

# WE LEAD THE WAY

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CANCER SUPPORT

## Macmillan Out of Hours Palliative Care E-learning Course

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### The history

- Course launched in 2011 on Macmillan's Learn Zone (virtual learning environment).
- Developed following a successful education chapter in the OOH toolkit launched in 2009 which was targeted at educators of general palliative care in primary care.
- The toolkit was found to be very useful for everyday GPs.
- Feedback showed there was much demand for a palliative care course to be developed along the same lines, for learners as opposed to educators.

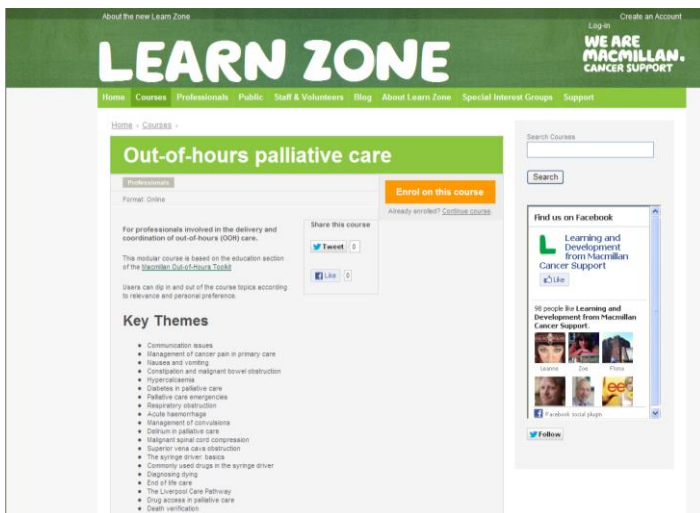
### Next steps

- It was agreed to develop an online palliative care course for Out of Hours GPs which was also available to everyday GPs.
- Online learning has proved very successful and convenient for GPs who have a busy workload due to the flexible nature of learning.
- This had previously been shown by the success of online learning with BMJ and RCGP.

### Curriculum

- Topics were developed by the Macmillan GP Advisors team and based on the content of the education section in the OOH toolkit.
- Several other authors were also sourced including consultants in palliative care and a Macmillan nurse consultant.
- The content was taken to a web designer (OnClick) who created an interactive environment to aid learning.

*Topics range from communication with cancer patients, pain, symptom control measures to more pragmatic issues such as accessing drugs out of hours and the use of syringe drivers.*



The e-learning programme can be accessed at <http://learnzone.org.uk>, where users can create a free Learn Zone account.

*Since its launch in 2011, approximately ... professionals have accessed the course, including nurses and even hospital doctors.*

### Modules

- Each module is interactive and takes no more than 60 minutes to complete.
- Self-assessments are included at the end of each module to reinforce learning.
- Once a pass mark is achieved the learning can print off a certificate to keep as proof of learning (e.g. for an appraisal folder)

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