

ABSTRACT EAPC

Core Curriculum and Guidelines for the Basic Education of the Physiotherapist in Palliative Care, Published by Società Italiana di Cure Palliative

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The 'Società Italiana di Cure Palliative' (SICP) has published the Core Curriculum for Physiotherapists in Palliative Care (2013) to define the skills and educational requirements necessary for the consolidation and improvement of palliative care. It is a tool intended for decision-makers with the purpose of defining educational policies in accordance with the prime objectives proposed by the SICP.

The Guidelines for the Basic Education of Physiotherapists in Palliative Care, published by the SICP at the end of 2014, derives from the core curriculum and sets forth a specific educational program for providing appropriate knowledge in palliative care to students of the degree course in Physiotherapy.

Both documents are set out in tables that specify the effective nature of the skills and knowledge which are distinguished by the field of action:

- Ability to assess patients and their families
- Ability to relate to patients and their families
- Ability to take care of patients
- Ability to take care of patients and their families as a physiotherapist
- Ability to take care of families in various care settings
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to coordinate a physiotherapy service
- Ability to deal with ethical and legal issues
- Ability to carry out research
- Ability to instruct

The knowledge and skills necessary for practicing physiotherapy in PC are extremely complex and regard various training contexts. It is required that an adequate education may be achieved through:

- The addition of specific studies to already existing educational programs
- The introduction of a specific course of Physiotherapy in Palliative Care
- The introduction of specific training.

The importance of the content and the specific nature of the educational targets should stimulate appropriate reflection concerning the role and responsibilities of the trainers.