**“Knowledge of General Practitioners in Rural area of Pune towards Palliative Care.”**

Rahul R. Bogam1, Sonali K.Barge 2

1Assistant Lecturer, Department of Community Medicine,

Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University Medical College, Pune.

2 Lecturer, College of Nursing, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune.

**Corresponding author** : Dr. Rahul R.Bogam : Email - rhl\_bogam@yahoo.co.in

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**ABSTRACT:**

**Introduction:** The present study was planned to assess the knowledge of palliative care amongst general practitioners in rural area of Pune and to correlate socio-demographic characteristics of general practitioners with their knowledge of palliative care.

**Methods:** A structured pretested self administered questionnaire was used to obtain information about palliative care from 203 general practitioners from randomly selected villages in Haveli Taluka of Pune District, Maharashtra. Out of 20 questions in questionnaire, 16 were assigned scoring system. The data was entered in Microsoft office excel sheet and analyzed using Chi-square test.

**Observations and Results:** Sixteen (7.88%) practitioners could mention the names of palliative care centres in India. More than half of GPs (53.20%) felt there is a need for palliative care services in their region. Only fourty six (22.66%) GPs had experience in treating terminally ill patients at home. Statistically significant association was not observed between GP’s knowledge about palliative care and their age (χ2 = 2.21, df = 1, p = 0.529), sex (χ2 = 2.98, df =1, p = 0.084) and work duration (χ2 = 0.519, df = 1, p = 0.470)

**Conclusion:** The study revealed inadequacies in the knowledge of general practitioners pertaining to palliative care.

**Key words**: general practitioners, knowledge, palliative care

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