

The course project



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Why a course project?

- Palliative medicine aims to be evidence-based!
- Research is an important part of your specialist training:
 - Literature searches and critical reading of papers
 - To plan a limited project
 - To write a protocol
 - To get new knowledge about a research/project method
 - To manage a limited project
 - To present the results
 - Written abstract
 - Oral presentation on module 6

The project

- Quantitative or qualitative
 - A survey
 - An audit (assess, evaluate and improve care of patients in a systematic way)
 - Development of a clinical guideline
 - A literature review
 - A compilation of register data
 - Your ongoing project related to palliative medicine (own work)
- Two participants can work together (no more than two)
- Attended to over the course
 - Special emphasis on module 4 & 5

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Examples of projects

- Prophylactic antiepileptic treatment of seizures for patients with primary brain tumors or brain metastasis when oral and intravenous access is not possible - a literature review
- A descriptive literature review on the use of Dexmedetomidine in adult palliative care patients
- Place of Death Among Pediatric and Adolescent Cancer Patients in Finland (*register study*)
- Spiritual/ existential care of terminal ill patients: how is it documented in a palliative care in-patient unit (*review of medical records*)
- Cannabinoids: Prevalence of Use, Who, How, Why and When? (*survey among patients*)
- Lactulose treatment of hepatic encephalopathy in Palliative patients with cancer and not cirrhosis (*literature review*)

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Examples of projects

- Catheter Related Blood Stream Infections in patients receiving parenteral nutrition at a specialized palliative home care unit, incidence and comparison between the different Home Care Teams (*audit*)
- Relief of dyspnea with mouthpiece ventilation (MPV) in patients with COPD exacerbation (*intervention study, 10 pts*)
- Ketamine for the treatment of pain in palliative care (*literature review*)
- Draining malignant ascites at home (*literature review & local clinical procedure*)

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You need to:

- Find a tutor
- Talk with your employer:
 - Allocate time
 - Plan your time – when to do what
- Write a project description (Assignment for module 1)
 - 1 – 2 pages
 - Background
 - Aims and objectives
 - Materials and methods
 - Timetable
 - A few important references
 - Deadline 30th November 2019

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