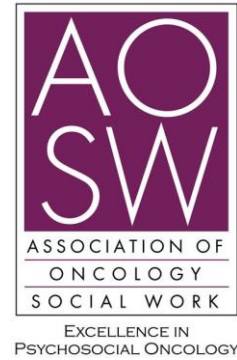


AOSW Grant Funded ESPEC Oncology Program



Part

Part I: Online Recording Content (8.0) CE

IA: Foundational Webinars (2.0) CE

Title: Welcome, Overview, and Transforming Cancer Care

Format: Live (Virtual)

Date/Duration: Friday, January 9, 2025; 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

Description:

This Webinar will orient learners to the ESPEC Oncology program, the schedule and their responsibilities. Content will include the evolution/history of ESPEC-Oncology; mandates related to palliative oncology social work; 1-4 the clinical practice guidelines for palliative oncology. 3-5 Breakout rooms will foster small group interaction with facilitated discussion of the learners' proposed change, using SMART goals, the PDSA cycle, and the SWOT analysis. Support will be given to identify and refine the learners' change activities.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Explain the evolution and history of ESPEC-O, mandates guiding palliative oncology social work, and key clinical practice guidelines.
- Analyze a proposed change initiative in oncology social work using structured improvement tools, including SMART goals, the PDSA cycle, and SWOT analysis.
- Develop and refine an individual change activity plan through small-group discussion and facilitated feedback.

Speaker(s):

Tara Schapmire, PhD, MSSW, OSW-C, APHSW-C, FAOSW, FAPOS, Associate Professor of Medicine and Social Work, University of Louisville

Keywords: Palliative Oncology Social Work, Quality Improvement Tools, Practice Change, SMART Goals, PDSA Cycle, SWOT Analysis, Clinical Practice Guidelines

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Structure & Processes of Care

Format: Recording*

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module prepares health social workers to provide holistic, person-centered care across diverse healthcare settings. Using a biopsychosocial-spiritual framework, learners will practice applying comprehensive assessments to guide safe and sustainable care planning. The module emphasizes strategies to reduce psychosocial burden, strengthen coping mechanisms, and connect patients and families with appropriate resources and supports. Attention is also given to the social worker's role in promoting care coordination and fostering effective interprofessional collaboration. By the end of the module, participants will be able to integrate evidence-based approaches and teamwork strategies to improve quality of life and continuity of care for patients and caregivers.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Apply biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment to identify patient and family needs and develop person-centered, safe, and sustainable care plans.
- Implement strategies to mitigate psychosocial burden, support coping mechanisms, and connect patients with appropriate resources and services.
- Demonstrate effective interprofessional collaboration by coordinating care across settings and integrating social work perspectives into healthcare teams.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Person-Centered Care,Biopsychosocial-Spiritual Assessment,Interprofessional Collaboration, Care Coordination,Coping Strategies,Resource Navigation, Psychosocial Support, Sustainable Care Planning

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Physical Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module introduces social workers to the multidimensional nature of symptom management in health care. Learners will explore common physical concerns, with an emphasis on pain and related symptoms, and examine how biopsychosocial-spiritual factors influence the patient and family

experience. The session will also address common myths and misperceptions that can interfere with effective symptom relief. Attention is given to the important role of the health social worker in supporting symptom management, including advocacy, education, and collaboration with the interprofessional team. By the end of this session, learners will be prepared to contribute meaningfully to efforts that enhance function, relieve suffering, and improve quality of life for patients and caregivers.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recognize common physical symptoms and analyze their biopsychosocial-spiritual dimensions.
- Evaluate common myths and misperceptions about pain and symptoms that may hinder effective care.
- Demonstrate the role of the health social worker in addressing physical concerns to improve function and quality of life through interprofessional collaboration.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Symptom Management, Biopsychosocial-Spiritual Care, Health Social Work, Pain Myths and Misperceptions, Quality of Life, Interprofessional Collaboration

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Psychological & Psychiatric Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module prepares social workers to address the psychological and emotional impact of serious illness on patients and families. Learners will review common reactions to illness and its trajectory, with attention to identifying symptoms of distress, anxiety, and depression. Emphasis is placed on recognizing mental health risks, screening for psychosocial concerns, and applying evidence-based social work interventions that foster coping and resilience. The module highlights strategies to reduce distress and promote adjustment, while also underscoring the social worker's role in supporting mental health across the continuum of care. By the end of the module, participants will be equipped to respond effectively to psychological needs and improve overall well-being.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recognize common emotional and psychological reactions to illness and identify signs of distress, anxiety, and depression.
- Assess mental health risks and symptoms of distress using appropriate social work perspectives.

- Implement social work interventions that promote coping, reduce psychological distress, and support patient and family well-being.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Psychological Distress, Coping Strategies, Health Social Work, Anxiety and Depression, Mental Health Risk, Psychosocial Support

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Social Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module prepares social workers to address the social and contextual needs of patients and families living with serious illness. Learners will practice using comprehensive assessments to identify strengths, vulnerabilities, and support systems. Emphasis is placed on developing care plans that strengthen social networks, preserve role integrity, and promote effective family functioning, communication, and coping. The module underscores the importance of social determinants of health (SDOH) as a clinical imperative, positioning the health social worker as both advocate and resource navigator. Participants will explore strategies to connect patients and families with financial, legal, and community supports, while advancing social justice. By the end of the module, learners will be equipped to integrate advocacy and resource coordination into patient- and family-centered care.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Conduct comprehensive assessments to identify social, contextual, and family needs that influence the illness experience.
- Develop care plans that strengthen social networks, promote role integrity and family functioning, and support coping and communication.
- Advocate for patients and families by addressing social determinants of health and connecting them with financial, legal, and community resources.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Social Determinants of Health, Comprehensive Assessment, Health Social Work, Family Functioning, Resource Navigation, Advocacy and Social Justice

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Spiritual, Religious & Existential Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module introduces social workers to the ways spiritual, religious, and existential concerns shape the experience of serious illness and influence quality of life for patients and families. Learners will explore strategies to identify spiritual and religious beliefs as part of a holistic assessment, and to recognize when these beliefs and practices can be integrated into care planning. The module also emphasizes the importance of identifying and addressing spiritual or religious distress, including situations where beliefs may complicate coping or decision-making. By the end of the module, participants will be prepared to support spiritual and religious needs, collaborate with chaplains and other team members, and promote patient- and family-centered care that acknowledges the whole person.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the impact of spiritual, religious, and existential concerns on care experiences and quality of life in serious illness.
- Identify and integrate patients' and families' religious or spiritual beliefs and practices into person-centered care planning.
- Assess and address spiritual or religious distress by applying social work skills and collaborating with interprofessional team members.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Spiritual Care, Existential Concerns, Health Social Work, Religious Beliefs and Practices, Spiritual Distress, Interprofessional Collaboration

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Cultural Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module prepares social workers to recognize and respond to the influence of culture on illness experiences, care decision-making, and end-of-life needs. Learners will explore strategies to provide care that respects cultural beliefs, values, traditional practices, and language preferences. The session emphasizes the importance of tailoring communication to patients' and caregivers' health literacy levels to ensure understanding and shared decision-making. Participants will also examine the principle that all conversations in health care are inherently "cross-cultural," requiring openness, humility, and adaptation. By the end of the module, learners will be equipped with approaches to create culturally responsive, person-centered care that fosters trust, promotes equity, and improves outcomes for diverse patients and families.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recognize the impact of cultural beliefs, values, and practices on illness experiences, care, and end-of-life decisions.
- Adapt care and communication strategies to respect cultural traditions, language preferences, and health literacy levels.
- Apply principles of cultural humility to engage in cross-cultural conversations and promote equitable, person-centered care.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Cultural Humility, Cross-Cultural Communication, Health Social Work, Health Literacy, End-of-Life Care, Culturally Responsive Care

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Cultural Competency

Title: Care of the Patient Nearing the End of Life

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module highlights the vital role of health social workers in supporting patients and families facing advanced illness and end of life. Learners will examine the four quality-of-life domains—physical, psychological, social, and spiritual—and consider how comprehensive support across these areas ensures the best possible experience for patients and caregivers. The module emphasizes the social worker's contributions to advance care planning, including facilitating discussions about goals, values, and treatment preferences. Attention is also given to pre- and post-death planning, as well as to the assessment and support of grief and bereavement. By the end of the module, participants will be

prepared to guide patients and families through complex end-of-life transitions with compassion, advocacy, and skill.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Explain the importance of addressing the four quality-of-life domains to support patients and families during advanced illness and end-of-life care.
- Demonstrate the role of the health social worker in facilitating advance care planning and supporting pre- and post-death decision-making.
- Assess and intervene to address grief and bereavement needs of patients, families, and caregivers across the continuum of care.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: End-of-Life Care, Quality of Life, Health Social Work, Advance Care Planning

Grief and Bereavement, Pre- and Post-Death Planning

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

Title: Legal & Ethical Aspects of Care

Format: Recording

Date/Duration: 60 minutes

Completion due date: February 27, 2026

Description:

This module equips health social workers to navigate the ethical challenges that arise in the care of patients with serious illness. Learners will review common ethical concerns and explore strategies to promote ethical principles within palliative and supportive care. The session emphasizes knowledge of relevant laws and regulations related to advance care planning, life-sustaining treatment, and surrogate decision-making. Attention is given to how social workers can use assessment to identify inequities and advocate for person-centered, family-focused, and culturally congruent care. By the end of the module, participants will be prepared to integrate ethical frameworks, legal knowledge, and advocacy skills into their practice to ensure equity, dignity, and respect in serious illness and end-of-life care.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Recognize ethical concerns in serious illness care and promote ethical principles within palliative and supportive care contexts.
- Explain laws and regulations related to advance care planning, life-sustaining treatment, and surrogate decision-making.

- Apply assessment skills to advocate for equity and integrate ethical, legal, and cultural considerations into person-centered, family-focused practice.

Speaker(s):

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, Director of Education and Training, MJHS Institute

Keywords: Ethics in Health Care, Palliative Care, Health Social Work, Advance Care Planning, Equity and Advocacy, Life-Sustaining Treatment

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Ethics

Title: Leadership & Organizational Change

Format: Live (Virtual)

Date/Duration: Friday, February 27, 2025; 1:00 – 2:30 pm ET

Description:

This interactive webinar builds on the online modules by helping learners translate knowledge into practice change. The session begins with a review of the cohort's SWOT analysis results, offering participants the opportunity to reflect on strengths, challenges, opportunities, and barriers within their own practice settings. Learners will explore methods for facilitating clinical change, strategies for building partnerships, and approaches to obtaining buy-in from key stakeholders. The session also addresses common barriers to implementing new practices and provides practical solutions for overcoming them. Finally, learners will be supported in applying palliative and supportive care clinical practice guidelines to health social work. By the end of the webinar, participants will be prepared to initiate, advocate for, and sustain practice change that improves patient and family care.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Analyze cohort SWOT analysis results to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and barriers in their practice environment.
- Apply strategies for facilitating clinical change, building partnerships, and obtaining stakeholder buy-in.
- Implement palliative and supportive care clinical practice guidelines by developing solutions to overcome barriers and integrating evidence into social work practice.

Speaker(s):

Tara Schapmire, PhD, MSSW, OSW-C, APHSW-C, FAOSW, FAPOS, Associate Professor of Medicine and Social Work, University of Louisville

Keywords: Practice Change, Clinical Guidelines, Health Social Work, SWOT Analysis, Stakeholder Engagement, Palliative Care Partnerships

Level: Beginner

Credit hours: 1.0

Credit Category: Clinical/General

**Posttests are required for recorded content.*

Speaker Bios

Tara Schapmire, PhD, MSSW, OSW-C, APHSW-C, FAOSW, FAPOS is an Associate Professor in the University of Louisville's School of Medicine with an honorary appointment in the Kent School of Social Work and Family Science. She is the principal investigator (PI) of an NIH/NCI-funded nationwide oncology social work training program and serves as site PI for an NCI R01 trial to improve lung cancer survivorship in rural communities. She is also a co-investigator on HRSA-funded initiatives in Age-Friendly Healthcare and integrated behavioral health. A Past President and Fellow of the Association of Oncology Social Work and Fellow of the American Psychosocial Oncology Society, she is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Psychosocial Oncology.

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW, ACSW, APHSW-C, is Project Director of Educating Social Workers in Palliative and End-of-Life Care (ESPEC) and Co-Investigator of ESPEC Oncology: Transforming Psychosocial and Palliative Cancer Care, an NIH/NCI-funded national training program. She serves as Director of Education and Training at the MJHS Institute and Assistant Professor of Family and Social Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. A past SWHPN board member and Past President of APHSW-C, Dr. Glajchen is an accomplished educator, researcher, and clinician. She is widely published and nationally recognized for expertise in caregiver burden, interprofessional training, and palliative social work.

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