NEWSLETTER | February 2022





Dr Karen Chumbley End of Life Board Lead

Education for healthcare professionals

There is an increasing number of palliative and end of life care training sessions and educational opportunities available for healthcare professionals coming up.

Please be aware, the educational sessions formerly known as 'Community of Practice' have been renamed to 'Masterclasses'. Anyone who has attended one of these sessions in the past will be contacted about upcoming sessions.

These are all listed on the education page on the Alliance website.

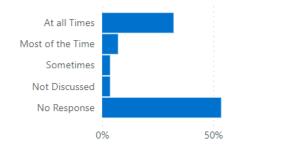
Patient and Carer Feedback

Everyone added to the My Care Choices Register (MCCR) as RAG code green are now contacted by the MCCR team to ask if they will take part in a monthly survey, answering questions around the sensitivity of conversations had with professionals; symptom control received; dignity; and receiving the right care.

Many people who are contacted are not aware of the name 'My Care Choices' so please do emphasise this where possible.

We have started reviewing the initial feedback we have had from patients, please see graphs below.





Monthly Patient Feedback Survey (aggregated)



The data shows:

• The majority of people feel the conversations they have with healthcare professionals about their advance care plan are done sensitively.

100%

- Most people feel they were treated with dignity and respect.
- Symptom management was reported as 'good' most, or all of the time, by the majority of responders.

The Hospice Education team is launching a symptom control course for nurses who would like to improve their skills in this area. Keep an eye on the education page on the alliance website for details.

Accessing education on the alliance website

You can find upcoming education sessions and recordings of past sessions on the alliance website. For ease, we suggest bookmarking the website page:

https://www.nee-alliance.org.uk/our-work/die-well/information-for-healthcare-professionals/education-forhealthcare-professionals/

We are the North East Essex Health & Wellbeing Alliance. Together, we're committed to working collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of the people we serve. And by combining our various skills, perspectives and resources, we're able to tackle some of the most pressing problems our communities face.



Medical examiner update

As the Covid Emergency legislation comes to an end, there are some change to procedures at the end of life. The key points are:

- The requirement for having seen a deceased patient within **28 days** (extended from 14), has been continued through changes to the regulations.
- It is the government's intention that Cremation Form 5 will **not** be reintroduced.
- However, the provision for any medical practitioner to complete the MCCD, introduced as an emergency measure by the Coronavirus Act, is discontinued from 24th March 2022.

Do Not Attempt Resuscitation discussions and decisions

Ongoing audits of DNACPR forms across NEE continue to find forms that have been inadequately discussed with the person and their family. This appears to often be due to the person having a delirium during the time of the decision being made and lack of review and discussion when they have improved.

If you or your team would like to receive training in having these challenging conversations, this is now available via the Hospice Education team.

There is no cost to this training as it has been funded through the End of Life Board.

Full information on this course can be found on the alliance website.

Please do also ensure that if a DNACPR decision is recorded on your clinical system, **it is also recorded on the My Care Choices Register** so colleagues from other organisations can be aware of it.

What matters most to people?

There is a national focus on advance care planning, widening it from a medically based conversation to a more holistic one, capturing what matters most to the person as they approach the end of life.

Decisions about preferred place of care and resuscitation should only be a small part of a discussion about what is important to a person. The My Care Choices Record contains sections to capture these priorities and if you are interested in developing this further within your practice you can read more at the following websites:

www.mycarechoices.online

https://www.whatmattersconversations.org/2020-charter

ESNEFT Consultant Connect

ESNEFT is closing their Consultant Connect phoneline. If you need advice or to speak to a consultant, please call SinglePoint instead on **01206 890 360** moving forwards.

Marie Curie Conference

Marie Curie recently held a palliative care research conference. If you missed it, you can watch any of the presentations back here: <u>https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/resear</u> ch/annual-research-conference



Levomepromazine availability

There are supply issues for levomepromazine predicted until the end of the first week in March. **Please consider other medications for anticipatory prescribing.**



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