

# Focus on Compassion

Enhancing Access to Palliative Care Worldwide

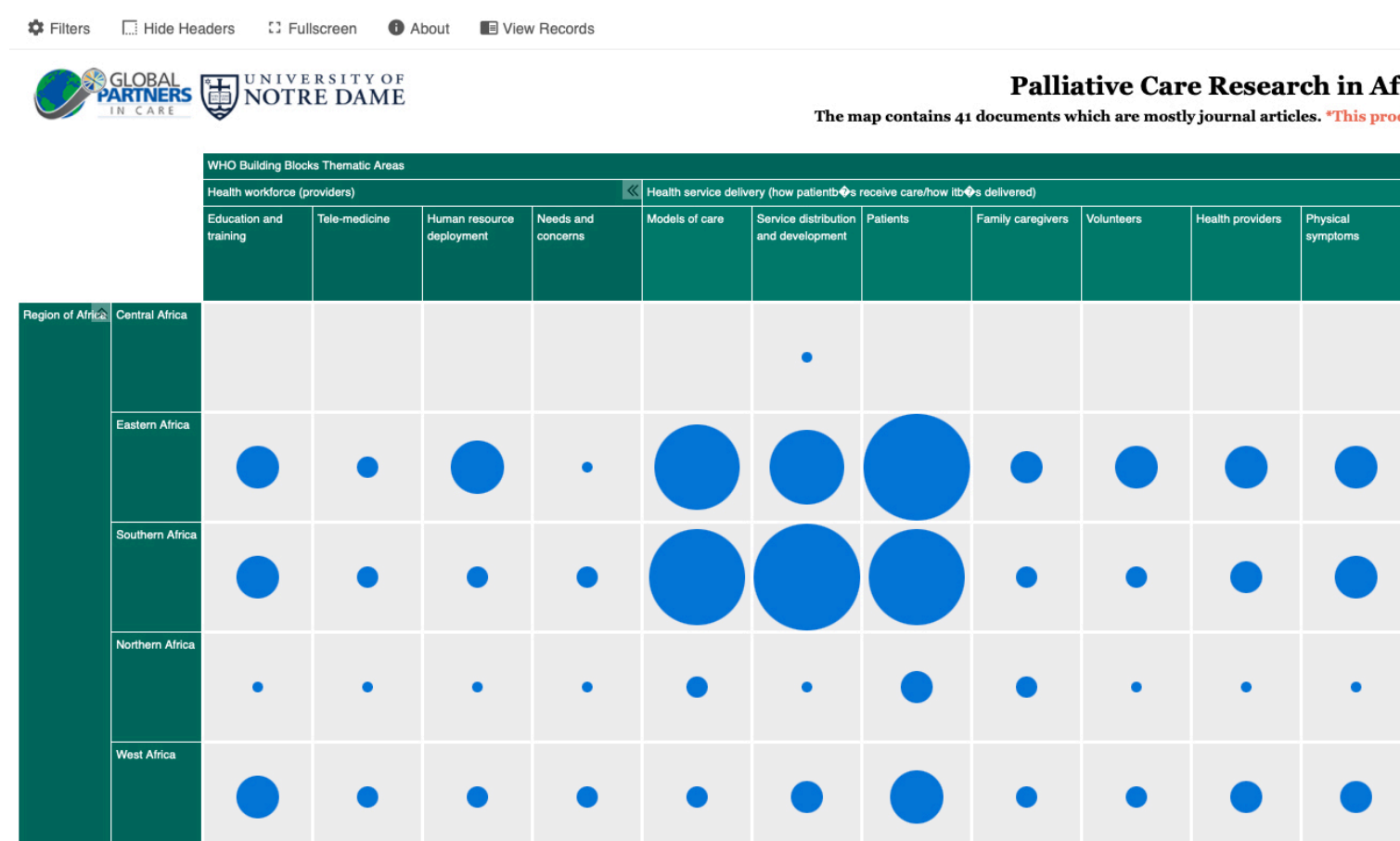
## Application deadline extended for African Palliative Care Education Scholarship Fund for Nurses and Social Workers

The African Palliative Care Association and Global Partners in Care provide a limited number of competitive scholarships each year for nurses and social workers to advance their training in palliative care.

Applicants must be certified in nursing or social work and already have admission to a program of study in palliative care. Please visit [APCA's website](#) for more information. The deadline to apply is 30th April 2022.

## Intern Project Helps Make Evidence-based Palliative Care Research Accessible

An evidence gap map (EGM) is an interactive visual tool that can be helpful for decision-makers to know what evidence exists to inform programs and policies. And, as the name suggests, it shows where the gaps in evidence are which can be helpful for researchers and decision-makers alike to know where more investment is needed.



An early look at the data that is being made accessible through the Evidence Gap Map.

A goal of the African Palliative Care Association (APCA) is to create an EGM of palliative care in Africa. The idea is to create an accessible, searchable and interactive repository of palliative care research conducted in Africa. Studies would be coded by region and according to the World Health Organization building blocks for health systems. Further filters could be applied to search studies by type of research, participant demographics, etc. This will be an important tool for decision-makers to identify available evidence as they seek to inform their policies and programs aimed at improving palliative care and it will help direct researchers to the gaps in knowledge.

During the summer of 2021, APCA worked with GPIC, University of Notre Dame and Makerere University to pilot this project. Muhammad Khalid Saleem, a Master of Public Policy student from the Blavatnik School of Government at Oxford University, interned with GPIC and APCA to further this project. Khalid worked together with another student intern, Germans Natuhwera, a palliative care clinician in Uganda and together they created a pilot EGM from about 40 research studies on palliative care in Africa to provide a proof of concept. This pilot project took a great deal of work from these two interns and is a very important step in making palliative care research in Africa accessible. Currently, articles are continuing to be coded (there are thousands) and integrated into the map and APCA is looking for funding to fully establish the EGM. This will continue to be a living project that will be updated routinely to ensure up-to-date evidence is available to users. [Click to read Khalid's reflections on the project](#)

*"I was very excited when I got the opportunity to work on palliative care in Africa. The project of the evidence gap map on palliative care perfectly aligned with my Master of Public Policy degree and my professional career as a policy maker."*



Muhammad Khalid Saleem

## Welcome to the GPIC Advisory Council, Professor Soyannwo!



Professor Olaitan Soyannwo

Professor Olaitan Soyannwo is president of the Centre for Palliative Care Nigeria and a professor of anesthesia and consultant in anesthesia, pain and palliative care. "Prof," as she is affectionately known by her many disciples in palliative care, brings an incredible depth of knowledge and experience, not only from Nigeria, but across the continent. The Centre for Palliative Care Nigeria is partnered with VITAS of Central Florida, so she will also bring a very important partnership perspective to the council.

[Read more about Professor Soyannwo here](#)

## Join us at the 7th International African Palliative Care Conference

Co-hosted by African Palliative Care Association and Worldwide Hospice and Palliative Care Alliance, the [7th International African Palliative Care Conference](#), "Palliative Care in a Pandemic" will take place 24 – 26 August 2022. We encourage all of our partners and collaborators to join this conference – whether in person or virtually. You don't want to miss it!



## Congratulations to our Global Partnership Award winners!

In last month's *Focus on Compassion*, we shared the winners of the 2021 Global Partnership Award. Here's an opportunity to watch the presentation video!



## ICPCN Webinar Series on Children's Palliative Care

Join ICPCN for their next webinar in this series on 21 April 2022 at 1pm GMT+1. Experts will discuss end-of-life care and supporting the family at the time of death.



[Click here to register](#)

## Help Global Partners in Care as You Shop for Spring

Doing some shopping for spring cleaning or a new project around the house? If you're ordering from Amazon, you can help Global Partners in Care at the same time! Amazon Smile allows you to donate to your favorite charity while getting the items you need.

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