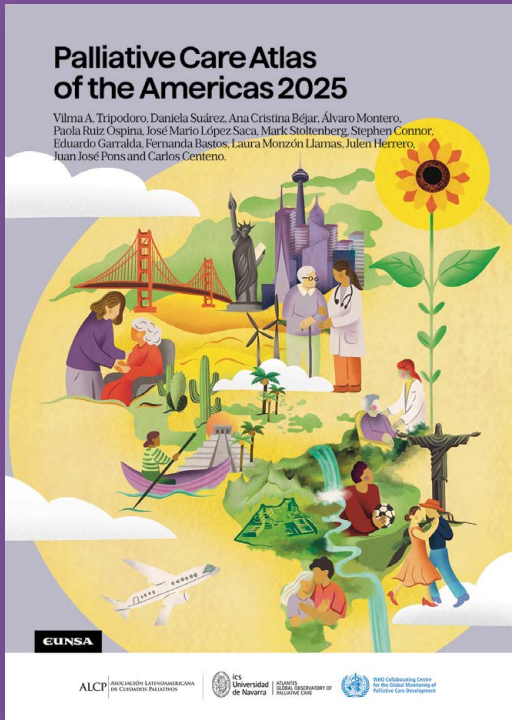




**Palliative Care Atlas
of the Americas 2025**

Vilma A. Tripodoro, Daniela Suárez, Ana Cristina Béjar, Álvaro Montero,
Paola Ruiz Ospina, José Mario López Saca, Mark Stoltenberg, Stephen Connor,
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Juan José Pons and Carlos Centeno.

ATLANTES

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

ASOCIACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE CUIDADOS PALIATIVOS (ALCP)

<https://cuidadospaliativos.org/>

WHERE TO ACCESS THE PALLIATIVE CARE ATLAS OF THE AMERICAS

1

**Download the full
Atlas (pdf) to your
computer or tablet**
University of Navarra
repository.
(Free, 9 mb)



2

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



3

**Order a printed copy
anywhere in the world
via your local Amazon
store**
Print on demand.

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AUTHORS



ATLANTES
GLOBAL OBSERVATORY OF
PALLIATIVE CARE



WHO Collaborating Centre
for the Global Monitoring of
Palliative Care Development

**WITH THE
SCIENTIFIC
CONTRIBUTION
OF**



ASOCIACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA
DE CUIDADOS PALIATIVOS

**WITH THE
SUPPORT OF**



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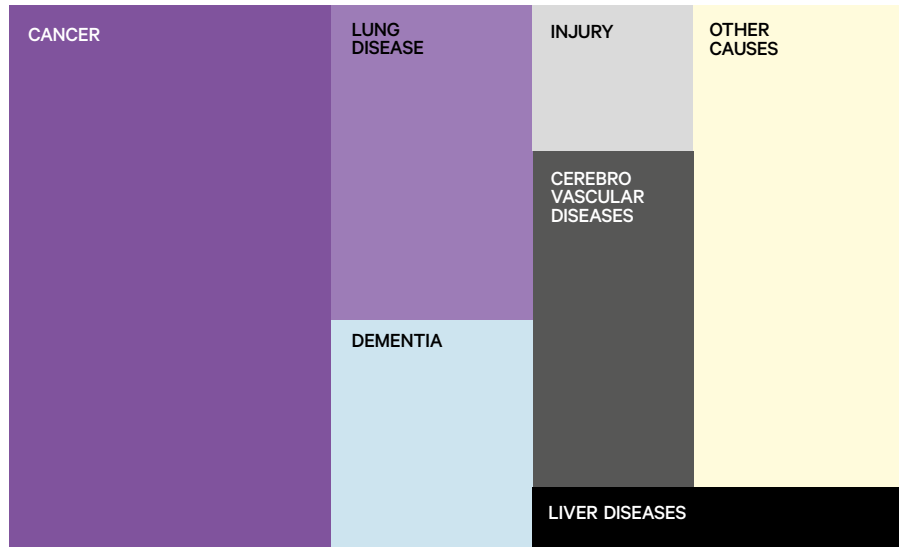


WHO Collaborating Centre
for the Global Monitoring of
Palliative Care Development

Over 2,984,970 people faced serious health-related suffering (SHS) in the PAHO region

CONDITION	SHS IN THOUSANDS
Cancer	1,118,550
Lung disease	326,360
Dementia	282,770
Cerebrovascular diseases	274,430
Injury	190,740
Liver diseases	176,670
Other causes	615,38
Total	2,984,970

¹ Source: The Lancet Commission on Global Access to Palliative Care and Pain Relief. Serious health-related suffering database, 2015.



Education and Training

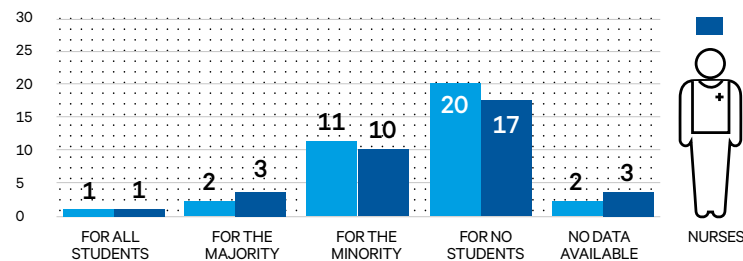
13/35

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

DIPLOMAS
6/35 have other kinds of diplomas with official recognition (i.e., certification of the professional category or the job position)



DOCTORS



PALLIATIVE CARE EDUCATION FOR FUTURE DOCTORS AND NURSES: THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TEACHING MANDATORY PC

Research

15/35

countries host national PC conferences at least every three years.

2/35

Two of the 35 countries have an advanced level of **peer-reviewed articles** focusing on PC research: the United States and Canada.

Health Policies

NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE PLAN, PROGRAMME, POLICY, OR STRATEGY

LEVEL	CONTENT	COUNTRIES
4	Actualized, evaluated or audited in last 5 years	5
3	Actualized but not evaluated or audited in last 5 years	9
2	Developed over 5 years ago	4
1	Not known or does not exist	17

PALLIATIVE CARE LAWS

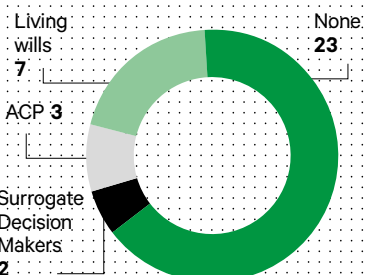
	YEAR	NAME
Uruguay	2008	Law No. 18.335 - Palliative Care
Mexico	2008	Federal Law on Palliative Care
Colombia	2014	Law Consuelo Devis Saavedra.
Canada	2017	Framework on Palliative Care in Canada Act
Peru	2018	Law that Creates the National Plan for Palliative Care for Oncological and Non-Oncological Diseases
Chile	2021	Law No. 21.375 - Establishes Palliative Care and the Rights of Persons with Terminal or Serious Illnesses.
Costa Rica	2022	Palliative Care Law
Argentina	2022	Law No. 27.678 - Palliative Care Law
Guatemala	2022	Decree Number 7-2022 - National Law for Comprehensive Cancer Care
Brazil	2023	Law N° 14.758 of December 29, 2023 - National Policy for Cancer Prevention and Control within the SUS
Paraguay	2024	Palliative Care Law
Ecuador	2025	Organic PC Law

Empowerment people and communities

23/35

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

Bolivia
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Nicaragua
Paraguay
Peru
Venezuela

LEVEL 2
EXIST BUT ONLY IN SOME
GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

Brazil
Cuba
El Salvador
Honduras
Jamaica
Mexico
Suriname

LEVEL 3
EXISTS IN MANY PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY

Antigua and Barbuda
Bahamas, The
Belize
Dominican Rep.
Ecuador
Trinidad and Tobago

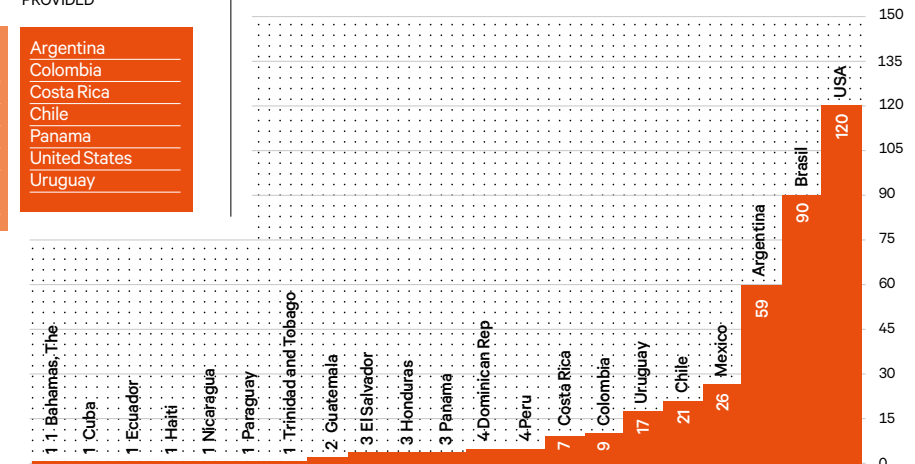
LEVEL 4
SYSTEMATICALLY
PROVIDED

Argentina
Colombia
Costa Rica
Chile
Panama
United States
Uruguay

SPECIALIZED PEDIATRIC PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES
375 pediatric services are present in 22 countries

10,528

specialized PC services.



Use of Medicines

8/35

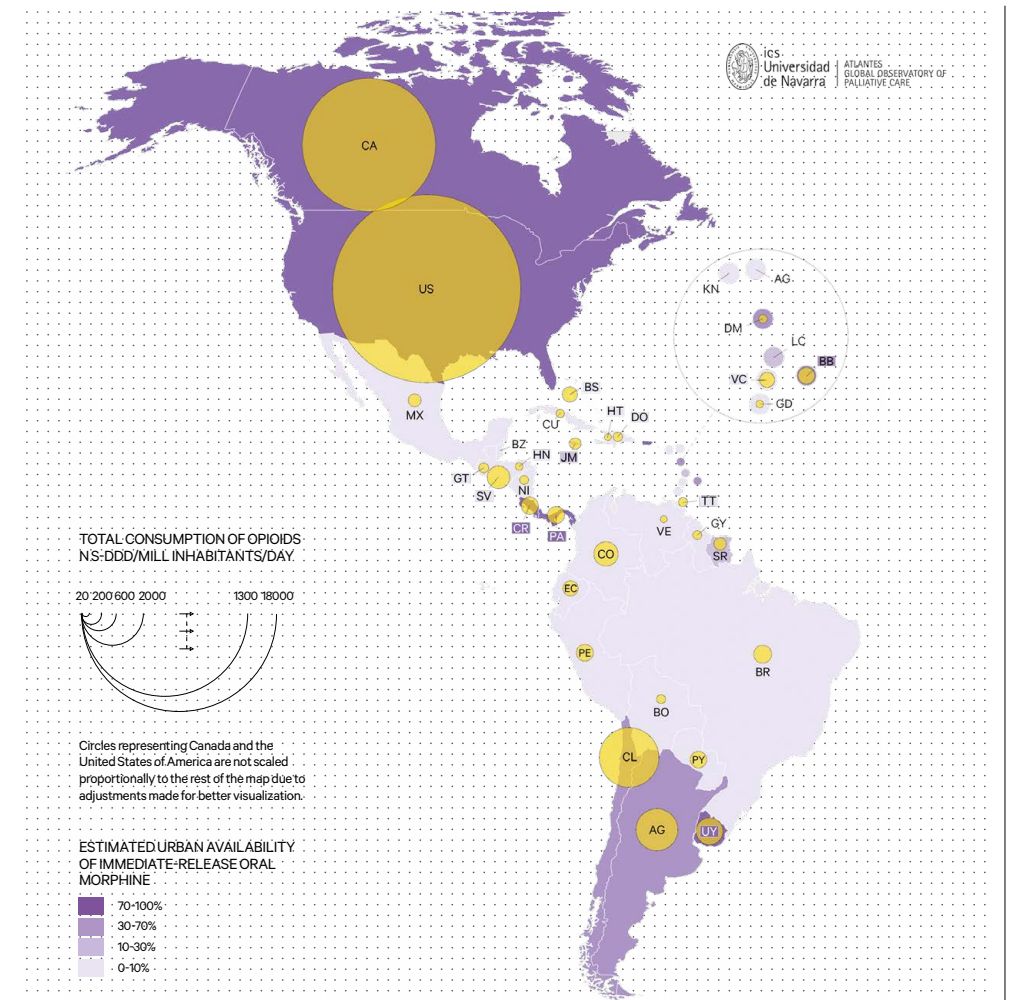
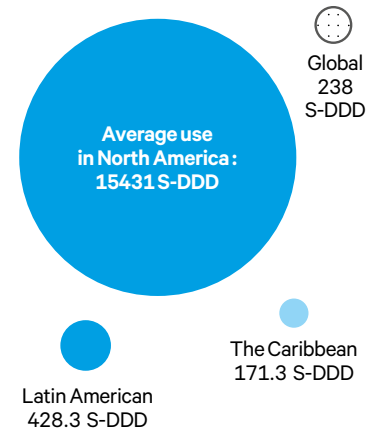
Urban Availability of Essential medicines at **primary care centres**

5/35

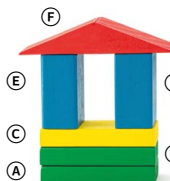
Urban Availability of Immediate-Release Oral Morphine

In the Americas, **stark disparities** persist between urban and rural areas in access to essential palliative care medicines, particularly opioids.

USE OF OPIOIDS



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



④ EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
⑥ POLICIES
③ RESEARCH
② USE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
⑤ EDUCATION AND TRAINING
① PROVISION OF PC

LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT

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