

Clinical support supervision improves palliative care services:

Introduction: Palliative training at government institution has increased the number of practicing palliative care nurses in different levels of health sector. Kenya medical training college started its higher diploma in palliative care nursing in September 2013. The course takes 18 months and currently the fourth class is on progress. Support supervision is a major boost in improving palliative care services.

Method: a survey done on 58 trained palliative care nurses from KMTC, Nairobi between Sept 2013-Dec 2016, 14 KMTC Tutors and 44 clinical nurses.

Results: Basic nursing students are qualifying with better understanding of palliative care through trained tutors teaching palliative care hours in nursing curriculum. Improved patient's care through palliative nurses. 85% of PCU managed by palliative nurses across the counties. 75% students' mentors, 80% teaching different campus, 45% enrolled to higher education in palliative, students' clinical performance improved 70% compared first class, 60% county nurses aware of training at KMTC. 80% lack of palliative books and reference materials. 65% lack of supportive care locally and internationally. 40% oncology included in palliative training and 90% need more oncology in the program. 90% improved palliative care while integrated with oncology while 10% not referred.

Conclusion: There is need for more interaction between newly qualified palliative nurses and seniors in the field. Attend seminars/conferences and symposiums to learn new knowledge and skills. Support to improve reference materials in learning institutions. Integrate palliative care and oncology as a better follow-up of care.