



Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Administration | 4000 Ambassador Drive | Anchorage, Alaska 99508 | Phone (907) 729-1900 | Fax (907) 729-1907 | www.anthc.org

For Immediate Release
April 26, 2010

Media Contact:
Fiona Brosnan, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
(907) 729-1967; fmbrosnan@anthc.org

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium to host second annual International Telehealth Palliative Care Symposium

Anchorage, AK — The goal of palliative care is to relieve the pain, symptoms and stress of serious illness — whatever the prognosis. At zero cost to participants, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium is hosting the second annual International Telehealth Palliative Care Symposium, where experts from around the world will discuss best practices.

What: The second annual International Telehealth Palliative Care Symposium is for doctors, midlevel practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, social workers and other health care professionals who will gather “live” in person and via Webcast to hear presentations from around the world on best practices in palliative care.

Why: Despite the highest per-person spending on health care in the world, Americans report a rushed, fragmented and confusing experience with the health care system. Studies show symptoms are often undertreated, and communication between providers and patients about what is happening and what it means is poor. Family caregivers struggle to make sense of and meet their loved ones’ needs. Palliative care developed in response to these needs and has grown rapidly because it is an effective solution, proven to relieve suffering, improve communication and coordinate care over the course of an illness. The symposium shares best practices from around the world from palliative care experts.

When: Tuesday, April 27 through Thursday, April 29, 2010.

Where: Attendees have several options: Participate in person at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, 4000 Ambassador Drive; Providence Alaska Medical Center, 3200 Providence Drive; or via Webcast — for an hour, a day, or all three days.

Who: Presentations by national and international palliative care experts on current topics from Alaska, Spain, New Zealand, British Columbia, Ontario, the University of New Mexico, the Mayo Clinic, Duke University and Mt. Sinai, New York, are all scheduled to present and share findings. Over 600 palliative care providers worldwide have registered for the symposium.

Presentations include:

- So Many Patients Die After We Get Close to Them: How do we heal ourselves?
- Best Practices for Palliative Pain and Symptom Management: How can I confidently change from dosing for cure to dosing for palliative care? What can I do when access to high-level care is limited?
- Who Cares? What People Near the End of Life Say About Caring
- Maintaining Hope and Trust: How can I be honest with a patient about their prognosis?
- Managing Delirium for a Peaceful End of Life Journey
- Traditional Healing among the Inupiaq: Importance of Caring for the Body, Mind, Spirit

Registration and Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuing Education (CE) credits are available at no cost to participants. For more information, please contact the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium at (907) 729-1900 or visit www.palliativeak.org.

About the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium is a non-profit health organization owned and managed by Alaska Native tribal governments and their regional health organizations. For more information, please visit www.anthc.org.