

Kathy Perko has been a pediatric nurse for 38 years, a PNP for 28 years. She started her career in pediatric oncology, specifically caring for children with brain tumors. She founded the Bridges Pediatric Palliative Care Program at OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital in 2003 and was the director until her retirement in November 2020. Kathy is the Pediatric Track Director of the UW Palliative Care Certificate Program and continues to provide education and consultation in palliative care. She is nationally certified as a pediatric nurse practitioner, pediatric oncology nurse, and pediatric palliative care and hospice nurse. She is recognized as a Fellow in Palliative and Hospice Care and in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. She is national faculty for ELNEC, EPEC, and Vital Talk. Kathy has a certificate in pediatric bioethics from Children's Mercy in Kansas City and in Palliative Care from the University of Washington.