

End of Life Care in Hospital

Recent articles, reports and books

July 2016 - January 2017

Articles

The following journal articles are available via the Library and Knowledge Service electronically or in print. Please follow links to access full text online, or contact the library.

[A qualitative study of decision-making about the implantation of cardioverter defibrillators and deactivation during end-of-life care.](#)

Standing H. *Health Services and Delivery Research* 2016;4(32):<http://dx.doi.org/10.3310/hsdr04320>.

[Objectives: To explore patients'/relatives' and clinicians' views/experiences of decision-making about ICD and CRT-D implantation and deactivation, to establish how and when ICD risks, benefits and consequences are communicated to patients, to identify individual and organisational facilitators and barriers to discussions about implantation and deactivation and to determine information and decision-support needs for shared decision-making (SDM).]

Freely available online

[Benefits of interventions for respiratory secretion management in adult palliative care patients: a systematic review.](#)

Arcuri JF. *BMC Palliative Care* 2016;15(74):epub.

[Respiratory secretions impact negatively on palliative patients. Unfortunately, a gold standard therapy is not yet available. The purpose of this study was to identify which interventions are in use to control respiratory secretions in patients with chronic disease with a poor prognosis and verify their effects on outcomes relevant for palliative care patients.]

Freely available online

[Cancer of unknown primary.](#)

Patel J. *Foundation Years Journal* 2016;10(6):29-32.

[Cancer of unknown primary (CUP) represents a spectrum of metastatic cancers that present without a clear primary site and is one of the top ten most common cancers in the UK. It is an aggressive disease which by definition presents with advanced stage and is associated with a poor prognosis.]

Available through the Library Service

[Compared to conventional CPR for in-hospital cardiac arrest, extracorporeal-CPR is associated with improved survival to hospital discharge and more favourable neurological outcome](#)

Ryerson L. *Evidence-Based Medicine* 2016;21(6):227 - 228.

[Data from national and international paediatric databases indicate that the use of extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation (E-CPR) is increasing. Considering the significant resources and cost involved in the use of E-CPR, its use needs to be critically examined to optimise outcomes. This large, multicentre study compared conventional cardiopulmonary resuscitation (C-CPR) and (E-CPR) in paediatric in-hospital cardiac arrest (IHCA).]

Available through the Library Service

[Home death versus hospital death: are they comparable at all?](#)

Neergaard MA. *Evidence-Based Nursing* 2016;19(3):94.

[Many studies show that most terminally ill patients prefer home death. Home death has previously been associated with home care services, GP home visits along with age, income and social class in a population-based register study. However, little is known about associations between place of death and clinical factors: patients' symptoms and relatives' grief reactions.]

Available through the Library Service

[Hydromorphone for cancer pain.](#)

Bao YJ. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016;(10):CD011108.

[This review indicated little difference between hydromorphone and other opioids in terms of analgesic efficacy.]

Freely available online

[Managing a patient with metastatic spinal cord compression.](#)

Ching HJ. *Foundation Years Journal* 2016;10(6):53-57.

[Metastatic spinal cord compression is an oncological emergency. We present a previously fit and well 74 year old gentleman that presented with MSCC secondary to diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma. He was treated with palliative radiotherapy. We will be emphasising the principle management of individuals with MSCC as their first manifestation of an unknown primary malignancy.]

Available through the Library Service

[Modern Management of advanced COPD.](#)

John J. *Foundation Years Journal* 2016;10(7):39-46.

[For a long time medicine has viewed severe emphysematous chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) with nihilism. Techniques now exist which go further than palliation and symptom control. This article uses a case report [...] for discussing the modern management of severe COPD. The discussion covers [...] pathophysiology, well-established medical and rehab therapies and more modern interventional therapies that have been shown to improve objective and subjective measures of disease severity.]

Available through the Library Service

[Palliative care interventions in advanced dementia.](#)

Murphy E. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016;(11):CD011513.

[Very little high quality work has been completed exploring palliative care interventions in advanced dementia. There were only two included studies in this review, with variation in the interventions and in the settings that made it impossible to conduct a meta-analysis of data for any outcome. Thus, we conclude that there is insufficient evidence to assess the effect of palliative care interventions in advanced dementia.]

Freely available online

[Statin withdrawal in people with dementia.](#)

McGuinness B. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016;(9):CD012050.

Freely available online

[The care of dying people in nursing homes and intensive care units: a qualitative mixed-methods study](#)

Perkins E. *Health Services and Delivery Research* 2016;4(20):<http://dx.doi.org/10.3310/hsdr04200>.

[Conclusions: This study makes a unique contribution to understanding the complexity of care at the end of life in two very different settings. More research is needed into the ways in which an organisational culture can be created within which the principles of good end-of-life care become translated into practice.]

Freely available online

[Therapeutic exercises for affecting post-treatment swallowing in people treated for advanced-stage head and neck cancers.](#)

Perry A. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016;(8):CD011112.

[We found no evidence that undertaking therapeutic exercises before, during and/or immediately after HNC treatment leads to improvement in oral swallowing. This absence of evidence may be due to the small participant numbers in trials, resulting in insufficient power to detect any difference.]

Freely available online

Guidelines

The following new guidance has recently been published:

[A Competency Framework for all Prescribers.](#)

Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS);2016.

<http://www.rpharms.com/unsecure-support-resources/prescribing-competency-framework.asp>

[In 2012, a single prescribing competency framework was published by the National Prescribing Centre/National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to support all prescribers to prescribe effectively. In 2015, the RPS started the process of updating the framework with the backing of NICE and in collaboration with all the prescribing professions UK wide. The updated single competency framework was published in July 2016.]

Freely available online

[Choosing Wisely UK launched - 40 treatments that bring little or no benefit to patients.](#)

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges;2016.

<http://www.aomrc.org.uk/news-and-views/choosing-wisely-uk-launched-40-treatments-bring-little-no-benefit-patients/>

[The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges launches its Choosing Wisely campaign, with a list of forty treatments and procedures that are of little or no benefit to patients. The list, which has been drawn up by the Academy's member royal colleges and faculties includes advice to both patients and doctors for treating health related issues.]

Freely available online

[End of life care for infants, children and young people with life-limiting conditions: planning and management.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE);2016.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng61>

[This guideline covers the planning and management of end of life and palliative care in for infants, children and young people (aged 0–17 years) with life-limiting conditions. It aims to involve children, young people and their families in decisions about their care, and improve the support that is available to them throughout their lives. The guideline does not cover children and young people without a life-limiting condition who die unexpectedly (for example, accidental death).]

Freely available online

[Palliative care for adults: strong opioids for pain relief.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE);2016.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg140>

[This NICE guideline offers evidence-based advice on safe and effective prescribing of strong opioids for pain relief in adults with advanced and progressive disease. This guideline was previously called opioids in palliative care: safe and effective prescribing of strong opioids for pain in palliative care of adults.]

Freely available online

Reports

The following report(s) may be of interest:

[Antipsychotics for delirium in palliative care: new RCT suggests non-drug alternatives are needed.](#)

The Mental Elf; 2017.

<http://www.nationalelfservice.net/treatment/antipsychotics/antipsychotics-for-delirium-in-palliative-care-new-rct-suggests-non-drug-alternatives-are-needed/>

[A recent RCT of antipsychotics (risperidone and haloperidol) versus placebo for symptoms of delirium in palliative care suggests we need non-drug alternatives for this group of patients.]

Freely available online

[Perfect painkiller? Safe alternative to opiates may have been found.](#)

NHS Choices - Behind The Headlines; 2016.

<http://www.nhs.uk/news/2016/08August/Pages/Perfect-painkiller-Safe-alternative-to-opiates-may-have-been-found.aspx>

[New research suggests that a newly-identified compound, PZM21, could be more effective at longer-lasting pain relief than morphine, without any of the attendant drawbacks. However, this was an early-stage laboratory study in mice. We don't know that this provides the whole answer, and findings would need to be replicated in humans.]

Freely available online

[Which opioids can be used in renal impairment?](#)

Specialist Pharmacy Service; 2016.

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/which-opioids-can-be-used-in-renal-impairment/>

[This Q&A notes absolute recommendations on reductions of opioid doses are difficult as clear relationship between renal function and removal of opioid metabolites has yet to be identified. Recommendations for dose are based on pharmacokinetic studies and clinical experience.]

Freely available online

Books

The following books have recently been added to stock:

| Title | Author | Shelf mark |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A creative toolkit for communication in dementia care | Marshall, Karrie, | WM 221 MAR |
| A guide to end of life care | Together for Short Lives | Online Resource |
| A time and place; what people want at the end of life | Ryder, S | Online Resource |
| Advanced practice palliative nursing | | WT 620 ADV |
| Communication in palliative care | Dunphy, J | WT 610 DUN |
| Compassion | Larkin, Philip | WT 620 LAR |
| Emergencies in palliative and supportive care | Currow, D | WT 640 CUR |
| End of Life Care A Care Worker Handbook | Morris, Caroline. | Online Resource |
| End of life care in cardiovascular disease | | WT 600 END |
| Ethical dilemmas in emergency medicine | | WD 421 ETH |
| Geriatric palliative care | | WT 640 GER |
| Geriatric palliative care | | WT 600 GER |
| Go gentle into the good night: the past, present and future of end of life care | Singer, A E | Online Resource |
| Handbook of Palliative Care | Faull, Christina. | Online Resource |

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|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Heart failure and palliative care | | WG 370 HEA |
| Oxford Textbook of Palliative Nursing | Ferrell, Betty R. | Online Resource |
| Palliative and end of life care for black, asian, and minority groups in the UK | Public Health England | Online Resource |
| Palliative care in nursing & healthcare | | WT 620 BRO |
| Palliative care nursing at a glance | | WT 640 PAL |
| Palliative care within mental health | Cooper, D (ed) | WT 620 PAL |
| Self and meaning in the lives of older people | Coleman, Peter G. | WT 200 COL |
| Textbook of palliative care communication | | WT 610 TEX |
| Your conversation starter kit: | | Online Resource |

For **access to online book resources** go to our catalogue at <https://kgh.koha-ptfs.co.uk>, Search for the book record by title, and then click on 'Click here to access online'. You will then be asked to login using your NHS OpenAthens username. If you don't have an OpenAthens account you can self register at <https://openathens.nice.org.uk/>

If you are viewing this bulletin online the links will take you to the resources, although for some you will still require an OpenAthens login.

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