
For Immediate Release

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Director of Professional Practice Named to National Quality Forum (NQF) Committee

PITTSBURGH, PA; JUNE 12, 2013 — The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) is pleased to announce its Director of Professional Practice, **Constance Dahlin, APRN-BC ACHPN® FPCN FAAN**, has been named as a committee member of the National Quality Forum's Measure Applications Partnership (MAP). MAP is a public-private partnership convened by the National Quality Forum (NQF) to provide input to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on the selection of performance measures for public reporting and performance-based payment programs. MAP is the first group of its kind to provide upstream, pre-rulemaking input to the federal government on the selection of measures.

In her role, Ms. Dahlin will hold a voting position within the MAP Clinician Workgroup. Specifically, Nurse Dahlin will be serving as an individual subject matter expert on the topic of palliative care. Her workgroup will provide input to NQF's Coordinating Committee on matters related to the selection and coordination of measures for clinicians, particularly in the office setting.

Constance Dahlin is an advanced practice nurse with extensive hospice and palliative care experience. She trained in oncology and adult primary care as a CNS and NP. She has palliative experience across care settings; ambulatory, inpatient, rehabilitation, skilled facility, and home. She is Director of Professional Practice for HPNA. She co-founded and was clinical director of an academic medical center palliative care team in Boston; and clinical director of an urban hospice in Boston, Massachusetts; and coordinator of a community hospice and home health agency in Springfield, Oregon.

Ms. Dahlin is also clinical associate professor at the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions and faculty on the Harvard Medical School Center for Palliative Care. She serves as national faculty for the End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC). She was editor of the second and third editions of the National Consensus Project for Quality Palliative Care Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care and co-edited the first and second editions of the HPNA's Core Curriculum for the Advanced Hospice and Palliative Registered Nurse.

She is past president and board member of HPNA and was a member of the National Quality Forum Hospital Efficiency Task Force. She has written, presented, and produced a variety of hospice and palliative nursing education topics, articles, materials, and book chapters. Ms. Dahlin is a Fellow of Hospice and Palliative Nursing and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

“As part of our advocacy efforts, HPNA nominated Ms. Dahlin to serve on this important committee within the healthcare community,” said **Sally Welsh, MSN RN NEA-BC, Chief Executive Officer of HPNA**. “We believe it is extremely important to have nursing leaders included on national committees and represent the entire field of palliative nursing.”

About HPNA

Celebrating its 27th anniversary in 2013, with nearly 11,000 members, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) is a national non-profit organization of nursing professionals specializing in end-of life care and pain management. Its mission is to lead the way to promote excellence in the provision of palliative nursing care through leadership development, education and the support of research in the field. Established in 1986, HPNA is the only nursing organization of its kind. It is part of the Alliance for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Nursing which includes the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation and the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses. Together, the organizations are working to lead the way in the advancement of the rapidly growing and increasingly important hospice and palliative care nursing specialty. To learn more, visit HPNA at www.hpna.org, call 412.787.9301, or email hpna@hpna.org.

The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation supports research and education for nurses and healthcare team members working in end-of-life care and serves as the fundraising arm of HPNA. Please visit, www.hpnf.org, for contribution and donation information.

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