



Improving palliative care services in Malawi

Team members: Dr John Gillies, Prof Scott Murray, Prof David Weller, Dr Angus Grant, Dr Dorothy Logie and Dr Mhoira Leng.

Aims of the project

To improve the quality and scope of palliative care services for patients with AIDS and cancer throughout Malawi

Overview of the project

In 2006, the team had helped deliver a five day course “Introduction to palliative care” in Blantyre, Malawi. Following this course the Palliative Care Association of Malawi (PACAM) wished to standardise and document the curriculum and resources of this five day course, and also wished the local Malawi trainers on this course to undergo a “Masters’ Training Course” so that they themselves could teach the course to other health professionals.

In 2007 year we helped the Palliative Care Association of Malawi review and print a new manual for the five day course, and also developed and helped deliver a new course in Malawi to train trainers in teaching palliative care. This course was evaluated very positively by both clinicians from PACAM and Ministry officials who also attended the course, who will now in turn train further trainers in 2008. Further support is requested by PACAM in 2008 so that all district in Malawi may have a trained trainer in palliative care