



Pamelyn Close, M.D.
CARES 2013 Woman of the Year in Medicine



Dr. Pamelyn Close received her award from Dr. Stephanie Hall,
Chief Medical Officer, LAC+USC Medical Center

Pamelyn Close, M.D., M.P.H., is the Director of Adult and Pediatric Palliative Care (helping seriously ill patients feel better and to have an improved quality of life) at the LAC+USC Medical Center. Following a 20- year career in academic pediatric oncology/ hematology with a special interest in solid tumors, Dr. Close completed an additional fellowship in Adult and Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Medicine in 2008. At LAC+USC and as Keck School of Medicine Faculty, she is actively involved in teaching palliative care, ethics and communication skills across the four years of the medical school curriculum and is dedicated to expanding palliative care teaching/learning opportunities for students, residents and fellows throughout the USC Healthcare System. Currently the Principal Investigator for a \$200,000 Archstone Foundation Grant “Enhancing Spiritual Care for Patients with Life-Limiting Illness at LAC+USC Medical Center,” Dr. Close’s interests in palliative care also extend internationally. Working with the Union for International Cancer Control and several medical schools in Thailand, she is mentoring a group of grants targeted at the development of Pediatric Palliative Care in Thailand. In her presentation to Dr. Close, Dr. Hall pointed out that when she realized the need and importance of palliative care, she had started the only Palliative Care Department among all the County hospitals, and this is why she is so proud to have Dr. Close running it with such compassion and care.