

## DIPLOMA IN PALLIATIVE CARE

### Definition of palliative care

- Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual.

-WHO 2002

This is a one-year diploma distance learning programme for health professionals working in Africa. Through IHPCA the course transfers skills to medical personnel in the care of terminally ill cancer and HIV/AIDS patients. This course enables trainees to integrate palliative care within their own environment and cascade their acquired knowledge and skills to other health professionals, allied professionals and carers.

Programme Title:	Diploma in Palliative Care
Final Award:	Diploma in Palliative Care (DPC)
Awarding Institution:	Makerere University
Teaching Institution:	Institute of Hospice & Palliative Care in Africa (IHPCA)
Programme Accredited by:	Uganda National Council of Higher Education
Fees:	\$2500

<b>Payment Structure:</b>	For fee-paying students payment can be made in full at registration or a 50% payment made at the commencement of each semester.															
<b>Scholarships/Grants:</b>	See "FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIP" link															
<b>Entry Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The course is open to all health professionals.</li> <li>• A minimum of 3 years working experience in the health care profession.</li> <li>• Registration with an affiliated professional body within their country of work.</li> </ul>															
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year															
<b>Frequency of Intake:</b>	Once per year															
<b>Mode of Study:</b>	<p>Distance learning programme. Four weeks face to face at IHPCA.</p> <p>Teaching structure:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="600 997 2047 1134"> <tr> <th colspan="5">DIPLOMA IN PALLIATIVE CARE</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="3">Semester One</th> <th colspan="2">Semester Two</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Face to face</td> <td>Self Study</td> <td>Exams</td> <td>Self Study</td> <td>Exams</td> </tr> </table>	DIPLOMA IN PALLIATIVE CARE					Semester One			Semester Two		Face to face	Self Study	Exams	Self Study	Exams
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<p><b>Programme Objectives:</b></p>	<p>The main objective of this course is to equip health professionals with the skills to integrate palliative care to terminally ill patients within their working environment. In addition it aims to enable trainees to transfer their new knowledge and skills to other health professionals, allied health professionals and carers within their professional context.</p>
<p><b>Programme Outcomes:</b></p>	<p>It is expected that the graduate with <b>the Diploma in Palliative Care</b> would be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to consult appropriately, and to provide care in a way that is sensitive and informed by the local African socio-cultural context;</li> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to work autonomously as palliative care health professionals, with minimal supervision;</li> <li>• Demonstrate a basic level of skills in the training of others;</li> <li>• Demonstrate an ability to ensure efficient provision of care for patients with palliative care needs and their families;</li> <li>• Prescribe medication as appropriate and according to the laws and statutes in country governing prescribing for nurses and clinical officers;</li> <li>• Apply critical thinking skills in relation to a range of tasks including the evaluation of evidence, and the planning and undertaking of simple audit studies.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the skills required for palliative care advocacy within their organisation</li> <li>• Demonstrate abilities as team-worker and as an effective operator across professional, organisational, economic and socio-cultural boundaries, so as to deliver the best palliative care service for patients within the resources available.</li> </ul>

<b>Assessment:</b>	Continuous Assessment – 50% Final Exam with practical component -50%
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