The tremendous challenge of caring for seriously ill patients during the COVID pandemic identified the need for high quality, collaborative palliative care programs to support the needs of hospitalized patients, particularly in the intensive care unit. Primary medical teams struggled with challenging communication tasks (including discussions of prognosis and goals of care) while caring for patients and families suffering from COVID, highlighting the need to develop comprehensive “primary palliative care” training for all who care for patients facing serious illness.

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Program Goal:
1. Define palliative care and distinguish it from hospice care.
2. Describe how palliative care providers are key collaborators to help address the sources of distress experienced by patients, families, and medical providers during pandemics.
3. Identify future interventions and collaborations to support patients and their families facing serious illness post-COVID.

Target Audience: Critical Care Medicine, Sleep Medicine, Pulmonology Medicine

Financial Disclosure Information:
Richard Matthay, MD, Course Director for this educational activity, has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose.
Deborah Lovejoy, coordinator for this educational activity, has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose.
Lauren Ferrante, MD, moderator for this educational activity, has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose.
Jennifer Kapo, MD, faculty for this educational activity, has no relevant financial relationship(s) with ineligible companies to disclose.

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