



Denmark

Dansk Selskab for Palliativ Medicin,
DSPaM

www.palliativmedicin.dk

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Iceland

Icelandic Association for Palliative
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Course Secretary

**The Nordic Specialist Course in
Palliative Medicine**

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Finland

Suomen palliativisen lääketieteen
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Norway

Norsk forening for palliativ medisin,
NFPM

www.palliativmed.no

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Nordic Specialist Course in Palliative Medicine 2023-2025

General information
Course content
Application procedure

www.nscpm.org



Norwegian Association
for Palliative Medicine



Danish Association for
Palliative Medicine



Finnish Association for
Palliative Medicine



Icelandic Association for
Palliative Care

Background

During the last decades, an increasing awareness of the need for a defined area of medicine to take care of patients with advanced life-threatening disease has emerged in all the Nordic countries. Official reports have been published, giving recommendations for the establishment of specialist palliative care services nation-wide, and an increasing number of palliative healthcare programs are being set up. Palliative medicine has been approved as a formal competence field in Denmark, Finland and Norway (1-3). It is being planned as a medical specialty in Norway and is established as an add-on medical specialty in Sweden and Iceland (4-6). Still, however, up to now a limited number of physicians in the Nordic countries have education and experience in the field. We are facing the situation that new palliative care units and programs might be established without the appropriate medical staffing. This situation presents a need to educate doctors in the Nordic countries in palliative medicine at a specialist level.

A joint venture between the Associations for Palliative Medicine in the Nordic countries has resulted in this theoretical specialist training course in 6 modules over 2 years. Each module lasts 5 days, Monday-Friday. The first course started in 2003 and the 10th course ends in April 2023. The 11th and last course will start in September 2023 and end in May 2025. Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway will be part of this last course.

The course

Throughout the modules all major topics in palliative medicine will be covered. A limited research project is included in the course. This may be quantitative or qualitative, in the form of a survey, an audit, development of a clinical guideline, or conducting a literature review. Course participants should work on their projects throughout the course period and should allocate appropriate time for the project. The projects will be presented on Module 6. Students already having an ongoing project may use this, provided it is their own work.

A written assignment must be handed in 4 weeks after each module.

The assignments will be marked Pass/Not pass.

The participants and the Steering Committee continuously evaluate each module and the course as a whole. Overall, the participants have given the course very high ratings.

Course language

Language throughout the course will be English to suit applicants from all the countries.

Entry requirements and selection of participants

The course is planned for 38 students.

Applicants should have completed specialist training in a recognized medical specialty and possess knowledge and skills corresponding to level B of the palliative medicine curriculum (5). The national associations will consider and nominate students among the applicants from their respective countries. The Steering Committee makes the final selection.

Course fee

The fee for each of the six course modules will be Euro 1100 (total course fee: Euro 6600). Travel and accommodation costs must be added. Every student is responsible for paying his/her own expenses.

The course is planned for face-to-face learning with the six modules placed as follows: Two in Norway, two in Denmark, one in Finland, and one in Sweden. If required, we may unwillingly have to adopt alternative learning platforms.

Application form and detailed course program are available from your national Association for Palliative Medicine.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION: March 15, 2023

References

1. <https://palliativmedicin.dk/teoretisk-uddannelse-fagomraadespecialist/>
2. <https://www.laakariliitto.fi/koulutus/erityispatevyydet/palliativinen/>
3. <https://www.helsedirektoratet.no/tema/autorisasjon-og-spesialistutdanning/palliativ-medisin-som-kompetanseomrade>
4. Socialstyrelsens målbeskrivningar 2015.
<https://www.socialstyrelsen.se/globalassets/sharepoint-dokument/artikelkatalog/ovrigt/2015-4-5.pdf>
5. <https://www.stjornartidindi.is/Advert.aspx?RecordID=67c50adb-8ea9-42e1-9f09-ccac7cad9efc>