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Challenging Case Studies in Hospice and Palliative Care

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Pediatric palliative care is at a crucial juncture, blending compassionate support with advanced medical management to significantly improve the quality of life for children facing life-limiting illnesses. This specialized care goes beyond merely addressing physical symptoms; it also considers the emotional, psychological, and spiritual aspects of health, ensuring a holistic approach to care.

As the field of palliative care evolves, healthcare providers are increasingly confronted with complex cases that present significant challenges to effective symptom management. Tackling these challenges requires a thorough understanding of both conventional and integrative treatment methodologies.

This presentation will explore specific case studies that illustrate these intricate dynamics, emphasizing the urgent need for better communication among healthcare professionals. Enhancing this communication is vital for empowering families as they navigate these profoundly challenging experiences. Ultimately, adopting a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach is essential for improving symptom management and providing the highest quality of life in a pediatric palliative care setting.

Biography

Dr. Cheryl Mele is a board-certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner, as well as, a Primary Care and Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Cheryl has been an APN for over twenty years. Her career has involved various areas of pediatrics such as primary care, NICU, transitional nursery, newborn nursery, palliative care, and pediatric pain management.

Dr. Cheryl has participated in quality improvement projects and publications with "engaging in difficult conversations with patients and families, NAS, palliative care, recognizing genetic disorders , and paravertebral catheters in post cardiac surgery. Additionally, she has been involved in interprofessional medical education for over a decade and developed curriculum for Dual and Acute Pediatric Nurse education programs at Drexel University in the role of an Associate Clinical Professor. She currently practices as APRN in Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Care.

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