

Response ID [REDACTED]

Submitted to Review of access to palliative care services - Organisations/Health professionals

Submitted on 2024-11-13 09:12:53

Consent

1 The Committee for Health would like your permission to publish your response as part of the survey results. Please indicate your preference.

Consent:

Publish my response but keep it anonymous.

Who are you?

2 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

4 Are you a healthcare professional?If yes, what is your role:If no, what is your interest in palliative care services:

Yes

1500 Characters:

[REDACTED]

5 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

[REDACTED]

6 Do you currently work in palliative care services?If Yes, in what capacity?

Yes

1500 characters:

I am an advanced practice palliative care dietitian who works in a Specialist Community AHP Palliative Care Team

current state of palliative care services

7 In your view what is the current state of palliative care services in Northern Ireland?

Good

8 Do you think there is an understanding by the public of what palliative care is?If no, what are the main barriers to the public understanding palliative care?

No

1500 Characters:

The word palliative is emotive and people generally in my experience do not like it and prefer to not use it. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Access to services

9 Are palliative care services equally accessible to all who need them?

No

10 From your experience where are the gaps in the provision of service?

1500 characters:

Some Trusts do not have proper functioning Specialist Palliative care teams. All palliative care is not provided by a specialist team and it is everybody's business.

Certain groups of people such as those with learning disabilities, homeless, and other marginalised people

11 Do you believe barriers exist that prevent equitable access to these services? If yes, please provide examples in the box provided.

Not Answered

1500 characters:

Staffing is probably the biggest barrier

12 What additional services could/should be provided?

1500 Characters:

Ensure that all trusts have proper functioning specialist PC teams with adequate staff

Proper PC training for all staff - nursing and AHPs, support staff

Integration of Services

13 How well are palliative care services integrated across the health system, through primary, secondary and specialist care?

1500 characters:

I work in a very good specialist community team and there is a some integration with the hospital PC service, though it could be better and more joined up

14 Should palliative care be a regional service? Please outline your reasons in the box provided.

Yes

1500 characters:

People attend different hospitals and move between different trusts even though they live in one trust area. Encompass is helping with communication.

I think proper teams within in each Trust that work similarly would be helpful

15 What can be done to improve integration?

1500 characters:

Encompass is helping, but teams need to work similarly

Best Practice

16 Do you have any examples of good practice or pilots in palliative care that are meeting the needs of patients and families/carers? If so, is this best practice happening widely across Northern Ireland?

1500 Characters:

In reach into Marie Curie Hospice by [REDACTED] HSCT dietitians and SLTs [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I'm happy to discuss further if you would like more info

17 Do you think that families receive sufficient support when accessing services? Please outline your reasons in the box provided.

Not sure

1500 Characters:

I try to be as supportive of the whole family as I can but not all services for support are available to all

Funding and Strategy

18 Do you think the current funding for palliative care is sufficient?Please outline your reasons in the box provided.

No

1500 characters:

I'm not party to the specifics but my gut feeling so that there isn't enough money to fully fund adequate services

19 Is the current model for the funding of hospices, including hospice at home/community care/rapid response support, sustainable and sufficient to meet needs now and in the future?Please outline your reasons in the box provided.

No

1500 characters:

need more hospice beds and associated staff

Once again more of a gut feeling

20 Is there a need for a new Palliative Care Strategy for Northern Ireland? If yes, what should it include? If no, why not?Please outline your reasons in the box provided

Not sure

1500 characters:

Any other comments

21 Any other comments

1500 characters:

Not specifically but I have a passion for palliative care and really believe in its effectiveness