



# ONCOTALK teach

Improving oncologists' communication skills

One of the **most positive experiences**  
I've had in my training.

I thought I'd just add a few skills. But Oncotalk gave  
me **a new foundation.**

I came away **more confident and  
capable.**



Improving oncologists' communication skills

**October 26-30, 2009**  
**April 20-23, 2010**

ASPEN, COLORADO

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A FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  
for oncology faculty  
who teach communication

TWO INTENSIVE RETREATS  
**October 26-30, 2009**  
**April 20-23, 2010**

#### FACULTY

Anthony Back, MD  
Robert Arnold, MD  
Walter Baile, MD  
Kelly Fryer-Edwards, PhD  
James Tulskey, MD

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“The way you communicate is part of your work as a healer. **You’re not born with communication skills—you learn them.**”

Anthony Back, MD



## You use communication skills— but can you teach them?

In caring for patients with cancer, communication is powerful medicine. Really good communication enables patients to live better with cancer and their medical treatments. The best cancer care requires the most up-to-date treatments, a great system of care, and terrific communication. Yet many oncology fellows don't get much training in communication skills, because most oncology faculty don't have the teaching skills. Consequently, fellows struggle with communication skills that are just okay when they could be great—and great has some real advantages for oncologists—less burnout, more fulfilling work.

## What is Oncotalk Teach?

Oncotalk Teach is a faculty development program designed for oncologists and other health professionals in oncology settings who teach fellows. We've developed a set of teaching tools specifically designed for teaching communication skills to oncology fellows. These teaching tools will help you teach communication as part of inpatient attending rounds and outpatient clinic visits, and enable you to teach short workshops.

## Who should attend Oncotalk Teach?

We are looking for physicians and other health professionals who teach oncology fellows. We will give preference to teams of two or more professionals (an oncologist and another professional) because we think that Oncotalk faculty who have teaching partners will learn more.

## What does the program involve?

Oncotalk Teach involves a foundation retreat that is 3.5 days, 5 months of monthly distance learning, and a completion retreat that is 1.5 days. Airfare, lodging, and most meals will be covered by the program.

## What can I expect to take away?

We aim to provide Oncotalk faculty with a new repertoire of teaching skills that they can use at their home institutions to help their programs fulfill ACGME requirements for professionalism and communication.

## How do I apply?

Fill out the application at [www.oncotalk.info](http://www.oncotalk.info).



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