

Response ID [REDACTED]

Submitted to Review of access to palliative care services - Organisations/Health professionals
Submitted on 2025-01-13 12:02:12

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:

3 What is your email address?

Email:

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:

I am a community palliative care physiotherapist.

5 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

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

Yes

1500 characters:

I am a community palliative care physiotherapist. The majority of my career has been working in oncology/ palliative care/ Haematology/ hospice/ life limiting conditions eg Cystic fibrosis, bronchiectasis and now community palliative care where we get to help people in their homes

current state of palliative care services

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

Neither

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:

it is always portrayed on tv etc at the last days of life but this is not the case. The majority of people panic when they hear palliative care as they think death is imminent

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:

I think every health trust runs things slightly differently and this can cause confusion, especially across trust borders eg someone in moira has hospice nurses calling out, someone in Lurgan has Macmillan nurses and they don't understand why they don't have the other, then throw Marie curie into the mi and it smore confusing.

The newry area also has Hospice at home out of hours service which is great and more rural eg rostrevor warrenpoint etc have life and time which is an amazing service

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

Yes

1500 characters:

politicians

12 What additional services could/should be provided?

1500 Characters:

adequate GP out of hours coverage.
something like life and time everywhere

Integration of Services

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

1500 characters:

again it depends on the particular trust, some are better than others

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

Yes

1500 characters:

to have some equity of service provision. People only die once so it is something that needs done properly for the person and to support the families.

15 What can be done to improve integration?

1500 characters:

education so that people are aware of the role of palliative care team and timely referrals

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:

████████████████████ all the AHP, SW, nursing and a consultant and pharmacist on the same team and we can all work together with district nursing and core services.
Life and Time and Hospice at home outreach are wonderful.

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

No

1500 Characters:

its not equal across northern ireland

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:

our team is very small to cover a large geographical area. more staff means more options available.

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.

Not sure

1500 characters:

if there was more co-working as there can be a lot of overlaps and this is confusing for staff never mind patients.

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

Yes

1500 characters:

to ensure equality across the province

Any other comments

21 Any other comments

1500 characters: