

~~~~~Sent on behalf of Dr. Steve Berns, Course Director ~~~~~

Class of 2021,

I am looking forward to meeting each of you next week at *Bridge 2: Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. The Palliative Medicine Division at the University of Vermont and the hospice organizations around Chittenden County are super excited to be working with you come **the week of September 30**. We hope that you will leave the week with the appreciation and skills needed to care for those with serious illness.

In preparation for the course, we ask that you note the following:

1. Schedule:

- a. The schedule is uploaded to VIC.
- b. I'll review the schedule during the Orientation session on Monday, September 30 to help clarify any confusion.

2. [Clinical Selective](#) (Site descriptions listed at the end of this email):

We will be asking you to pick what morning/afternoon you would prefer to have your clinical site visit (Wednesday or Thursday). Although attendance is mandatory for all sessions, we wanted to give you a free half day to accommodate your personal needs during the week. This will be the same day as your clinical half day – for example, if you have your clinical visit Wednesday afternoon, you will have Wednesday morning off. Please note, everyone may not get their first choice based on clinical availability.

Please be sure to check your VIC calendar for the final schedule. Also note:

- a. Everyone has Friday afternoon off.
- b. Do to traveling time, we don't recommend scheduling your clinical site visit on the same day if you have a CSE that afternoon.
- c. Please wear professional attire (no white coats needed) and make sure to bring your ID badge.
- d. The Larner College of Medicine [policy](#) requires all students to have access to a car. You will need access to a car on your clinical day. If this is a problem, please let us know.
- e. You will have until September 13<sup>th</sup> to complete the survey.
- f. [Wednesday AM Clinical Selection](#); [Wednesday PM Clinical Selection](#); [Thursday AM Clinical Selection](#), and [Thursday PM Clinical Selection](#).

3.) Communication Lab:

On Wednesday or Thursday (whichever day is NOT your clinical/half day off) you will have a full day communication lab. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided and breaks will be worked in as well. Because of the nature of the communication lab, you will be expected to attend the entire session in order to receive credit. Please wear comfortable clothes

3. Attendance:

- a. All sessions are mandatory.
- b. You are expected to participate in all sessions assigned to your group.

- c. If you have questions about attendance, or need to request time away, please email me as soon as possible. [Stephen.Berns@med.uvm.edu](mailto:Stephen.Berns@med.uvm.edu)
4. Expectations of the course:
  - a. Please refer to the College of Medicine grading policy for Bridge Week (see below).
5. Instructions on assignments:
  - a. There will be one RQ on Monday and Tuesday of Bridge Week, and the RQ will cover material for all active learning sessions those days.
  - b. Passing the RQs is required to complete this course.
  - c. The Monday RQ is due at 9:15am and the Tuesday RQ is due at 8:15am on the morning of the session.
  - d. One-minute Paper: This one minute paper provides real-time feedback to help tweak the course. Groups will receive up to 5 points for completion (that go towards fun prizes!)
  - e. Group Presentation: more information will be provided during the Intro Session on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.
6. Deadline for cultural competency certificate:
  - a. Cultural competency modules are to be completed by 4 PM on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Please e-mail a copy of your post-test certificate to Jacqueline Drouin by 4:00PM on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.
7. Morning Mindfulness:
  - a. During the HPM Bridge Week we will be exploring different ways to practice mindfulness. The purpose of these activities is for you to discover techniques that you can use to improve your own resilience, well-being and presence for patients. These are elective sessions only. Please come to enjoy.

We're looking forward to a fun week! Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I am looking forward to meeting you the week of September!

Yours,  
Steve

#### Clerkship Bridge Week Grading Policy

##### 70% Participation and Performance

- Cannot miss more than 25% of course (excused absence only)
- Make-up assignments completed per session missed
- Cannot make up the communication lab, clinical or simulation sessions \*
- Passing grade >75%

##### 30% Readiness Quizzes and Medical Knowledge

- One attempt at an RQ. Maximum of two RQs per day.

- Have to take RQ by deadline or earn a 0
- Passing grade >70%  
Must do alternate assignment if RQ is not completed

\* Any missed communication lab or clinical or simulation session will need to be made up when next offered

Students will receive an incomplete if they do not meet the minimum requirements listed above.

### **Clinical Site Locations and Contact**

BAYADA HOSPICE (same times)

Start Time: 830am and 130pm

Location: 2517 Shelburne Road Suite 1 Shelburne, VT 05482

Contact: [bhill2@bayada.com](mailto:bhill2@bayada.com) or call 802-448-1610

UVM HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE (formerly the VNA)

Start Time: 830am and 130pm

Location: 1110 Prim Rd Colchester, Colchester, VT

Contact: page [Jaina.Clough@uvmhealth.org](mailto:Jaina.Clough@uvmhealth.org)

THE MCCLURE MILLER RESPITE HOUSE

Start Time: 830am and 130pm

Location: 3113 Roosevelt Hwy, Colchester

Contact: page [Jaina.Clough@uvmhealth.org](mailto:Jaina.Clough@uvmhealth.org)

UVM INPATIENT PALLIATIVE CARE

Start Time: 830am and 130pm

Location: 111 Colchester Ave, Smith 282

Contact: page [Patty.Whitney@uvmhealth.org](mailto:Patty.Whitney@uvmhealth.org)

## **Clinical Site Descriptions**

Palliative Care at UVMHC: a comprehensive inpatient service that is staffed by physicians and nurse practitioners who are specially trained to support the physical and psychological needs of patients and families facing the complex challenges of life-threatening or chronic illness. You and another student will be paired to join a palliative care clinician for consultations in the inpatient setting. You may experience a family meeting while you are with the clinician. This team also sees pediatric patients on occasion.

Home Hospice with Bayada: BAYADA Hospice provides the highest quality end-of-life care so our patients can remain at home with comfort, grace, and dignity. With a variety of care and comfort services delivered through an interdisciplinary team of health care professionals and volunteers, the goal of hospice is to support a patient's quality of life. For this selective, you will join a hospice clinician (nurse, chaplain, social worker) to see patients in their private homes, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities.

### **Home Health and Hospice:**

UVMHN HHH (formerly known as the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA)) is a 110-year-old organization that has been providing skilled, professional care to patients in their home environment. It is also the first home health agency to affiliate with the UVM Health Network.

The UVMHN Hospice & Palliative Care Program provides serious illness and end of life care to people wherever they call home – a traditional home, a skilled nursing facility, a residential care home, independent or assisted living, or the McClure Miller Respite House (Vermont's only certified inpatient Hospice facility).

Hospice & Palliative Care is person & family centered-care delivered by an interdisciplinary team comprised of: A Hospice Medical Director, Nurses, Social Workers, Spiritual Caregivers, Licensed Nursing Assistants, Homemakers, Bereavement Counselors, and highly trained Volunteers.

Students have the option of either joining a member of the interdisciplinary core services (Spiritual Care, Nursing, Social Work, NP or MD) in the home setting or at McClure Miller Respite House (MMRH).

### **UVMHN HHH home setting**

For this selective, you will join a hospice clinician (nurse, spiritual caregiver, social worker) to see patients wherever they call "home."

### **UVMHN McClure Miller Respite House**

For this selective, you will join respite house hospice clinicians on their daily rounds and experience the interdisciplinary team at work in a single setting.

Porter Hospital Palliative Care: Porter Medical Center, located in Middlebury, Vermont, is comprised of a 25-bed acute care facility, a 105-bed skilled nursing facility which includes a memory care unit, short-term rehabilitation unit, and a long-term care unit. The Palliative Care at Porter Medical Center offers a comprehensive approach to patient care, incorporating clinical excellence and specialized treatments with the compassion that comes through personalized care. For this selective, you will join one of the palliative care clinicians on rounds seeing patients in hospital and/or nursing home settings.