

International Palliative Care Family-carer Research Collaboration

Newsletter

September 2016

Featured Member



Professor Siew Tzuh (Stephanie) Tang -
IPCFRC Executive Committee member

*Professor, School of Nursing
Chang Gung University
Taiwan*

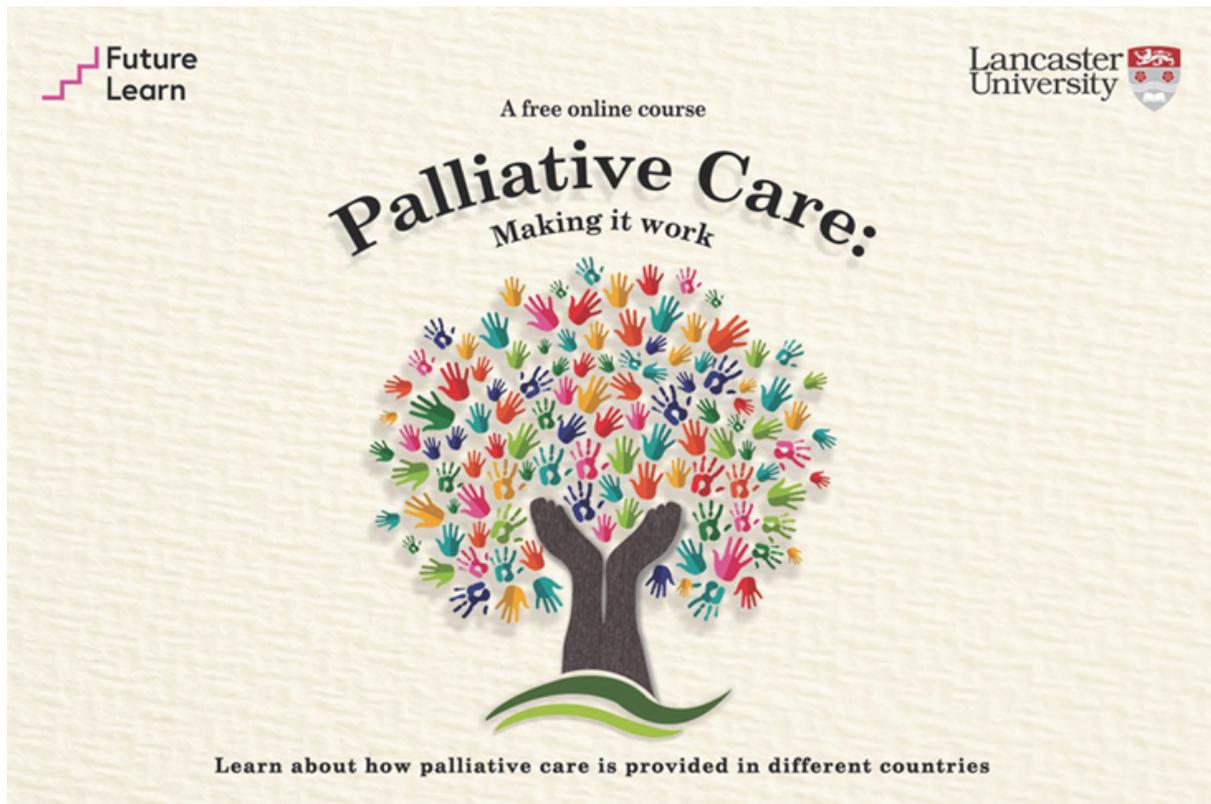
Dr Tang has worked in the field of oncology nursing, specifically in end-of-life (EOL) care for terminally ill cancer patients and their family caregivers for over 30 years as a staff nurse, educator, and researcher. She established the first hospice home care program in Taiwan to facilitate dying at home as the majority of Taiwanese terminally ill cancer patients prefer under the strong cultural practice of “the fallen leaves can return to their roots”. She is a Professor, School of Nursing at Chang Gung University, Taiwan, R.O.C. Her current research focuses on exploring preferences and actual EOL care, death preparation, and quality of death and dying of terminally ill cancer patients, as well as decision conflict and trajectories of decisional regrets as well as their impact on depressive symptoms during bereavement for family surrogate decision makers of terminally ill cancer patients. Dr Tang publishes widely on issues pertaining to EOL care, family caregiving, and family adjustment during bereavement. Her research work has been broadly cited locally and internationally.

“The painful experience of losing my mother motivated me to devote myself to relieving the suffering of terminally ill cancer patients and their family members through clinical care, education, and research. I deeply empathize with the challenges, difficulties, and conflicts encountered by family members when they try to fulfil the Confucian doctrine of filial duty in providing end-of-life (EOL) care. But more often, I was inspired by family members’ strength, courage, and wisdom in balancing and transcending the challenges of their life both with and without their loved one. Therefore, my research projects focus not only on family caregivers’ caregiving burden, EOL-care decision conflicts and their impact, but also on how they use internal and external resources to overcome challenges during their loved one’s dying process and in bereavement. Collaborating internationally with other IPCFRC members will facilitate my improving EOL care for Taiwanese family caregivers.”

Notice

Please note that the IPCFRC Online Forum is now discontinued due to lack of uptake by members.

Integrated palliative care: lessons from practice



Registration is now open for a free, massive open online course (MOOC) focusing on palliative care. Commencing on October 17th for three weeks, this free online course is co-ordinated by the International Observatory on End of Life Care, a world-leader in the field of palliative care based at Lancaster University.

The MOOC will be of interest to anyone with a personal or professional interest in palliative care. The course is based upon current European research which examines integrated palliative care services in Europe. International guest speakers will provide real-life examples of effective practice.

By taking part, you will have the opportunity to explore and discuss the best ways to care for and support people who are approaching the end of life.

For information and registration go to: www.futurelearn.com/courses/palliative

Review of literature related to family carer research

One of the initiatives of the IPCFRC is to compile a listing of publications related to family caregiver research in palliative care. This list is updated annually, and serves as a basic resource to aid those who are looking for peer-reviewed publications related to family caregiver research in palliative care. The 2016 version is now available as a downloadable resource on the [\[IPCFRC website\]](#).

Recent articles relevant to IPCFRC members

In each edition we will feature some recently published articles relevant to IPCFRC members.

If you have published in a peer-reviewed journal recently and the subject matter is relevant to the IPCFRC community, please email centre.palliativecare@svha.org.au with the subject 'IPCFRC Newsletter' and we will feature your publication in an upcoming edition.

Farquhar M, Penfold C, Walter F, Kuhn I, Benson J. (2016). "What are the key elements of educational interventions for lay carers of patients with advanced disease? A systematic literature search and narrative review of structural components, processes and modes of delivery". *J Pain Symp Manage* 52(1): 117-130.

Farquhar M. (2016). "Supporting Informal Carers". Edited by Bausewein C, Currow DC and Johnson MJ. *ERS Monograph 73: Palliative Care in Respiratory Disease*. Chapter 4. ISBN (print): 978-1-84984-071-2.

Jack BA, Mitchell TK, Cope LC, O'Brien MR. (2016). "Supporting older people with cancer and life-limiting conditions dying at home: a qualitative study of patient and family caregiver experiences of Hospice at Home care". *J Adv Nurs* 72(9): 2162-2172.

Membership

The IPCFRC now has over 200 registered members from many countries of the world, including; Australia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, UK & USA.

Individuals from all continents with a genuine interest in palliative care research related to family carers may become individual members of the IPCFRC. Membership is free. To formalise your membership please complete the [\[online form\]](#) on the IPCFRC website.

Upcoming IPCFRC Event

An open meeting for current and prospective IPCFRC members will be held at the [\[21st International Congress on Palliative Care\]](#) in Montreal, Canada on Thursday 20th Oct 2016 at 1.15-1.45pm (Location: Palais des Congrès - room TBA in the on-site Congress programme). Meeting Chair: Professor Peter Hudson. All Congress delegates are welcome to attend.

Open meetings provide the opportunity for members and prospective members to hear about what is happening in the IPCFRC community and what IPCFRC has to offer, as well as meet the IPCFRC Executive Committee and their fellow IPCFRC members.

Conferences relevant to IPCFRC members

1st National Symposium on Academic Palliative Care Education & Research

Dates: September 30 - October 1, 2016

Location: California, USA

Website: [[1st CSU Palliative Care Symposium](#)]

18th International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) World Congress of Psycho-Oncology

Dates: October 17-21, 2016

Location: Dublin, Ireland

Website: [[IPOS 2016](#)]

21st International Congress on Palliative Care

Dates: October 18-21, 2016

Location: Montreal, Canada

Website: [[ICPC 2016](#)]

2016 Marie Curie Annual Palliative Care Research Conference

Dates: October 19, 2016

Location: London, UK

Website: [[2016 Marie Curie Annual Research Conference](#)]

The International Society for Quality of Life Research (ISOQOL) 23rd Annual Conference

Dates: October 19-22, 2016

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark

Website: [[2016 ISOQOL Conference](#)]

4th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium

Dates: October 27-28, 2016

Location: Melbourne, Australia

Website: [[4th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium](#)]

6th International Seminar of the European Palliative Care Research Centre (PRC) and European Palliative Care Research Network (EAPC RN)

Dates: December 1-3, 2016

Location: Banff, Canada

Website: [[6th International Seminar of the PRC and EAPC RN](#)]

Forward IPCFRC to a friend!

Please forward this newsletter to friends or colleagues interested in family carer research. They can also sign up for [[free membership](#)]!

Update your details!

We are now collecting information on member research interests and expertise. [[Update your details now](#)]

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