

National Audit of End-of-Life Care in Hospitals

A Hospital Staff Perspective

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(Our Lady of Lourdes)



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A Hospital Staff Perspective

- “How people die remains in the memories of those who live on”

(Dame Cecily Saunders founder of the Modern Hospice Movement)



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Looking up.. or..looking down



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Mick Daly (RIP)



- Married with 5 children & 7 grandchildren
- True entrepreneur & passion for GAA.
- Diagnosed with Cancer 2007
- Celebrated 77 birthday



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From my
perspective
it's a bridge
too far





Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda



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Boyne Regional Hospital, Drogheda



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BOYNE BEAUMONT BLANCHARDSTOWN



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From the old.....



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.....to the NEW



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Patient Perspectivefrom pillar to post?



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FOCUS

Differences in Perspective & Challenges to Practice



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Perceptions of Staff

	Doctor	Nurse
Overall care Outcome	82.5	78.5
Acceptability of Dying	84.0	69.3
Patient care	83.4	76.8
Symptom Management	73.4	82.8
Family support	85.8	84.4



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Different Staff Perspectives



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Perspective on Competence

- Clinical – symptoms of dying & when to withdraw treatment
- Inter-Personal – communications
- Compassion – to ‘be with’ vs to ‘do to’



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Palliative Care Decisions

- Reluctance to stop invasive monitoring, antibiotics, withhold/ withdraw treatment.
- Liverpool Care Pathways discontinued:
 - Blood tests 91%
 - Antibiotics 89%
 - IV Fluids/ Meds 83%
 - DNR 94%



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Death, Dying & Disposal

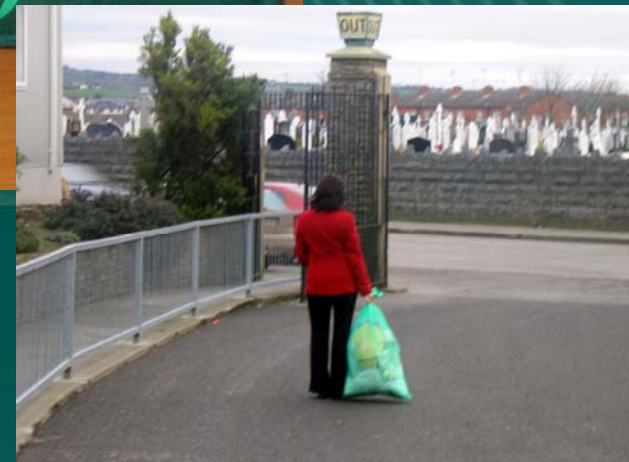


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Practices signify Perspective



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Multi-Perspective & Multi-Disciplinary

- Clinical Staff
- Administrative & Managerial & Support Service Staff
- Pastoral care
- Primary & Community Care
- Community Hospitals
- Public Interest Representatives



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Challenge to Practice

- Positive – extent to which families involved
- Vast majority die with someone present
- However, 25% may be dying alone
- ‘No one should have to die alone, frightened and in pain’



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Practice of admission via Emergency Dept

- Engage with & understand the perspective of those sending people to emergency departments
- Hospitals cannot become 'Hospice Friendly' on their own
- Planning & coordination required between primary and hospital service providers



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The HFH Programme as a catalyst for wider changes

- Standing Committees as a means of promoting inclusivity and valuing differing perspectives
- Communications training – clear change in approach
- More competent because more confident?
- Encourages hospitals & other care providers to work together



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Development Plan

building on the audit and the standards

- 4 standards
- Openness about individual hospital results
- Drogheda will make it's audit report public?



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Thank You



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