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John R. Murren Memorial Lecture

Jennifer Temel, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
Assistant Professor of Medical Oncology/Hematology,
Massachusetts General Hospital

Integrating Palliative and Oncology Care in Advanced Lung Cancer

Needs: Advanced lung cancer patients face a number of challenges with their illness. In addition to the prevalent physical and psychological symptoms, these patients must also make difficult decisions about their care during treatment and at the end of life. This course will educate physicians on the extent of the issues advanced lung cancer patients must deal with and review the data for early palliative care as a possible solution.

Objectives: To appreciate the physical and psychological symptom burden in patients with advanced lung cancer; to understand national trends in aggressive cancer care and the rationale for an earlier focus on palliative care; and to be familiar with the data for an early focus on palliative care.