The Diploma in Palliative Medicine is designed for doctors aspiring to be a Staff Registrar who has attained knowledge and skills in evaluating and managing patients in Palliative Medicine. The structured programme and the close supervision of trainees will ensure the development of a competent and safe Staff Registrar.

**Programme Objectives**

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**Co-Programme Directors**

Dr Norhisham Bin Main  
Senior Consultant  
Department of Medicine  
Ng Teng Fong General Hospital

Dr Yong Woon Chai  
Consultant  
Department of Haematology-Oncology  
National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS)

**Fee Structure**

- Registration fee: $500 (non-refundable one-time payment)
- Course fee: $7,250 per year
- Examination fee: $250 per year
- Supplementary fee: $500 per year

*Prevailing rate of Goods and Services Tax (GST) is not inclusive in the fees and is collected on top of the above fees. All fees are non-refundable upon commencement of training. These fees are exclusive of any fees payable to SMC for change of practice site during the practicum.*

**Contact Details**

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All information published in this brochure is accurate on the date of publication and is subject to change thereafter. Publication Date: 28 March 2016
Admission Criteria
This programme is open to all medically-trained doctors who possess Temporary registration (Service), Conditional registration or Full registration with the Singapore Medical Council (SMC). However, applicants must also satisfy the following criteria for admission into this programme:
- Currently working in Palliative Medicine and have completed at least ONE year of clinical work in Palliative Medicine in the same Palliative Medicine unit of a local restructured hospital or in the same community hospice in Singapore;
- Have a sponsoring unit, department or institution;
- Have a programme supervisor who possesses Full registration with the SMC and is either a sub-specialist in Palliative Medicine or a specialist in Geriatric Medicine with extensive experience in Palliative Medicine. This supervisor should preferably work at the same institution as the applicant.

Programme Duration
This is a structured 2-year training programme. The programme involves the following components:
- Supervised Clinical Posting
- NUS Graduate Diploma in Palliative Medicine Course (one-year part time)
- Case reports with focused Literature Review

Yearly Commencement date:
July

Yearly Application period:
April

Syllabus
Some of the modules that are taught and examinable during the 2-year training programme include:

- History of palliative care
- Prognostication
- Basic cancer biology

Clinical Care of:
- End-stage heart disease
- End-stage respiratory failure
- Motor Neuron Disease
- Severe dementia, Parkinson's disease
- HIV/AIDS
- End-stage liver failure & end-stage renal disease

- Pain management
- Malignant intestinal obstruction
- Anorexia and cachexia in cancer
- Hydration and nutrition in advanced cancer
- Dyspnoea
- Ascites
- Difficult symptoms in palliative care
- Emergencies in palliative care
- Terminal care
- Communication in palliative care
- Wound and stoma care

Assessment Criteria
- Case reports and focused literature review.
- Final assessment: MCQ tests and short questions, Final OSCE Exam and final Clinical exam