PALLIATIVE CARE

Synopsis
This unit gives the general practitioner practical skills and information in how to care for terminally ill patients, with support from health care teams, hospices and palliative care units. Topics are written by content specialists, and cover the following areas: palliative care and the GP, the illness experience, quality of life, symptom management, pain management and review.

Objectives
On completion of this unit students should be able to:

1. Integrate the knowledge and skills covered in this unit to become more comfortable in caring for dying patients.
2. Recognise the need for total care in the discipline of palliative medicine.
3. Identify the extra resources available in caring for dying patients.
4. Be proactive in the guidance of palliative care patients and their family carers.
5. Develop a philosophy of 'true team care with the sharing and application of the skills of each member of the team.'
6. Identify their strengths in the area of palliative care.

Assessment
Journal (50%)
Case studies (50%)