

## Learning Objectives

- Recognise signs that a patient may be nearing EOL
- Assess and manage common signs and symptoms at the EOL (N&V, SOB, pain, agitation)
- Recognise the importance of social, psychological and spiritual aspects of care and how to assess these
- Appreciate the social impact of life limiting illness and needs of families/carers
- Identify what is most important to patients and their families at EOL
- Safely prescribe analgesia, especially opioids, at EOL
- Understand why, when and how to prescribe anticipatory medication at EOL
- Understand why, when and how to prescribe a continuous subcutaneous infusion (syringe pump) and prns
- Consider the components of a safe discharge home of patients for EOL care
- Know when to refer to Specialist Palliative Care Services
- Understand decision-making regarding ceilings of treatment, Treatment Escalation Plans and Advance Care Planning and their limitations
- Practise writing a death certificate
- Gain confidence in communication with patients with life limiting illness and their families. Consider how to respond to questions regarding prognosis, artificial nutrition and hydration and 'am I dying?'