

**Dignity Therapy Workshop**  
**June 14 – 16, 2010**  
**Inn at the Forks Winnipeg, Canada**

The Manitoba Palliative Care Research Unit is proud to present an intensive two-and-a-half-day Dignity Therapy training workshop led by Dr. Harvey Max Chochinov. The ultimate goal of Dignity Therapy is to help bolster the dignity of dying patients and address their suffering. This therapeutic intervention invites individuals with life-limiting illnesses to reflect on matters of importance to them. Using the Dignity Therapy protocol and following the respondent's cues, a trained therapist facilitates the process of disclosing thoughts, feelings, and memories that are compiled in a narrative document for the patient to share with a friend or loved one. The benefits of Dignity Therapy have been published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology and the Journal of Palliative Medicine.

Held at The Forks, a beautiful National Historic site in Winnipeg, the workshop will consist of a blend of lectures, small-group discussion, observation of Dignity Therapy in action, and hands-on opportunities for therapists to learn how to carry out this novel intervention. The working language of the workshop will be English. Please note that registration will be limited to 40 participants.

**This workshop will be of interest to:**

- clinicians working with palliative care and/or geriatric patients who are in a key position to use Dignity Therapy
- researchers who wish to include Dignity Therapy in the development of new research projects
- health care administrators/nursing home administrators responsible for creating and operationalizing an approach to care that supports and affirms patient dignity and personhood

**Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be able to:**

- Define the construct of patient dignity
- Describe the association between undermined patient dignity and the clinical outcomes of depression, anxiety, desire for death, hopelessness, feeling of being a burden to others and quality of life
- Identify the theoretical underpinnings of an empirically-derived model of dignity in terminal illness developed by Dr. Harvey Max Chochinov and colleagues
- Identify the aims and goals of Dignity Therapy
- Explain the relationship between Dignity Therapy and an empirically-based dignity model
- Identify the types of patients who might benefit from Dignity Therapy
- Identify approaches for introducing Dignity Therapy to patients and families
- Specify the steps involved in implementing Dignity Therapy
- Provide a rationale for the editing of Dignity Therapy transcripts
- Identify principles and strategies associated with the editing of Dignity Therapy transcripts
- Evaluate the facilitators and barriers to implementing Dignity Therapy in their facility/clinical practice
- Identify ways in which Dignity Therapy might be tailored for use within their own practice/research context

**Registration Cost:** \$1,000 (Canadian Currency). To enquire about limited bursaries, please contact [mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca](mailto:mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca).

**Accommodations:**

Guest rooms are available at Inn at the Forks ([www.innforks.com](http://www.innforks.com)) at a reduced rate of \$159.00 CAD (single/double) plus applicable taxes per night. Each additional person sharing a guestroom is \$20.00 per night. To make your room reservation:

- Contact Inn at the Forks directly by telephone at 1-877-377-4100 (Toll-free North America) or (204)942-6555.
- Identify the group reservation number **128054** to receive the discounted room rate.
- Please note that reservations must be made by Thursday, May 13, 2010 in order to receive the discounted rate.

For information about Winnipeg, visit [www.destinationwinnipeg.ca](http://www.destinationwinnipeg.ca).

**Important Dates to Note:**

Workshop Registration Deadline: May 1, 2010

Discounted Rate Hotel Reservation Deadline: May 13, 2010

**Spouses/Guest Program:** A one-day spouses' program is being contemplated that will include a full day of highlights on Winnipeg's vibrant cultural and historical highlights as well as other amenities. Please contact us at [mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca](mailto:mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca) if you would like to be sent more information.

**How To Register:**

- 1) Submit the workshop registration form by fax to 204-787-4937 or email to [mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca](mailto:mpcru@cancercare.mb.ca)
- 2) Mail original registration form along with payment to the address listed above. If you have chosen to pay by international money transfer, account information details will be emailed to you once your registration form has been received by fax or email.
- 3) A registration confirmation letter will be sent to you once both the registration form and payment have been received.