

Death and Dying Series for Healthcare Professionals

October 30, 2025

3:30 – 5:30 pm

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83411293781?pwd=H3rqjDgdSytQjEfrdkEDTMoOgFm2tN.1>

Meeting ID: 834 1129 3781

Passcode: 574722

Session Four: <i>Compassionate Conversations at the End of Life</i>		
Agenda		Objectives
3:30 pm	Reflections and Session Overview <i>Nancy Zionts, MBA</i> COO & Chief Program Officer Jewish Healthcare Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe strategies for having effective hospice conversations with patients and families • Identify strategies for navigating grief and loss as a healthcare professional • Explain the role grief plays in the serious illness experience • Demonstrate strategies for having conversations around death and grieving with family members and caregivers
3:35 pm	“Not Ready for Hospice”: Navigating Conversations to Help Your Patients Receive the Best Care Possible <i>Rachel Ombres, MD</i> Medical Director, Enhanced Community Care Management (ECCM) Highmark Health Division of Supportive Care Allegheny Health Network	
4:05 pm	Variables in Grief and Bereavement <i>Nancy Zionts, MBA</i>	
4:25 pm	Navigating Grief as a Healthcare Professional <i>Elizabeth Schandelmeier, LCSW, APHSW-C, CT</i> Senior Bereavement Counselor Family Hospice, Part of UPMC	
4:55 pm	Group Discussion Focused questions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospice • Supporting grieving families • Self-care for professionals 	
5:25 pm	Wrap-up and Preview Next Session <i>Nancy Zionts, MBA</i>	