The landscape of formal CME in palliative care for GP’s in Flanders, Belgium

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Aim: Most of the palliative patients in Flanders want to be taken care of at home by their general practitioner (GP) until the moment they die. What possibilities are available for the GP to keep up the level of his palliative competencies to address this task? We want to describe a complete view of the offer of continuing medical education (CME) in palliative care. We describe the content, the format, the organizing institutes and the educational techniques. We want to know if the target population of GP’s is reached in a sufficient way and if the impact of the educational moment is evaluated.

Methods: A questionnaire (based on literature and expert review) is send by e-mail to all institutes in Flanders who organize CME for GPs (local networks for palliative care, circles of GPs, hospitals and major GP organizations and palliative care organizations).

Results: The questionnaire has been sent in october 2008 and the results are expected in november 2008. After statistical analysis, the results will be compared to the literature.

Conclusions: Suggestions will be made to adapt the CME landscape following EAPC curriculum suggestions.