

Hospice Foundation of America's Program

DIGNITY THERAPY (DT): HONORING A PATIENT'S LIFE STORY AND LEGACY

Self-Study ONLINE Course

DESCRIPTION

While hospice and palliative care is multidimensional, its overall goals are relief of human suffering and improvement of quality of life. One aspect of this care is providing dignity for seriously ill persons, recognizing them as unique human beings. Join renowned clinician Dr. Harvey Max Chochinov and internationally-recognized researcher Dr. Susan Bluck to discuss their clinical and research work focused on Dignity Therapy (DT). Dr. Chochinov is the founder of Dignity Therapy and Dr. Bluck's research focuses on analysis of the stories patients tell during therapy, including how they narrate their life and legacy. DT allows patients to tell their stories of communion with others, provides the opportunity to make meaning of challenging events, and may evoke a sense of purpose.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Hospice Foundation of America has taken its popular webinar program and created a self-study course for professionals. The online presentation features an experienced professional offering his own expertise on the topic. On the screen, you will see the slide presentation and will be able to see and hear the expert presenter.

- RELEASE DATE:** Program originally premiered February 13, 2024
ON DEMAND: Viewing available to registered individuals for 6 months after purchase.
LENGTH: 90 minutes
CE HOURS: 1.5 hours
CONTENT LEVEL: The program is mainly for professionals already working in the field, but is practical for all levels of education – entry level, intermediate or advanced.
TARGET AUDIENCE: The course is useful to Health care clinicians, social service clinicians and others working in the hospice, palliative care, counseling, hospital, nursing home, funeral home or faith community environments

HOW THE ONLINE SELF-STUDY PROGRAM WORKS

Step 1 - Register/purchase the course

Step 2 - View the course online through the link in your confirmation email or in your account.

Step 3 - Follow the instructions provided to receive your CE certificate*.

*An evaluation and a short exam are a part of this process.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

A computer and reliable internet connection. Mobile service provider charges may apply.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION/FEEES

Register directly online, on HFA's website: www.hospicefoundation.org.

There are no refunds on registration. *Few exceptions may occur depending on the circumstance. To request a refund, a written request must be received (and granted) by HFA.

REGISTRATION POLICY

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Provides one person, the registrant, access to the self-study course for personal viewing and continuing education. Discounts may be available for multiple viewers. Please check HFA's website at www.hospicefoundation.org for current pricing.

MATERIALS AREA

Course materials (Video, Program Slides, and Viewer Guide) are accessible to all registered individuals online immediately after registering. Download materials are available on HFA's website at <https://hospicefoundation.org/Shop-HFA/My-Account>, under "Orders/Courses."

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS PROGRAM, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

1. Illustrate how considerations of dignity inform person centered care.
2. Define the theoretical and empirical basis of Dignity Therapy
3. Identify and describe the elements of Intensive Caring.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

- I. Introductions (5 min)
- II. What is Dignity Therapy (DT)? (10 min)
- III. Goals and applications of DT (15 min)
- IV. Narrative analysis of the life stories and legacies patients share in DT sessions (20 min)
- V. Examples from the narratives (20 min)
- VI. Conclusion (10 min)
- VII. Question & Answer Session (10 min)

CONTINUING EDUCATION

This program is valid for 1.5 contact hours of continuing education. View the current list of board approvals on HFA's website at www.hospicefoundation.org, located on the program's registration page.

COURSE COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:

Participants must view the entire 90-minute program (online-streaming video). Partial credit is not awarded. Participants must also complete the entire CE process online before a certificate is awarded. The online CE process includes a required evaluation form and exam. The exam must be completed at 80% or above (the exam may be re-taken, if necessary).

EXPERT SPEAKERS

Harvey Max Chochinov, MD, PhD, FRCPC, is a Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Manitoba and a Senior Scientist at CancerCare Manitoba Research Institute. His research in palliative care has resulted in more than 300 career publications, broaching diverse topics such as depression, quality-of-life, suicide, vulnerability, spirituality, and existential distress. He has also led a large program of research on dignity within the healthcare setting, which includes the development and study of Dignity Therapy. He is the co-founder of the Canadian Virtual Hospice, co-editor of *The Handbook of Psychiatry in Palliative Medicine* (Oxford University Press). His latest book is entitled *Dignity in Care: The Human Side of Medicine*, published by Oxford University Press. He is an Officer in the Order of Canada, and an inductee into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

Susan Bluck, PhD, is a lifespan developmental psychologist with an emphasis on adult development, aging, and the end-of-life. Her research examines the ways that individuals use memories of life's experiences (i.e., autobiographical remembering, life stories) to serve adaptive psychosocial functions in their current life context. Her contributions to both theory and measurement development are highly cited. Her empirical work demonstrates memory's adaptive psychosocial functions: maintaining self-continuity, and developing intimacy and empathy in relationships. In her most recent work, funded by the National Cancer Institute, she collaborates with health professionals in palliative care to examine the last chapter of the life

story - death-related events. Her theoretical and empirical work appears in such journals as *Psychology and Aging*, *The Gerontologist*, *Memory*, and *Death Studies*.

REVIEWER

Angela Novas, MSN, RN, CRNP, *Senior Medical Officer*, Hospice Foundation of America

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CE Certificates for this program may only be obtained through HFA.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITY (ADA)

Reasonable accommodation may be made available, on an individual basis. To request accommodation, please contact HFA via email at educate@hospicefoundation.org or call 800-854-3402, or write to HFA, 1707 L Street NW, Suite 220, Washington, DC 20036.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Planners (Panelists and Reviewers) disclose no conflict of interest relative to this educational activity. None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationships to disclose with ineligible companies.

**FOR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR ADDRESSING GRIEVANCES
PLEASE CONTACT**

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