

**University of New Mexico
When Cure is No Longer Possible - A Palliative Care System of
Excellence for Rural New Mexico**

Focus Groups - Health Care Professionals

- a. This instrument is unpublished.
- b. The purpose of these focus groups is to identify concerns and issues, needs, and community actions/activities related to care when cure is no longer possible in the community, and to identify local strengths and barriers to improving care when cure is no longer possible in the community.
- c. We conduct a one and a half-hour focus group with health care professionals in the community, drawn from outside the working group of health professionals who work regularly with the hospice. Physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, physical or occupational therapists, nutritionists, etc. may be included.

Inquiry Process: Focus Groups-Health Care Professionals

- What does the word hospice mean to you?

Probe: Are there other terms that you use to describe hospice care?

- What does the term "palliative care" mean to you?
- What would make it likely for you, a member of your family, or an individual you work with to choose hospice care?
- What would make it likely for you to discuss hospice as a choice for a family member or an individual with whom you work?
- What would prevent you, a member of your family, or an individual you work with from choosing hospice care?
- What would prevent you from discussing hospice as a choice for a family member or an individual with whom you work?
- What suggestions do you have about improving care when cure is no longer possible in your community?

Regarding:

Information about available programs

Alleviation of pain and other symptom management

Perception about and understanding of the quality of available programs

Financial support for individuals in need

Involvement of clergy/spiritual leaders from your community

Conflicting beliefs about care when cure is no longer possible

Issues about distance

Language, religious and cultural concerns

As far as you know, are there discussions or activities in your community about care when cure is no longer possible?

Probe: What is the content of those discussions and who is responsible for them?