

AMSA-VITAS END OF LIFE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Curriculum Project Development Guidelines

As part of the 2010 EOL Fellowship, all fellows will develop a project proposal to be implemented in their medical school and included in the AMSA Local Project Directory. A draft and final copy of this project proposal will be submitted by the student to AMSA at the end of the six-week training program. At the conclusion of the summer training program, participants may receive a small grant to implement their proposed curriculum reform projects within their schools in the academic year following their training. Each project will be posted on AMSA's web site so that it will be available to medical students and educators interested in enhancing EOL learning experiences at their schools.

The following are issues you may consider when planning curriculum activities. By first answering these questions, you will be able to tailor events to best suit the needs and interests of students at your school. Questions to initiate discussion include:

- What do you want to achieve with your curriculum?
- What specific topics do you want to address?
- How will you structure your curriculum? (Students must consider the resources of their institutions, such as faculty support, scheduling any time off, finances):
- How can your EOL activities build upon your school's EOL educational resources and curriculum?
 - Can it fill any informational and experiential gaps?
 - Can you cultivate interest among your fellow students?
 - Is your school looking for student input with regard to the EOL program?
 - Is it the impetus for a primary care volunteer program?
 - Do you want to start a student interest group that organizes follow-up events later in the year?
- How will you evaluate your curriculum/programs?

Below are some curriculum and activities planning suggestions.

- Lunch series – invite guest speakers if possible
- Round table discussions
- Communications Skills Workshops
- Explore Shadowing opportunities
- Information Fair
- Organize a debate
- Take a field trip to local hospices/palliative care centers
- Create a website and list-serve

Additional guidance in project development will be provided throughout the fellowship program.