

20th Annual Pain & Palliative Care Conference

Tuesday, June 16, 2026 • Feinberg Pavilion, Northwestern Memorial Hospital • Chicago, Illinois

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| 8:00 a.m. | Registration & Breakfast | 12:30 p.m. | Lunch Break |
| 8:50 a.m. | Welcome & Opening Remarks
Edward Peñate, DMin, BCC
<i>Palliative Care Chaplain</i>
<i>Palliative Medicine/Spiritual Care & Education</i>
<i>Northwestern Medicine</i> | 1:30 p.m. | Hoping for a Miracle and Medical Decision-Making
MODERATOR
Edward Peñate, DMin, BCC
<i>Palliative Care Chaplain</i>
PANEL
Erin A. Strong, MD, MBA, MPH
<i>Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology</i>
<i>Loyola University Medical Center</i>
Kia L. Ferrer, PhD, CCLS
<i>Certified Child Life Specialist, Northwestern Medicine</i>
Ornella Razetto, LCSW, ACM-SW
<i>CDT Social Worker, Northwestern Medicine</i>
Elijah Kindred
<i>Community & Population Health Advisor</i>
<i>Bright Star Community Outreach</i>
Rev. Pamela N. Floyd, MD, MPH, MDiv.
<i>Staff Chaplain for Palliative Medicine,</i>
<i>Northwestern Medicine</i> |
| 9:00 a.m. | KEYNOTE
Medical Aid in Dying in Illinois:
A Practical Primer for Practicing Clinicians
Eytan Szmuilowicz, MD
<i>Palliative Medicine, Northwestern Medicine</i> | | |
| 10:00 a.m. | Buprenorphine in Palliative Care
Melanie Smith, MD
<i>Assistant Professor of Medicine,</i>
<i>Section of Palliative Medicine, Northwestern University</i> | | |
| 10:30 a.m. | Break | | |
| 11:00 a.m. | Restorative Justice in Palliative Care
Aretha Boakye-Donkor, MD
<i>Palliative Care Fellow, Northwestern University</i> | 3:00 p.m. | SPECIAL LAST LECTURE
Pain in Serious Illness:
What a Long, Strange Trip It's Been
Judith Paice, PhD, RN
<i>Director, Cancer Pain Program, Northwestern Medicine</i>
<i>Lurie Cancer Center</i> |
| 11:30 a.m. | Legacy Work in Palliative Care:
Practical Tools for Meaningful
Conversations
Jaleesa Harris, MD
<i>Palliative Care Fellow, Northwestern University</i> | 3:30 p.m. | Closing Remarks &
Completion of Evaluation Forms
Eytan Szmuilowicz, MD
<i>Palliative Medicine, Northwestern Medicine</i> |
| 12:00 p.m. | Where Transplant Meets Palliative Care:
A Practical Approach to
Advanced Liver Disease
Nivetha Saravanan, MD
<i>Palliative Care Fellow, Northwestern University</i> | | |

This nursing continuing professional development activity has been submitted to VTL Center for Professional Development for approval to award contact hours. VTL Center for Professional Development is an accredited approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Additionally, this activity provides continuing education contact hours for social workers and physical/ occupational therapists through Northwestern Medicine. For more information regarding contact hours, please contact cancer@northwestern.edu