PEDiatric palliative care in Subsaharan Africa
What knowledge to transmit and how?

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« When we talk about palliative care in today’s global society, it is difficult to forget “children in the developing world, who represent between 75 and 80% of the world’s child population. Owing to scarce resources, a shortage of qualified healthcare professionals, and dysfunctional health systems, these children continue to die in massive numbers, especially in Africa. »

Harif M. (2014)
Un monde plus équitable. . l’exemple du GFAOP. Revue d’Oncologie Hématologie Pédiatrique
Palliative care: an obvious need in Africa?
PC DEVELOPMENT IN RESOURCE RICH COUNTRIES

- Palliative care (PC) is a philosophy evolving from the hospice philosophy to meet the gaps in care for seriously ill and dying patients.

- Chronic non-communicable diseases : the predominant reason for admission to paediatric palliative care programmes in the “developed” world.

- When early implemented in the course of disease, PC may improve quality AND quantity of patient’s lives.
PC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

• Person-centered palliative care must take into account the diversity of cultural beliefs, behaviors and traditions that may be common to different African countries but may also differ significantly in this vast continent.

• Community-centered vs hospital-centered.

• The articulation between palliative and curative care is always difficult for care teams regardless of their place of practice
  ✓ many stakeholders
  ✓ Step by step process
PEDIATRIC CANCERS IN AFRICA. GFAOP CURATIVE APPROACH

• An increasing incidence
• Several structured care networks

• A better overall survival
a 3-year training programme
04/2016-03/2019

Objectives

• To enhance routine patient assessment,
• To reinforce the multidisciplinary exchanges

Methods

Mixed franco-african executive committee
Elaboration by each pilot unit of a project to improve practices

First round session

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THEN....

Evaluative step
- Interim on-the-grounds assessment (15/18)
- Implementation of the project in 7/15 units

Second training sessions:
- 3 day group session
  - 7 units from northern and subsaharan countries
- Practical on site 1 week training. On going
- Encourage and help in publishing and presenting projects