‘Practical Palliative Care Course for General Practitioners and Prescribers’
September 2015
(The E-Learning commencing in October and the final assignment is submitted in April 2016.)

University Certificate in Professional Development (UCPD)
Academic Level: Diploma (level 5)
Credits: 30 Credits
GP Approved CPD Credits: 25-30

This course is also open to nurses with the advanced prescribing qualification.

This award affiliated to Teesside University is designed to provide practising clinicians with evidence-based, best practice knowledge and skills in caring for patients with specific palliative care needs. Particular emphasis will be given to the care of patients at the end of their life. It has been developed in response to a local needs assessment as well as national healthcare directives. It has the specific purpose of empowering practitioners to improve their practice of palliative and end of life care, and has been designed to be within the scope of busy clinicians.

Module Aims
To enable experienced general practitioners and prescribers to improve their skills in the practical management of patients with palliative and end of life care needs as well as some aspects of cancer care. There will be an induction evening taking place in September 2015 to discuss the aims of the award.

How you learn
There are three components in the course all fully supported by your course mentor:

- 11 weekly topics will be provided electronically via Blackboard software on relevant subjects such as pain, nausea and vomiting and non-malignant disease, including short formative assignments. Each week you will email your assignment to the course mentor who will respond with detailed feedback. Your mentor is also available should you have any questions. The weekly assessments, feedbacks from your mentor and the facilitated online group discussions will give you a more in-depth insight into palliative care.

- A 37 hour attachment at Saint Michael’s Hospice will give you the exposure to common palliative care problems and the opportunity to monitor individual patients over a week. During the placement you will observe multidisciplinary team working. This is also an opportunity to become familiar with the use of a syringe driver and the clinical management of end of life care.

- A 4000 word assignment completed for April 2016 - a case study to demonstrate the clinical application of what you have learned. This work will be marked as a summative assignment. All parts of the course must be completed to obtain your certificate.

Course Mentor:
Dr Liz Brown, Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Saint Michael’s Hospice

Cost: £750 including placement at Saint Michael’s
Application Deadline: Wednesday August 19 2015

For more information and to register please contact the course administrator Beata Mulvaney at Saint Michael’s Hospice via email to education@saintmichaelshospice.org or by calling 01423 878180 on Wednesday’s and Friday’s.