

Palliative Care at Home for Young Children in Africa: Knowledge and Practical Competencies

Information for Managers and Administrators

By the end of the course: “Palliative Care at Home for Young Children in Africa: Training and Support Package” we expect your home-based care workers to have knowledge and skills in the following key areas:

Knowledge and Skills Competencies

Knowledge and skills on palliative care	An understanding of palliative care? How to prioritise problems using the ‘assess, advise, assist and arrange’ method.
Keeping a child well	How to protect a child from germs. Know about breastfeeding, bottle/formula feeding and preparing good, clean food. Knowing about the importance of play and good parenting. How to support caregivers to care for themselves. Telling a young child age-specific messages on HIV. Encouraging a young child to take medicine.
Caring for the sick child who gets better	Finding out what is causing an illness. ASSESS ADVISE ASSIST ARRANGE Common problems faced by a child with HIV* Knowing the “danger signs” and when to refer. Knowing about the special problems of ART. Knowing about the special problems of child abuse.
Caring for the sick child who may not get better	Why might it be good to care for a child at home. Delivering the nine messages in caring for very sick children at home.
*Common problems	Pain, not eating, fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation, skin problems, mouth problems and cough.

Knowing about medicines used in caring for sick, young children at home

1. The child should take the right amount of medicine - the medicine container usually tells you how much to give. Do not give too much. Do not give too little.
2. The child should take the medicine at the right time - the times to take the medicine are usually written on the medicine container or in the child’s clinic/hospital records.
3. The child should finish all the medicine.
4. With ART the child must take the medicine every day.