

## **Module 3**

### **Symptom Management**

#### **Module Overview**

This module builds on Module 2: Pain Management, by addressing other symptoms common in advanced disease and the role of the nurse in managing these symptoms.

#### **Key Messages**

- There are many physical and psychological symptoms common at the end of life.
- Optimum treatment of symptoms involves comprehensive assessment and use of drug and nondrug interventions.
- Nurses must work collaboratively with physicians and other disciplines in symptom management.

#### **Objectives**

At the completion of this module, the participant will be able to:

1. Identify common symptoms associated with seriously ill Veterans and for those at end of life.
2. Identify potential causes of symptoms necessitating palliative care.
3. Describe assessment considerations for common symptoms.
4. Describe interventions that can prevent or diminish symptoms that promote palliative care for Veterans.