



The 11th Palliative Care Congress Glasgow 2016

Session Abstract – Pain Update Masterclass

New trends in pain control – what every palliative care practitioner needs to know

Professor Sam H Ahmedzai

Thursday 10 March 2016

1120 – 1220 (*Sam's presentation from 1120 - 1140*)

Improving pain control in dying cancer patients was one of the building blocks for modern palliative care. As the specialty has progressed, so has the scientific depth of our knowledge on pain mechanisms and also of how pain interventions work. In recent years, as palliative care has extended beyond cancer and, to some extent earlier in the course of illness, the challenges for pain management have increased. This session will review the current wide range of options – primarily pharmacological – that are now available for the palliative care practitioner to use for the benefit of patients. It will include systematic reviews as well as national guidance from NICE, SIGN, BPS and other relevant bodies. It will argue for a radical move away from the familiar but poorly evidenced, to the innovative and scientifically based.