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# TRANSITIONING END-OF-LIFE CARE FROM HOSPITAL TO THE COMMUNITY

Pedro Lino and Mary Williams

28th April 2022

## PREFERRED PLACE OF CARE

- Before the pandemic, just 7% of people expressed a preference for dying in hospital, yet nearly half of deaths typically took place in hospitals. Everyone should get the chance to choose where to spend the end of their life, but this depends on the right support and care being available in the community.
  - Marie Curie (2021)
- Direct enquiry and identification of preferences for end-of-life care is associated with patients achieving their preference for place of death. Patients whose preferred place of death was unknown were more likely to be admitted to hospital for end-of-life care.

Ali et al (2019)

## PREFERRED PLACE OF CARE

- In 2020, the proportion of people who died in their usual place of residence increased in every region. Provisional data for 2021 (covering October 2020 to September 2021) shows that the proportion of people dying at their usual place of residence decreased slightly but remains above levels in 2019
  - Nuffield trust (2022)
- Does this demonstrate that preferred place of care/ death can be achieved? How can this be achieved to ensure skilled end of life care?

#### WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

"As a result of our ageing population, in twenty years' time there will be 100,000 more people dying each year in the United Kingdom. This means demand for palliative and end of life care is set to increase rapidly, as more people live for longer with more complex health conditions. To ensure our health and care system is fit for the future, end of life care must be right at the heart of new systems for health and care."

## PATIENT CHOICE

 There is an increasing demand for palliative/ end of life care to be delivered in the community setting. The requirement for excellent collaboration between healthcare professionals in primary and secondary care settings to ensure patients receive optimum care has never been greater.

Lino and Williams (2021)

## BARRIERS TO PREVENTING PPC



Communication	Barriers	Evidence source
ommunication at rganizational level	Lack of understanding of other disciplines service and its remits	Hawley (2017) reports poor integration among the multidisciplinary team due to misunderstanding of each discipline involved in patient's care.
nd family	Time constrains due to clinical workload  Fear of saying the wrong thing  Misinformation  Inexperience	De Lima and Pastrana (2016) highlighted the lack of understanding from patients and their family regarding palliative care. Additionally, a lack of investment in palliative care and time constraints poses a threat to effective care delivery in EOL and palliative care.
ommunication between pecialties involved in alliative care	Discrepancy between disciplines and pathway referrals	Hawley (2017) highlights that the disparity in the referral pathways and disjointed care among healthcare professionals can hinder the efficiency of service delivery.

# HOW CAN THESE BARRIERS BE OVER COME?

- Communication
- Poor communication between healthcare settings is the main issue for not achieving good end of life care.
- Taran (2011)
- A multidisciplinary approach should underpin palliative care practice, as it improves patient outcomes.
- Ferrell et al (2015)

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURES

- Handover of care, case management and the introduction of nursing guidelines are examples of problem areas in palliative care at the organisational level.
- Van Riet Paap (2014)
- NICE (2019) identifies obstacles in accessing palliative care. These are listed as fragmented communication, poor co-ordination of care, and lack of patient knowledge of out of hours services, all deemed as organisational barriers in effective EOL care.

# ADVANCED CARE PLANNING (EVERYONE'S BUSINESS)

- Advanced care planning enables patients to have their preferences planned and recorded in advance.
- Rietjens et al (2017)
- So why are we still so poor at it?
- Whose job is it anyway?

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN TRANSITION

- Improvement in communication between the acute and primary sector.
- A traffic light system highlighting the need for community nurse involvement in discharge planning.
- Education of hospital teams to highlight the necessity of community practitioner involvement in the discharge process.
- Promotion of integration of primary and secondary sectors via seminars/ webinars to highlight failed discharges, this may improve the rapport between both sectors
- Discharge buddies, one from both sectors to coordinate discharge for patients at end of life

### THE WAY FORWARD

- Holistic approach to palliative/ end of life care and multidisciplinary integration
- Closer working pattern between the primary and acute sector.
- Combined education- placements for all health care professionals during training in the primary care sector, with the aim of enhancing understanding of each others' roles and unique challenges.
- A transformation in discharge planning urgently required locally and nationally
- A specific and structured process during discharge planning for EOL patients- consider a flow chart to aid this
- ACP- staff awareness and training in both sectors- Education in EOL care

### **CASE STUDY:**

- 87 year old lady discharged for EOL/Palliative care
- PMH: Type 2 Diabetes (insulin dependent), B12 deficiency, Alzhemeirs, Depression/Anxiety Disorder; bilateral PE; severe PVD
- Referral for the DN team to provide wound care, catheter care, EOL/Symptom Control (stats/syringe driver), BG/insulin administration, Fragmin injections
- Untriaged referral
- "Patient needs a syringe driver once she gets home, please; hospital can't provide syringe driver, sorry"



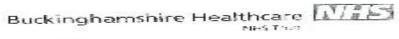
## **ISSUES/ACTIONS:**

- Issues:
- -wrong documentation;
- -wrong dose;
- -no MDT approach (DSN review)
- -poor communication
- Actions:

liaison w/DSN

Liaison/referral to local Palliative care team

Liaison with GP and care agency



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#### BOLUS DOSE / CONTINUOUS MEDICATION

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07-Dec-2021	Midazolam 10mg/2ml	2.5mg	5/c	PRN QDS	Agitation	\$ - 2
07 Dec-2021	Nozinen 25mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules	6.25 mg (max in 24 hours 50 mg)	s/c	PRN	Nausea/Vomiting	<b>使</b> 马
07-Dec-2021	Buscopan 20mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules	20 mg	s/c	PRN QDS	Excessive oral Secretions/Abdominal pain/spasms	\$== <u></u>

#### SYRINGE DRIVER

Date	Medication	Diluent	Dose over 24Hr	Route	Indication	Signati
07-Dec-2021	Morphine sulphate 10mg/1ml	Water for injection	10mg	s/c	Pain	\$ ===
07-Dec-2021	Midazolam 10mg/2ml	Water for injection	10mg	s/c	Agitation	\$
07-Dec-2021	Nozinan 25mg/1ml solution for injection ampoules	Water for injection	5-25mg over 24hrs	s/c	Nausea/Vomiting	\$=
07-Dec-2021	Buscopan 20mg/1ml solution for injection	Water for injection	60mg	s/c	Excessive oral Secretions/Abdominal pain/spasms	\$
07-Dec 2021	Water For Injection	n/a	n/a	s/c	Diluting with medication	& ->

### CONCLUSION

- In 2022 patients have a right to die in peace and with dignity in their preferred place of care, irrespective of where that may be.
- The transition from hospital to the community for EOL care requires careful preparation, clear skilled communication and collegial working between both sectors.
- ACP is everyone's business and requires transparency and joined up working.

## THANK YOU

Happy to take questions



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#### **Current Issues in Palliative Care**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 America Square Conference Centre, London

Chair: Dr Brian Nyatanga

08:30 - 09:00	Registration and refreshments
09:00 – 09:30	Opening keynote Gillian Keegan
09:30 – 10:00	Changes to patient care during COVID-19 Dr Bridget Jones
10:00 – 10:30	Psychospiritual experiences of ethnically diverse NHS staff during the COVID-19 pandemic Dr Riya Patel
10:30 – 11:00	Improving access to palliative care for people from ethnic minorities during the peak of COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from a service evaluation Claude Chidiac
11:00 – 11:30	Refreshment break and networking
11:30 – 12:00	The ethics of Palliative Care
12:00 – 12:30	The challenges of delivering palliative care in the private/independent sector Charlotte Healey & Matt Makin

12:30 – 13:00	Children's Palliative Care - adjusting to a pandemic and looking forward with hope Liz Searle & Sonya O'Leary
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch and networking
14:00 – 14:30	Afternoon Keynote  Dr Amy Proffitt
14:30 – 15:00	Improving symptom management in palliative care Dr Justin Maurice Fernando
15:00 – 15:30	Transitioning end-of-life care from hospital to the community Pedro Lino & Mary Williams
15:30 – 16:00	Refreshment break and networking
16:00 – 16:30	Perspective from abroad: palliative care in Africa and around the world Professor Julia Downing
16:30 – 17:15	Panel: What does the future of palliative care look like?
17:15 – 17:30	Close of conference