

Response [REDACTED]

Submitted to Review of access to palliative care services - Organisations/Health professionals
Submitted on 2025-01-08 17:14:59

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:

5 What is your organisation?

Organisation:

[REDACTED]

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

Yes

1500 characters:

current state of palliative care services

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

Poor

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 assumed it's only cancer care. It is actually any condition at end of life. To support families and patients

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:

In recent months patients are being referred later and later with only a night or none with support from marie curie nurses overnight

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:

I believe there are financial constraints both in the Trusts and in Marie Curie. Money saving methods. There are staff available but yet if patients are not referred they cannot be allocated.

12 What additional services could/should be provided?

1500 Characters:

Help with travel to appointments would be a good idea.
More overnight support for families.

Integration of Services

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

1500 characters:

Patients can access a helpline or speak to their nurse advisor in the palliative team in the Trust. That's my understanding anyhow. I am more hands on in the patients home as a nurse in the end stages of life.

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

Not sure

1500 characters:

Different regions have different needs.

15 What can be done to improve integration?

1500 characters:

Better communication between organisations and Trusts

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:

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

Not sure

1500 Characters:

Some families take the Information on board better than others. Patients contact western urgent care to access marie curie overnight. This is my role. Usually it's a crisis and last resort when they ring. Every situation is different.

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 feel there are restrictions in recent months. Alot is unsaid by the Trust and the charities. We need more transparency. Alot of fundraising goes towards palliative care. This needs utilised locally, not sent to the mainland

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:

It's seems not if there are issues. More financial support for gov. People who wish to remain in their own homes surrounded by family should not be denied this.

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:

More input to patients needed

Any other comments

21 Any other comments

1500 characters:

It's disappointing that staff are willing to work and support patients. Yet many shifts go unworked