

END OF LIFE VERTICAL INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

A. The knowledge, skills and attitudes related to end of life care and symptom management that are developed within individual courses/clerkships will be assessed within those courses/clerkships via written exam questions, clinical skills exercises, written assignments, faculty observation and/or other applicable methods.

B. Cumulative Medical Knowledge Assessment

The **Topics in Clinical Medicine-3 exam** at the end of the MS-3 year will be a multiple choice exam. Questions will be directed toward the following objectives:

- Describe the pathophysiology and management of the common symptoms encountered at end of life, including: nausea and vomiting, constipation, delirium, dyspnea
- Describe the pathophysiology and management of the common symptom of pain
- Apply knowledge of the points of consensus and controversy to make reasonable judgements regarding the following ethical aspects of end of life care: withholding treatment, pain management, access of patients to high quality palliative and end of life care
- Explain appropriate skills and strategies for communication during difficult situations, such as delivering serious news
- Identify the multiple determinants of suffering: physical, psychological, social, cultural and spiritual
- Describe the concepts and philosophy of palliative care
- Demonstrate knowledge of the philosophy of hospice and the services provided by a hospice program
- Demonstrate appropriate skills and strategies for developing advance directives with patients and their families

A score of 70% on the End of Life questions is required to pass the End of Life component of the TCM-3 exam. Students who do not obtain 70% on the End of Life component of the TCM3 exam will be required to take, and successfully pass, a written remediation exam on end of life content.

C. End of Life OSCE

The End of Life OSCE will take place in Spring of the MS-3 year.

Students will have 4 standardized patient encounters and will be required to demonstrate knowledge and communications skills for the following 4 scenarios:

- Assessing pain
- Delivering Serious News
- Discussing Power of Attorney for Healthcare
- Discussing Hospice

Students who do not successfully complete the OSCE will be required to participate in a remediation OSCE.