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<https://www.unav.edu/web/atlantes-global-observatory-of-palliative-care>

AFRICAN PALLIATIVE CARE ASSOCIATION (APCA)

<https://www.africanpalliativecare.org/>

WHERE TO ACCESS THE APCA ATLAS OF PALLIATIVE CARE

1

Download the full Atlas (pdf) to your computer or tablet  
University of Navarra repository.  
(Free, 21 mb)

2

Explore and share communication materials  
Press release, media kit, images, videos, infographics.

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# APCA Atlas of Palliative Care in Africa 2025

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AUTHORS



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GLOBAL OBSERVATORY OF  
PALLIATIVE CARE



WHO Collaborating Centre  
for the Global Monitoring of  
Palliative Care Development

WITH THE  
SCIENTIFIC  
CONTRIBUTION  
OF



WITH THE  
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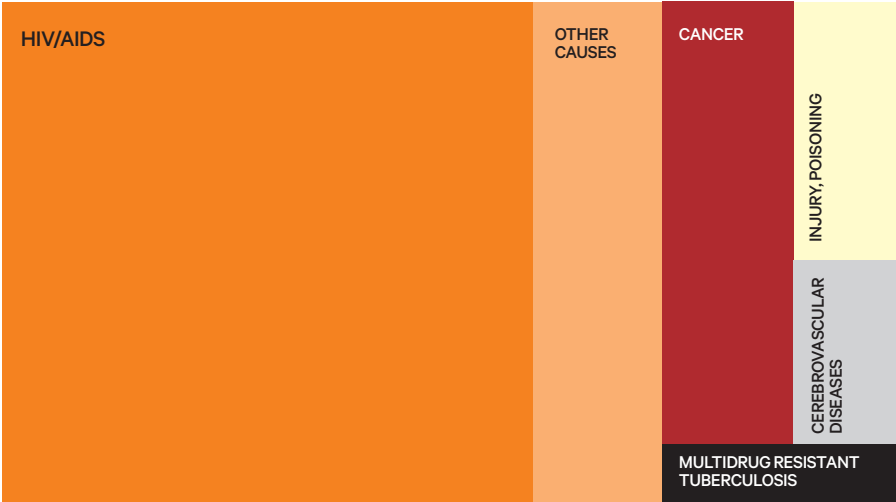
WHO Collaborating Centre  
for the Global Monitoring of  
Palliative Care Development



Over 17 million people  
faced SHS in Africa

CONDITION	SHS IN THOUSANDS
HIV/AIDS	12,176,490
Cancer	1,125,850
Injury, poisoning	935,330
Cerebrovascular diseases	730,000
Multidrug resistant tuberculosis	492,560
Others	2,218,280
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,678,530</b>

Source: The Lancet Commission on Global Access to Palliative Care and Pain Relief. Serious health-related suffering database, 2015.

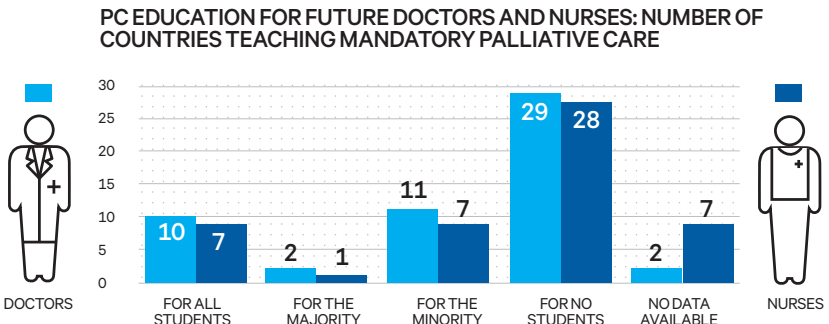


Education  
and Training

5/54

countries officially recognize PC as a medical specialty or subspecialty through national regulatory authorities.

4/54 have other kind of diplomas with official recognition (i.e., certification of the professional category or of the job position).



Research

10/54

countries host at least one national conference specifically dedicated to PC every 3 years.

5/54

countries have established level of peer reviewed articles focusing on PC research: Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Uganda.

Health Policies

NATIONAL  
PALLIATIVE CARE  
PLAN, PROGRAMME,  
POLICY, OR  
STRATEGY

10 countries have developed stand-alone PC strategies.

LEVEL	CONTENT	COUNTRIES AND AREAS
4	Actualized, evaluated or audited in last 5 years	3
3	Actualized but not evaluated or audited in last 5 years	19
2	Developed over 5 years ago	13
1	Not known or does not exist	19

PALLIATIVE  
CARE LAWS

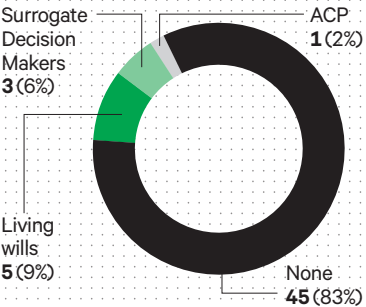
	YEAR	NAME
Kenya	2017	The Health Act No. 21 of 2017 recognises PC as a right.
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	2018	Loi n° 18/035 du 13 Décembre 2018 includes PC within the national health system.
Zimbabwe	2018	Public Act No. 11/2018 (Cap 15:17) recognises PC as a core health service within the definition of a health institution.
Côte d'Ivoire	2019	Loi n°2019-677 du 23 Juillet 2019 recognises PC as a patient right under national health policy.
Benin	2021	Loi n° 2020 - 37 du 03 Fevrier 2021 includes PC in the list of services to be provided at the primary care level.
Rwanda	2021	Ministerial Instructions No. 20/7017 (2021) include PC as an essential UHC service in Rwanda's health system.
Kenya	2023	Primary Health Act No.13 and Social Health Insurance Act No. 16.

Empowerment people and communities

17/54

have a strong national and sub-national presence of PC advocacy and promoting patient rights.

NATIONAL POLICY OR GUIDELINE ON ADVANCE CARE PLANNING (ACP) OR ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

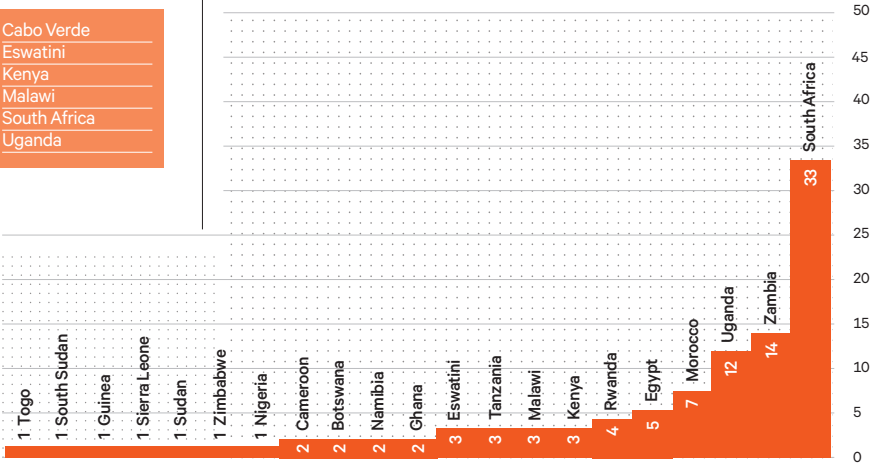


Specialized services

PROVISION OF PALLIATIVE CARE

LEVEL 1 NO OR MINIMAL	LEVEL 2 EXIST BUT ONLY IN SOME GEOGRAPHIC AREAS	LEVEL 3 EXISTS IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY
Algeria Angola Botswana Burundi Central African Republic Chad Comoros Congo Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia Gabon Gambia, The Guinea Guinea-Bissau Lesotho Libya Mali Mauritania	Morocco Mozambique Niger São Tomé and Príncipe Senegal Sierra Leone Somalia South Sudan Tanzania Togo	Benin Burkina Faso Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire Dem. Rep. of the Congo Djibouti Egypt Ghana Liberia Madagascar Mauritius Namibia Nigeria Rwanda Seychelles Sudan Tunisia Zambia Zimbabwe

SPECIALIST PAEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICE  
102 Specialist Paediatric PC Service present in 21 countries



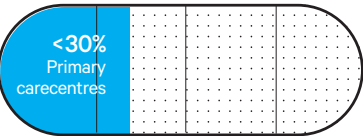
Use of Medicines

37/54

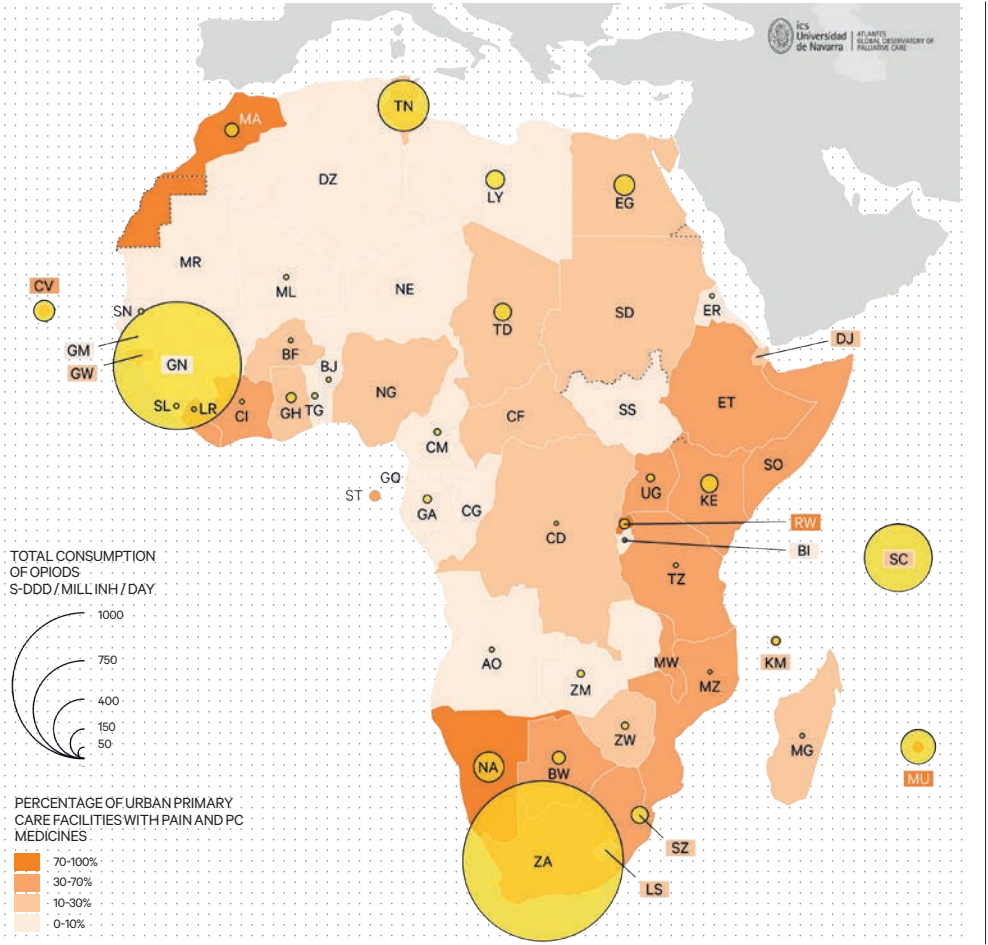
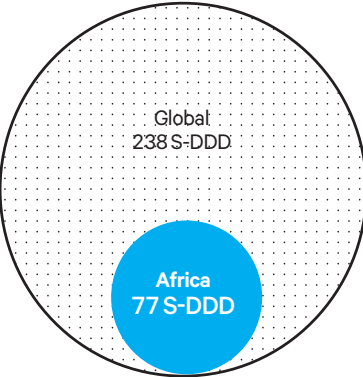
countries reported <30% availability of essential PC medicines in urban primary care.

MORPHINE ACCESS

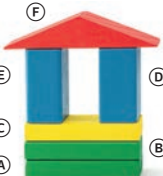
48/54 countries reported <30% availability of Immediate Release Oral Morphine in primary care.



USE OF OPIOIDS



GLOBAL FRAMEWORK  
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF PALLIATIVE CARE IN  
COUNTRIES AND AREAS  
(WHO, 2021)



- A EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
- B POLICIES
- C RESEARCH
- D USE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
- E EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- F PROVISION OF PC

LEVEL OF  
DEVELOPMENT

- 1 EMERGING
- 2 PROGRESSING
- 3 ESTABLISHED
- 4 ADVANCED