



Ira Byock, MD, FAAHPM is a leading medical authority, author, and public advocate for improving care for people living with serious medical conditions.

Dr. Byock is an active emeritus professor of medicine and community & family medicine at Dartmouth's Geisel School of Medicine. He is founder of the Institute for Human Caring within the Providence health system. The Institute drives transformation in clinical systems and culture to make caring for whole persons the new normal. The Institute's change strategies produce measurable and scalable improvements in health care quality and efficiency.

Dr. Byock has been involved in hospice and palliative care since 1978. He is a past president of the Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. His research has contributed to conceptual frameworks for the lived experience of illness; measures for subjective quality of life; and counseling methods for life completion and wellbeing. From 1996 to 2006, Dr. Byock directed a national grant project of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that developed prototypes for concurrent palliative care within mainstream health care. From 2003 to 2013, he led the palliative care program for the Dartmouth Health system based in New Hampshire.

Dr. Byock has authored numerous [articles](#) in academic journals. His first book, [Dying Well](#) became a standard in the field of hospice and palliative care. [The Four Things That Matter Most](#) is widely used in counseling within palliative care, pastoral care, and psychology. [The Best Care Possible](#) presents the potential for health care transformation. Dr. Byock lectures nationally and internationally.

More information is available at IraByock.org