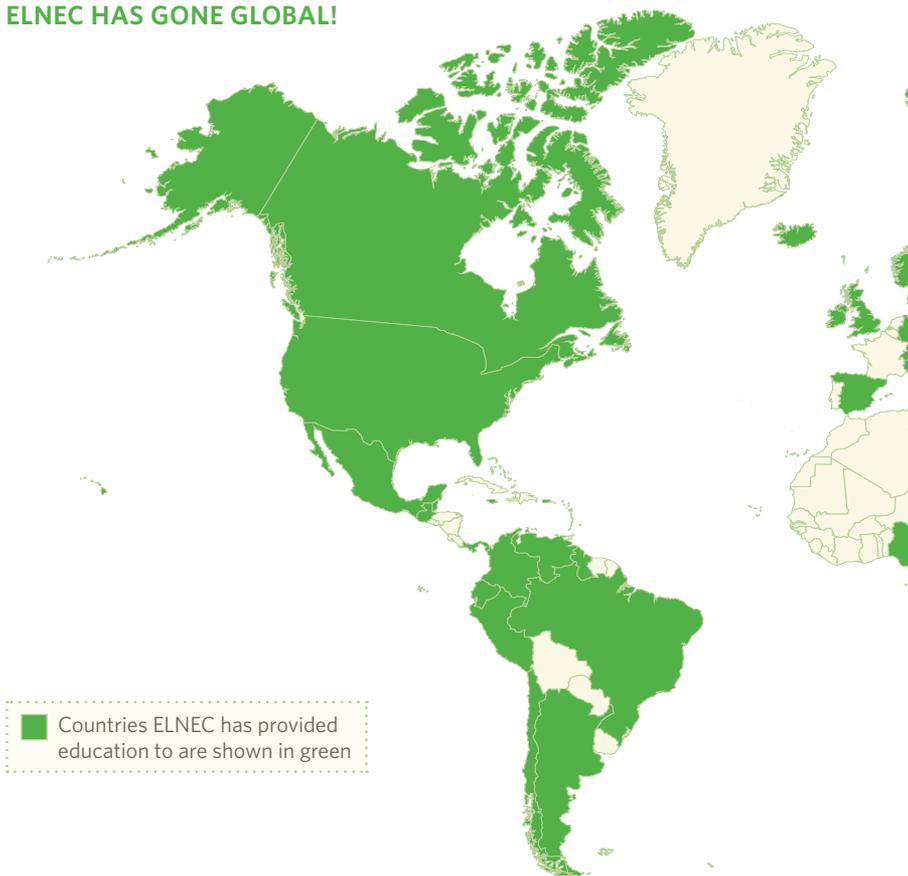
Developed in 2013, ELNEC- APRN curriculum focuses on advanced education in pain and symptom assessment/management and communication. There are many palliative care teams across the U.S. led by advanced practice registered nurses. These key APRN team members exemplify commitment to their varied roles not only in leadership, but in practice, education and research. Additional training in palliative care-related finances, budgets, quality improvement, education and leadership are also provided. Participants can choose to attend one of two tracks — adult- or pediatric-focused care.



ELNEC - International

ELNEC's primary aim is to educate nurses to improve end-of-life care. While initial efforts, launched in 2000, were focused in the United States, many ELNEC trainers have had opportunities to travel internationally and provide this education to nurses and other health care providers throughout the world. Currently, ELNEC trainers and faculty have traveled to six of the seven continents, representing 85 countries. Many trainers have provided ELNEC educational courses, while others have gone as consultants to work with educators, health administrators and community leaders to improve care of the dying in their countries. It is estimated that over 7,700 nurses and other health care providers have received ELNEC training internationally.

ELNEC HAS GONE GLOBAL!



Countries have translated ELNEC into their language and have adapted it to increase relevance to their culture. For example, ELNEC has been translated into Russian and is being used in Eastern Europe. ELNEC is also translated into Spanish (Core and Pediatric Palliative Care versions) and is being widely disseminated in Mexico, Central America and parts of South America. ELNEC-Japanese, ELNEC-Korean, ELNEC-German, ELNEC-Romanian, ELNEC-Albanian and ELNEC-Chinese are also available.



KEY INFORMATION

- People in our country deny death, believing that medical science can cure any patient. Death often is seen as a failure of the health care system rather than a natural aspect of life. This belief affects all health professionals, including nurses. Despite their undisputed technical and interpersonal skills, professional nurses may not be completely comfortable with the specialized knowledge and skills needed to provide quality palliative care to patients. The ELNEC project gives nurses the knowledge and skills required to provide this specialized care and to positively impact the lives of patients and families facing serious illness at the end of life.
- The curriculum was developed through the work of nationally recognized palliative care experts with extensive input from an advisory board and reviewers. The curriculum is revised annually



based on participant recommendations and new advances in the field and is modified for each distinct audience.

The curriculum focuses on core areas in end-of-life care reflecting AACN's 1998 publication *Peaceful Death: Recommended Competencies and Curricular Guidelines for End-of-Life Nursing Care*. This document outlines specific aspects of professional nursing care considered requisite for each graduate. Other landmark

documents used in the development of the ELNEC curricula include the 2013 National Consensus Project's (NCP) *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care* and the 2014 Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report entitled *Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life*.



- While the ELNEC - Oncology, ELNEC - Graduate, ELNEC - For Veterans, ELNEC- For Veterans Critical Care, and ELNEC - Public Hospital courses have concluded, many health care professionals now attend ELNEC - Core courses.
- Participants receive a comprehensive syllabus, palliative care textbook and a wealth of resources and strategies to teach this content to others. Teaching materials are furnished in hard copy as well as on a flashdrive or to electronic media so nurse educators can use them efficiently for their own instructional purposes.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ELNEC TRAINER?

For more information about the ELNEC Project or to see a listing of current national ELNEC train-the-trainer courses for this year, go to www.aacn.nche.edu/elnec.



For more information about the ELNEC Project, go to:

www.aacn.nche.edu/elneec

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ONLINE RESOURCES INCLUDE:

- Information about upcoming ELNEC train-the-trainer courses
- Publications and articles
- Database of national and international ELNEC trainers
- Materials and instructions for planning an ELNEC course
- Information about international ELNEC efforts



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