

Palliative Care Palliates The Unnecessary



Word of the Day

April 4, 2016

palliate

verb [pal-ee-eyt]

to relieve or lessen
without curing; mitigate.

 Dictionary.com

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Unnecessary



1. Suffering
2. Brutalization
3. Ignorance
4. Utilization

Unnecessary Suffering

Suffering is necessary until
you realize it is
unnecessary.

Diagnosis requires a prognosis

Prognosis provides predictive data

Predictive data allows for a coping strategy

gnireffuS yrasssecennU

**Treatment is necessary until
you realize it is
unnecessary**

Diagnosis requires a prognosis

Prognosis provides predictive data

Predictive data allows for a treatment strategy

The Brutal Medcial News



WSJ



The Washington Post



Unnecessary Brutalization



**CPR is a traumatic physical act
for the patient and the providers**

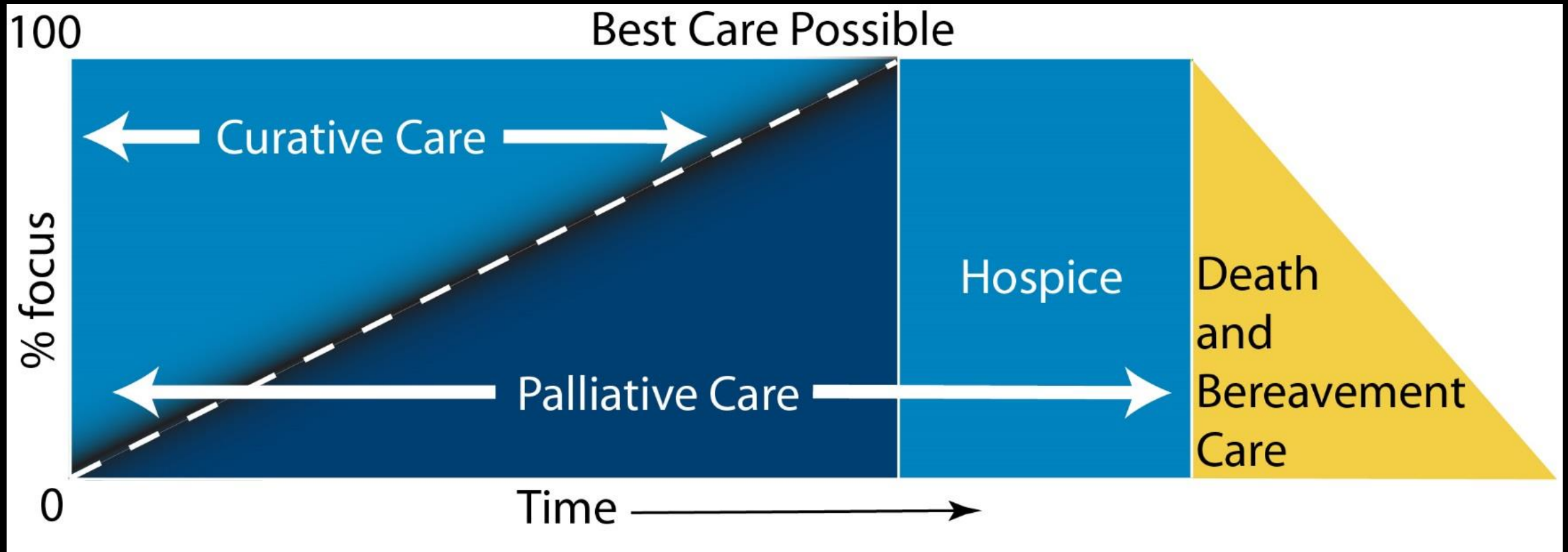
**Palliative Care for patients is also
Palliative Care for providers**

Unnecessary Ignorance: The Monty Python Model



"I am not ready to die."

Palliative Care is not Just Hospice



Lack of Palliative Care delays Hospice care

The Tragedy of Palliative Ignorance

Tragedy

“The journey from ignorance to knowledge through suffering>”

“Why didn’t someone tell us?”

Medicare Care Choices Model

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Advanced Cancer

CHF

COPD

HIV/AIDS

Medicare Care Choices Model



The choice of receiving
ongoing curative therapy
and hospice care

www.racmonitor.com/the-medicare-choices-care-model-either-or-becomesthisandthat?highlight=WyJzYWx2YXRvcmlCJzYWx2YXRvcmlUncyJd

PHYSICIAN ORDERS for LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT



POLST

- For seriously ill/frail, at any age
- Specific orders for *current* treatment
- Can be signed by decisionmaker

AHCD

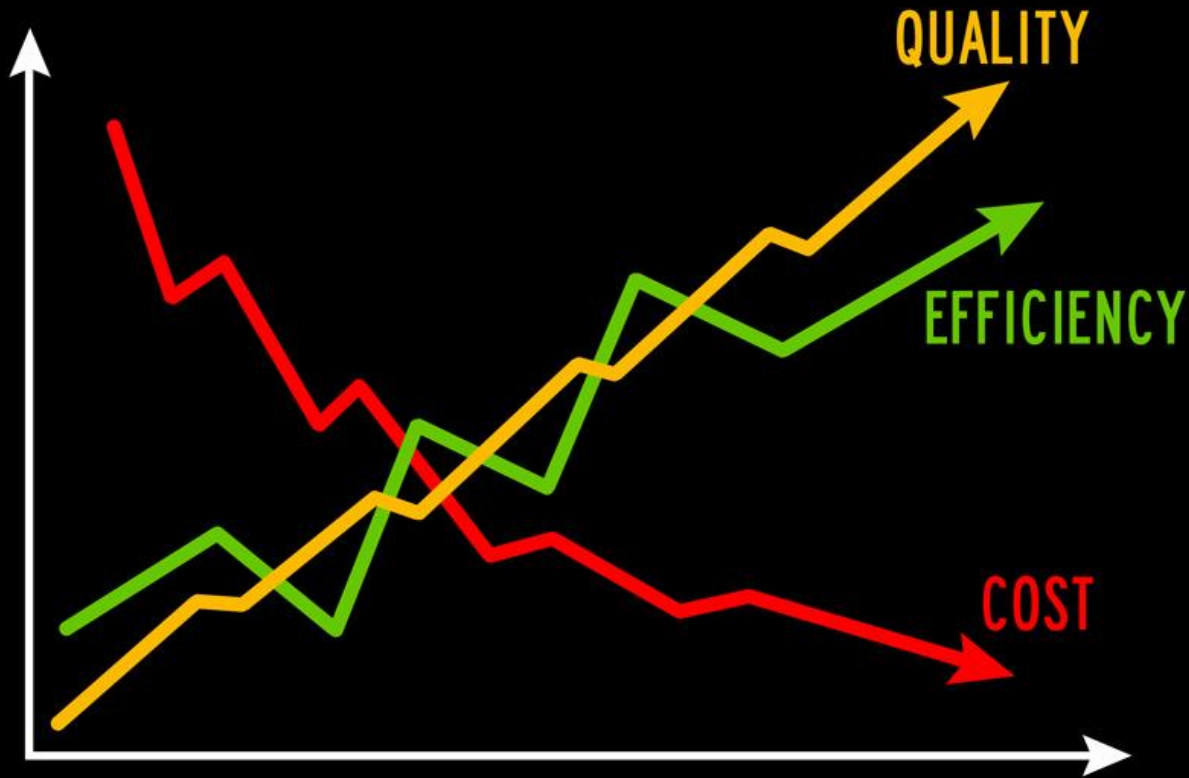
- For anyone 18 and older
- General instructions for *future* treatment
- Appoints decisionmaker

P HYSICIAN **O** RDER S for **L** IFE **S** USTAINING **T** REATMENT



POLSTs are physician orders
“Wrongful life”

Unnecessary Utilization



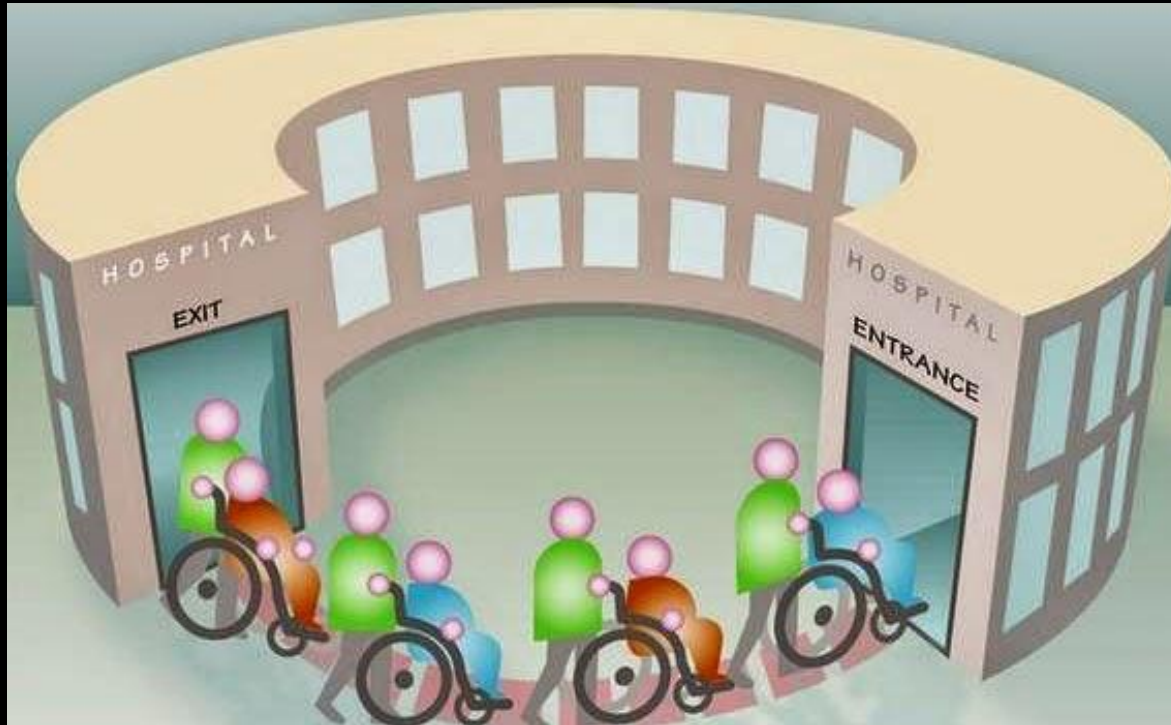
Reduced LOS

Reduced medical utilization

Reduced personal costs

Reduced readmissions

Wrongful Readmissions



Most admissions that are discharged to hospice are wrongful

Many readmissions are a failure to provide Palliative Care

P.O.L.S.T. forms can specify *“Do not hospitalize”*

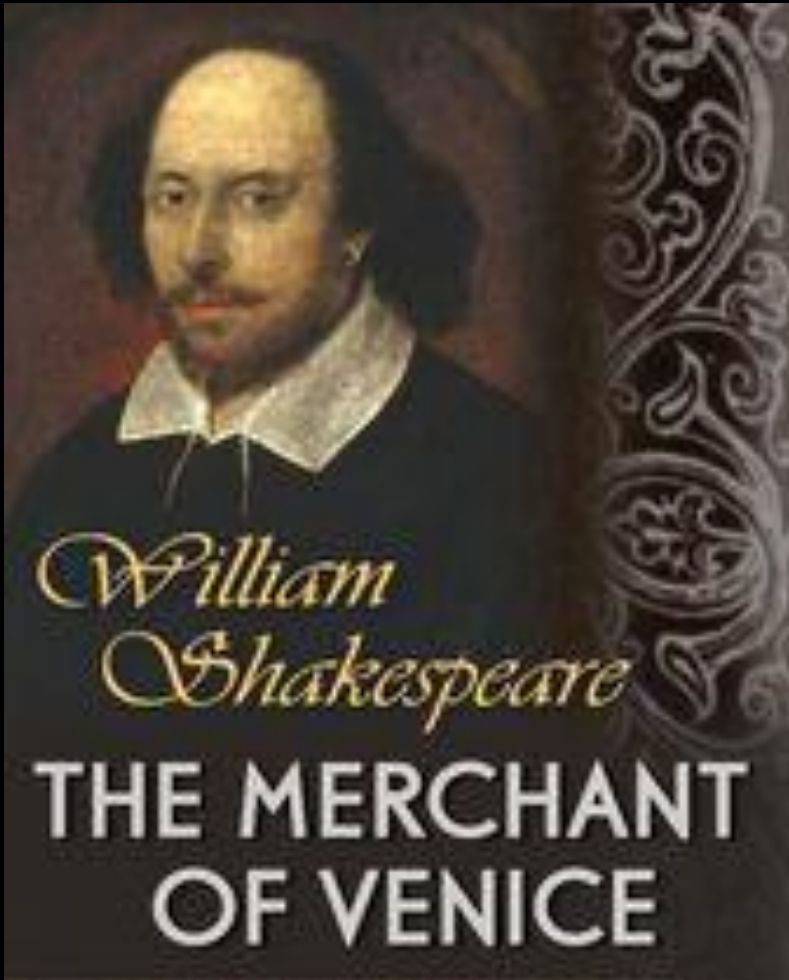
TAKEAWAY

LESSONS

LEARNED

- 1. Rational treatment mandates Palliative Care**
- 2. Palliative Care is not just Hospice**
- 3. Palliative Care palliates everybody**
- 4. Check for MCCM in your area**
- 5. Advocate P.O.L.S.T. forms**
- 6. Palliative Care saves everybody money**
- 7. Shakespeare knew all this centuries ago**

Thank You for Listening



***“The quality of mercy is not strained.
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed:
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.”***