



The World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA), World Medical Association (WMA) and International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) strongly endorse the resolution on the strengthening of palliative care as a component of integrated treatment throughout the life course.

Palliative care based on an evidence based ethical framework is a positive life choice bringing appropriate support to patients and their loved ones.

We support the call for palliative care to be fully integrated into service provision and support member states developing policies to support integrated, equitable palliative care services in the continuum of care with emphasis on primary care, community and home-based care, and universal health coverage schemes.

We note that the WHO essential medicines now include a palliative care section, which includes opioids and other medicines for treating other common symptoms. Health professionals and in particular primary care professionals and community health workers need access to appropriate medicines in order to provide adequate palliative care in the community. We endorse the need for countries to put in place appropriate policies to allow the ready and accessible supply of opioids to all who need them, in particular oral forms of opioids.

We support the integration of education on palliative care in all undergraduate medical and nursing curricula. Likewise it is an important part of postgraduate training and ongoing continuing professional development.

We support ensuring adequate resources for palliative care initiatives, including implementation of policies, education and training, quality improvements and services. Tools to assist individual countries improve and develop palliative care already exist. Examples include the 'Toolkit for the Development of Palliative Care in the Community'. We urge member states, the WHO and other NGOs to draw on this and similar resources developed by expert organizations in the field.