

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

Quality standard for end of life care for adults

Quality standard advice to the Secretary of State for Health

Notes on the scope

NICE quality standards are developed in accordance with a scope that defines what the standard will and will not cover. The [scope](#) of this quality standard is available from the NICE website (www.nice.org.uk).

This quality standard covers all settings and services in which care is provided by health and social care staff to all adults approaching the end of life. This includes adults who die suddenly or after a very brief illness. The quality standard does not cover condition-specific management and care, clinical management of specific physical symptoms or emergency planning and mass casualty incidents.

It sets out markers of high-quality care for adults aged 18 years and older with advanced, progressive, incurable conditions; adults who may die within 12 months; and those with life-threatening acute conditions. It also covers support for the families and carers of people in these groups.

It is not expected that each quality statement will apply to all groups. Similarly, some quality statements may need

special consideration when applied to certain groups. For example, people with dementia may need to participate in advance care planning significantly earlier in the pathway than people with cancer.

Outcomes

This quality standard describes high-quality care that, when delivered collectively, should contribute to improving the effectiveness, safety and experience of care for adults approaching the end of life and the experience of their families and carers. This will be done in the following ways, regardless of condition or setting:

- Enhancing quality of life for people with long-term conditions.
- Ensuring that people have a positive experience of (health) care.
- Treating and caring for people in a safe environment and protecting them from avoidable (healthcare-related) harm.

The [NHS Outcomes Framework 2011/12](http://www.dh.gov.uk) is available from www.dh.gov.uk

The quality standard is also expected to contribute to the following overarching outcome(s) for people approaching the end of life:

- The care that people approaching the end of life receive is aligned to their needs and preferences.
- Increased length of time spent in preferred place of care during the last year of life.

- Reduction in unscheduled care hospital admissions leading to death in hospital (where death in hospital is against their stated preference).
- Reduction in deaths in inappropriate places such as on a trolley in hospital or in transit in an ambulance.

In addition, this quality standard should contribute to:

- Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs.
- Delaying and reducing the need for care and support.
- Ensuring that people have a positive experience of (social) care and support.
- Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting them from avoidable harm.

[Transparency in outcomes: a framework for quality in adult social care – The 2011/12 Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework](#) is available from www.dh.gov.uk

It is important that the quality standard is considered by commissioners, health and social care professionals and patients alongside current policy and guidance documents listed in the evidence sources section, including: [End of life care strategy: promoting high quality care for all adults at the end of life](#) (Department of Health 2008) and [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (Department of Health 2009).

Related NICE quality standards

- [Breast cancer](#). NICE quality standard (2011). Available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/breastcancer/home.jsp

- [Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease \(COPD\)](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronicobstructivepulmonarydisease/copdqualitystandard.jsp). NICE quality standard (2011). Available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronicobstructivepulmonarydisease/copdqualitystandard.jsp
- [Chronic heart failure](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronicheartfailure/home.jsp). NICE quality standard (2011). Available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronicheartfailure/home.jsp
- [Chronic kidney disease](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronickidneydisease/ckdqualitystandard.jsp). NICE quality standard (2011). Available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/chronickidneydisease/ckdqualitystandard.jsp
- [Dementia](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/dementia/dementiaqualitystandard.jsp). NICE quality standard (2010). Available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/dementia/dementiaqualitystandard.jsp
- Patient experience in generic terms. NICE quality standard. Publication expected 2011/12). Details available from <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/CG/Wave25/14>
- [Lung cancer](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/indevelopment/LungCancer.jsp). NICE quality standard. Publication expected March 2012. Details available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/indevelopment/LungCancer.jsp
- [Ovarian cancer](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/indevelopment/OvarianCancer.jsp). NICE quality standard. Publication expected April 2012. Details available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/indevelopment/OvarianCancer.jsp

- [Colorectal cancer](#). NICE quality standard. Publication expected August 2012. Details available from www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qualitystandards/indevelopment/ColorectalCancer.jsp

Evidence sources

The evidence sources used to develop this quality standard are listed in appendix 1.

Overview of statements

An explanation of the methodology used can be found in the [Quality Standards Programme interim process guide](#) (available from www.nice.org.uk). In the absence of recent NICE guidance or NHS Evidence accredited sources for this topic, alternative evidence sources to those outlined in the Quality Standards Programme interim process guide have been used. Details of the alternative development sources used are provided in appendix 1.

Quality markers from [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (Department of Health) and recommendations from [Improving supportive and palliative care for adults with cancer](#) (NICE cancer service guidance) were developed by the Topic Expert Group (TEG) into 20 draft quality statements. These draft quality statements were presented for consultation, each with associated quality measures. Following consultation, the TEG prioritised 16 statements for inclusion in the final quality standard.

Quality measures

Quality measures accompany each quality statement within the quality standard. These can be used to assess the quality of care provision. They are high-level quality measures, not a new set of targets or mandatory indicators for performance management.

The quality standard makes use of existing measures and indicators provided by the [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (Department of Health 2009) and the associated [End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool \(ELCQuA\)](#) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011). Examples of measures from these sources, which are likely to contribute to assessing progress against each quality statement, are mapped within the 'source references' section of each statement and in appendix 2 respectively. Users are expected to consider the measures in the context of each quality statement and prioritise those that are most appropriate.

Supplementary NICE quality measures have been developed and are included against each statement where suitable measures were not available from [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (Department of Health 2009) and the associated [End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool \(ELCQuA\)](#) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011). In order to measure achievement against each quality statement, the full set of measures (those in the statement 'source references' section and appendix 2 as well as any additional NICE quality measures) must be taken into account.

The standard also highlights where related national quality assured indicators currently exist and measure the quality statement. National indicators include those developed by the NHS Information Centre through their [Indicators for Quality Improvement Programme](#), which can be found at www.ic.nhs.uk.

For statements where national quality indicators do not exist, the quality measures should form the basis for audit criteria developed and used locally to help assess and improve the quality of care. As part of developing these audit criteria the audit standards or levels of expected achievement should, unless otherwise stated, be decided locally. Reference is made to national standards where these exist. While typical aspirational achievement is likely to be 100% or 0%, realistic standards should take account of patient safety, patient choice and clinical judgement.

All process measures are specified in the form of a numerator and a denominator which define a proportion (numerator/denominator). It is assumed that the numerator is a subset of the denominator population.

For example, if the quality measure is:

The proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved physical symptoms who are referred for specialist palliative care advice.

Numerator – the number of people in the denominator referred for specialist palliative care advice.

Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved physical symptoms.

The delivery of high-quality care is signalled by good performance across the breadth of all statements and measures. If an organisation is performing poorly on many or all quality measures in the quality standard, it may mean that an organisation is at risk of not meeting the [Care Quality Commission's \(CQC\) Essential standards of quality and safety](#) and of not complying with regulatory requirements. CQC may make use of data on quality standards measures in their risk estimation.

Diversity, equality and language

People approaching the end of life should have the opportunity to make informed decisions about their care and treatment, in partnership with health and social care professionals and with their families and carers. Good communication between health and social care professionals and people approaching the end of life and their families and carers is essential and should be sensitive to personal preferences. Treatment and care, and the information given about it, should be culturally appropriate. It should also be accessible to people with additional needs such as physical, cognitive, sensory or learning disabilities, and to people who do not speak or read English. People approaching the end of life should have access to an interpreter or advocate if needed. Workforces involved in end of life care should adopt an agreed, consistent approach and attitude to end of life care that encourages and accepts patient choice, regardless of their own background, culture and views.

People approaching the end of life and their families and carers should have access to the high-quality care described in this quality standard on the basis of need and

that takes into account their preferences, regardless of their individual circumstances, including:

- gender
- ethnicity
- disability
- cognitive impairment
- age
- sexual orientation
- gender reassignment
- religion and belief
- culture or lifestyle
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy and maternity
- socio-economic status
- mental capacity
- diagnosis
- choices they make about their care
- location and setting in which they are receiving care.

Quality standard for end of life care for adults

The quality standard for end of life care for adults requires that services are commissioned from and coordinated across all relevant agencies, including specialist palliative care, and encompass the whole end-of-life care pathway. An integrated approach to provision of services is fundamental to the delivery of high-quality care to people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.

This quality standard uses the following General Medical Council definition of people approaching the end of life from [Treatment and care towards the end of life: good practice in decision making](#): People are 'approaching the end of life' when they are likely to die within the next 12 months. This includes people whose death is imminent (expected within a few hours or days) and those with:

- advanced, progressive, incurable conditions
- general frailty and coexisting conditions that mean they are expected to die within 12 months
- existing conditions if they are at risk of dying from a sudden acute crisis in their condition
- life-threatening acute conditions caused by sudden catastrophic events.

Given this, any palliative care within the last 12 months of life is regarded as end of life care. It is recognised that some people will benefit from palliative care before this time. Palliative care before the last 12 months of life is not included in this definition of end of life care and is therefore outside the scope of this quality standard.

Providing end of life care should be an integral part of every health and social care worker's role. However for many, such care is likely to form only a small part of their workload. Many of these professionals are 'generalists' (GPs, community nurses and hospital medical and surgical staff, for example), recognising that some generalists will have a greater role in providing end of life care than others (such as care home workers). Palliative medicine is a recognised medical specialty, requiring the equivalent of 4 years' specialist training. Other specialists will have received specific training and qualifications relating to end of life care, or acquired substantial practical experience. These specialists, who frequently dedicate all or most of their time to the care of people approaching the end of life, include:

- palliative medicine physicians
- palliative care specialist nurses
- specialist allied health professionals
- specialist social workers
- counsellors and therapists¹.

NICE quality standards are for use by the NHS in England and do not have formal status in the social care sector. However, the NHS will not be able to provide a comprehensive service for all without working with social care communities. In this quality standard, care has been taken to make sure that any quality statements that refer to the social care sector are relevant and evidence-based. Social care commissioners and providers may therefore wish to use them, both to improve the quality of their services and support their colleagues in the NHS.

¹ Definitions adapted from [NICE cancer service guidance](#).

Subject to legislation currently before Parliament, NICE will be given a brief to produce quality standards for social care. These standards will link with corresponding topics published for the NHS. They will be developed in full consultation with the social care sector and will be presented and disseminated in ways that meet the needs of the social care community. As we develop this library of social care standards, we will review and adapt any published NICE quality standards for the NHS that make reference to social care.

NICE has produced a support document to help commissioners and others consider the commissioning implications and potential resource impact of this quality standard, available from www.nice.org.uk. A full guide for commissioners on end of life care that supports the local implementation of key guidance is also in development and will be available from www.nice.org.uk/usingguidance/commissioningguides

No.	Quality statements
1	People approaching the end of life are identified in a timely way.
2	People approaching the end of life and their families and carers are communicated with, and offered information, in an accessible and sensitive way in response to their needs and preferences.
3	People approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, with the opportunity to discuss, develop and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.
4	People approaching the end of life have their physical and specific psychological needs safely, effectively and appropriately met at any time of day or night, including access to medicines and equipment.
5	People approaching the end of life are offered timely personalised support for their social, practical and emotional needs, which is appropriate to their preferences, and maximises independence and social participation for as long as possible.
6	People approaching the end of life are offered spiritual and religious support appropriate to their needs and preferences.
7	Families and carers of people approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.

8	People approaching the end of life receive consistent care that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services at any time of day or night, and delivered by practitioners who are aware of the person's current medical condition, care plan and preferences.
9	People approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night receive prompt, safe and effective urgent care appropriate to their needs and preferences.
10	People approaching the end of life who may benefit from specialist palliative care, are offered this care in a timely way appropriate to their needs and preferences, at any time of day or night.
11	People in the last days of life are identified in a timely way and have their care coordinated and delivered in accordance with their personalised care plan, including rapid access to holistic support, equipment and administration of medication.
12	The body of a person who has died is cared for in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.
13	Families and carers of people who have died receive timely verification and certification of the death.
14	People closely affected by a death are communicated with in a sensitive way and are offered immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.
15	Health and social care workers have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care and support for people

	approaching the end of life and their families and carers.
16	Generalist and specialist services providing care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers have a multidisciplinary workforce sufficient in number and skill mix to provide high-quality care and support.

Quality statement 1: Identification

Quality statement	<p>People approaching the end of life are identified in a timely way.</p>
Quality measure	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local systems in place to document identification of people approaching the end of life.</p> <p>b) Evidence of local retrospective audits of how soon (such as by days, weeks, months or years) people were identified as approaching the end of life before death.</p> <p>A proportion of deaths will be unexpected and therefore unlikely to be identified in time to be included on a register or equivalent system. Some people may not wish to be identified and/or may not consent to being included on a register or equivalent system.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) People approaching the end of life, and their families and carers, are aware of the aims of care.</p>

	<p>b) People approaching the end of life, and their families and carers, feel that early identification of their need for end of life care helped with meeting their specific needs and preferences in a timely and meaningful way.</p> <p>See also pages 1–2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to identify people approaching the end of life in a timely way.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals act to identify people approaching the end of life in a timely way.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that identify people approaching the end of life in a timely way and have the capability to record identification.</p> <p>People approaching the end of their life are identified at the right time to receive care and support to meet their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality marker for providers 2; and markers and measures 1.8, 1.13, 1.17, 3.3, 3.7 and 8.2.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: a) Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) indicator PC 3 (primary care only) – the practice has a complete register available of all patients in need of palliative care/support irrespective of age. The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme core dataset from the Information Standards Board records patients in any setting who have been entered onto an end</p>

	<p>of life care locality register. The draft comprehensive dataset also records the date added to GP Gold Standards Framework register.</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The National End of Life Care Intelligence Network published a report on Predicting death: estimating the proportion of deaths that are 'unexpected' based on Office for National Statistics (ONS) mortality data, which may be useful in estimating the proportion of people who might be identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on whether the person who died knew that they were likely to die.</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>Identification of people approaching the end of life may be initiated by either health or social care professionals in any setting. Although professionals should discuss with the person and their families and carers the benefits of being identified and the use of a register or equivalent system, the process of identification should be sensitive to the possibility that not all people will want to be identified and/or placed on a register.</p> <p>In Treatment and care towards the end of life: good practice in decision making, the General Medical Council defines approaching the end of life as when a person is likely to die within the next 12 months. This timeframe provides a guide as to when</p>

people might be identified as approaching the end of life. For some conditions, the trajectory may require identification and subsequent planning to happen earlier. For other conditions, it may not be possible to identify people until nearer the time of death. Identification should take place with sufficient time to enable provision of high-quality end of life planning, care and support in accordance with the person's needs and preferences. Identification will need to be considered on an individual basis.

Examples of available tools for assisting clinicians with timely identification of people approaching the end of life, include:

- Gold Standards Framework [prognostic indicator guidance](#)
- [Supportive and Palliative Care Indicator tool](#) from NHS Scotland
- [Quick guide to identifying patients for supportive and palliative care](#) from Macmillan Cancer Support

See also supporting information on [QOF Palliative Care \(PC\) indicator 3](#), which includes examples of identification criteria.

Information on a pilot programme for the use of locality registers for end of life care is available from the [End of life locality registers evaluation](#), supported by the Department of Health and National End of Life Care Programme. End of life care locality registers are also known as electronic palliative care coordination systems.

Quality statement 2: Communication and information

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life and their families and carers are communicated with, and offered information, in an accessible and sensitive way in response to their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local availability of end of life care information in a variety of formats and languages.</p> <p>b) Evidence of local arrangements for the use of suitable environments to ensure sensitive communication about end of life care.</p> <p>c) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that people approaching the end of life and their families and carers know who to contact for advice.</p> <p>d) Evidence that local service user feedback relating to end of life care, in the form of surveys, compliments and complaints, is collected, analysed and acted upon.</p> <p>Process: Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life who are offered information appropriate to their circumstances.</p>

	<p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator offered information appropriate to their circumstances.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) People approaching the end of life and their families and carers feel satisfied with how they are communicated with.</p> <p>b) People approaching the end of life and their families and carers feel sufficiently informed about what they wish to know and supported to make decisions about their care.</p> <p>See also pages 1–2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to communicate with, and offer information to, people approaching the end of life and their families and carers, in an accessible and sensitive way, in response to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care workers communicate with, and offer information to, people approaching the end of life and their families and carers, in an accessible and sensitive way, in response to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services with systems in place to communicate with, and offer information to, people approaching the end of life and their families and carers, in an accessible and sensitive way, in response to their needs and</p>

	<p>preferences.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life and their families and carers are communicated with and offered information in a sensitive way, at a time when it is helpful and with respect for their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 1.20, 1.35, 1.37, 2.7, 2.8, 3.15, 3.16, 4.9, 4.10, 5.9, 5.10, 6.9, 6.10, 8.8, 9.5 and 10.3.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key recommendation 8, and recommendations 1.25, 2.14, 3.17 and 4.7.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: a) Local data collection. The National care of the dying audit of hospitals collects data on the different types of information leaflets available in hospitals and the distribution of these.</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether they were given enough privacy when discussing their condition or treatment.</p> <p>c) Local data collection. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether hospital staff told them who to contact if they were worried about their condition or treatment after they left hospital.</p> <p>d) Local data collection.</p> <p>Process: Local data collection. The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on various communication goals, such as communication of the plan of care and</p>

	<p>when the person has entered the final hours and days of life. 2011/12 Adult Social Care Outcome Framework: 3D: the proportion of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about services. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) how much information about their condition or treatment was given to them.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on whether the person who has died was told they were likely to die in a sensitive and caring way. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether they were given enough privacy when discussing their condition or treatment.</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether they got answers they could understand when they had important questions to ask a doctor or nurse; whether their family or someone else close to them had enough opportunity to talk to a doctor if they wanted to and whether doctors or nurses gave their family or someone close to them all the information they needed to help care for them.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>Communication and information should be appropriate to the stage reached by the person who is approaching the end of life, and at a time (not too early or too late) when information is requested or useful in order to make choices or decisions. Communication</p>

with, and information for, families and carers should be considered around the same time as with the person approaching the end of life.

‘Responsive’ communication and information provision recognises that communication is a two-way process and that people’s circumstances are likely to change over time. It is also tailored to individual circumstances, such as recognising the different needs of children and young people compared with adults.

Information offered to people approaching the end of life, and their families and carers, should include:

- information about treatment and care options, medication and what to expect at each stage of the journey towards the end of life
- who they can contact at any time of day or night to obtain advice, support or services
- practical advice and details of other relevant services such as benefits support
- details of relevant local and national self-help and support groups.

All information should be available in a variety of accessible formats and free at the point of delivery. Examples of leaflets on end of life care include those available to download from [Dying Matters Coalition](#).

Examples of information resources available specifically for children and young people include those from [The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool](#) and the [Childhood Bereavement Network](#).

All communication and information provision

	<p>should be sensitive to the needs and preferences of the person approaching the end of life and their families and carers, including those who do not wish to have such conversations at the present time. Those who do not wish to have information should have their preferences respected.</p>
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Quality statement 3: Assessment, care planning and review

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, with the opportunity to discuss, develop and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Process: Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life whose records include a documented assessment and discussion of their physical, psychological, social, spiritual and cultural needs and preferences.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator whose records include a documented assessment and discussion of their physical, psychological, social, spiritual and cultural needs and preferences.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome:</p>

	<p>a) People approaching the end of life and their families and carers feel that the assessment process was a useful means to considering their needs and preferences, identifying next steps and securing appropriate services.</p> <p>b) People approaching the end of life feel satisfied that they have been able to discuss, record and review their needs and preferences if they would like to do so.</p> <p>See also pages 1–2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to ensure comprehensive holistic assessments are carried out with people identified as approaching the end of life, in response to their changing needs and preferences, with the opportunity to discuss, develop and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals offer or contribute to comprehensive holistic assessments with people identified as approaching the end of life, in response to their changing needs and preferences, including giving them the opportunity to discuss, develop and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that carry out comprehensive holistic assessments with people identified as approaching the end of life, in response to their changing needs and preferences, which include the opportunity to discuss, develop</p>

	<p>and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life are offered full assessments to ensure they are getting the best care and support for their circumstances. During these assessments, they have the opportunity to discuss their needs (for example, physical, psychological, social, spiritual and cultural needs) and preferences. This includes the opportunity to develop and review a care plan detailing their preferences for current and future support and treatment.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality markers for providers 3 and 4; and markers and measures 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.35, 1.37, 2.2, 2.7, 2.8, 3.4, 3.5, 3.15, 3.16, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.9, 4.10, 5.2, 5.3, 5.9, 5.10, 6.2, 6.3, 6.9, 6.10, 7.6, 8.4, 8.8, 9.5 and 10.3.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key recommendation 2 and recommendation 1.18.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Process: Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on whether the person who has died was involved in decisions about their care and whether healthcare staff had a record of where the person would have liked to have died. The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on regular assessments at the end of life. The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme core dataset from the Information Standards</p>

	<p>Board includes preferences such as who else the person would like involved in decisions, preferences for place of death, ‘do not attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation’ (DNACPR) request, Legal Advance Decision treatment refusal documents and details of any identified Lasting Power of Attorney. The comprehensive dataset also records religion or spiritual beliefs, whether the person has any special requests or preferences, whether there is anything in particular that they wish (ideally) to avoid, whether resuscitation has been discussed with them or their family and whether they have expressed a wish for organ or tissue donation.</p> <p>Outcome: a) and b) Local data collection.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>A ‘holistic’ assessment includes, as a minimum, physical, psychological, social, spiritual, cultural, and where appropriate, environmental considerations. This may relate to needs and preferences as well as associated treatment, care and support.</p> <p>Personalised care plans may also be known as personalised ‘support’ plans.</p> <p>A comprehensive assessment is likely to be multidisciplinary and may require the input of both health and social care professionals, as well as other appropriate support services. A comprehensive assessment is one that is coordinated effectively in order to avoid duplication.</p> <p>All assessments and related care planning should be carried out in a sensitive way and in the best interests of the person approaching the end of life, with appropriate</p>

consent. Discussion about the value of the assessment process and what the person and their families and carers can expect should be offered.

The following description of assessment is adapted from the [NICE cancer service guidance](#):

Assessments should encompass all aspects of end of life care, taking into account the preferences of the person approaching the end of life, and their families and carers, with respect to:

- written and other forms of information
- face-to-face communication
- involvement in decision-making
- control of physical symptoms
- psychological support
- social support
- spiritual support
- organ and tissue donation.

Once people have been identified as approaching the end of life, they should receive a prompt initial holistic assessment. Assessment should be an ongoing and proactive process that is both planned and responsive. Timing of assessments should take into account changes in the person's condition or circumstances as well as specific requests from the person approaching the end of life and their families and carers.

A [needs assessment pathway](#) and [holistic common assessment guidance](#) from the National End of Life Care Programme provide information on comprehensive assessment during the last year of life.

	<p>Information about personalised care plans, which may or may not include advance statements or advance decisions to refuse treatment depending on the person's preferences, is available from the National End of Life Care Programme in <u>Capacity, care planning and advance care planning in life limiting illness: A guide for health and social care staff</u>.</p> <p>A <u>guide to person-centred care planning</u> in adult social care is available from the Department of Health.</p>
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Quality statement 4: Holistic support – physical and psychological

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life have their physical and specific psychological needs safely, effectively and appropriately met at any time of day or night, including access to medicines and equipment.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local arrangements to provide people approaching the end of life with access to psychological support.</p> <p>b) Evidence of local use of supportive environments for managing psychological symptoms in people approaching the end of life that provide privacy and dignity.</p> <p>Process:</p> <p>a) Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life who have a treatment plan for symptom management incorporating current and anticipated physical and specific psychological needs.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the</p>

	<p>denominator with a treatment plan for current and future symptom management incorporating physical and specific psychological needs.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>b) Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved physical symptoms who are referred for specialist palliative care advice.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator referred for specialist palliative care advice.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved physical symptoms.</p> <p>c) Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved specific psychological symptoms who are referred for specialist psychological advice.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator referred for specialist psychological advice.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life with unrelieved specific psychological symptoms.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) People approaching the end of life feel satisfied with their level of physical comfort.</p> <p>b) People approaching the end of life feel psychologically supported.</p> <p>c) Carers and families of people approaching the end of life feel satisfied with the management of the person’s physical</p>
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	<p>comfort and psychological support, where appropriate.</p> <p>See also pages 1–2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that services are available and systems are in place to meet the physical and specific psychological needs of people approaching the end of life, including access to medicines and equipment, in a safe, effective and appropriate way at any time of day or night.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals manage physical and specific psychological symptoms in people approaching the end of life, including provision of medicines and equipment, in a safe, effective and appropriate way at any time of day or night. This may include contacting specialists for advice.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission generalist and specialist services that are able to meet the physical and specific psychological needs of people approaching the end of life, including access to medicines and equipment, in a safe, effective and appropriate way at any time of day or night.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life receive treatment and care to manage their physical and psychological needs, which may be at any time of day and night.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 8.5, 8.8, 10.3, 10.4 and 10.6.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key</p>

	<p>recommendations 9 and 12 and recommendations 5.12 and 8.37.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: a) Local data collection. National cancer peer review programme – Manual for cancer services: psychological support measures: various measures relating to psychological support for people with cancer (no national data collection).</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether they were given enough privacy when discussing their condition or treatment.</p> <p>Process: a) Local data collection.</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme comprehensive dataset from the Information Standards Board records whether the person is known to a specialist palliative care team.</p> <p>c) Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on how well the person’s pain was relieved. The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on patient-reported comfort in the last hours and days of life. The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) whether they were ever in any pain and whether they thought that hospital staff did everything they could to help control their pain.</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p>

	<p>c) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on the level of support provided for relief of pain and other symptoms.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>It is recognised that physical and psychological symptoms cannot always be fully controlled. Effective symptom management results in the optimum comfort level that can be achieved for the person approaching the end of life, within clinical possibility and limitations, and patient choice. All treatment and support should be tailored to the individual.</p> <p>The treatment plan for managing symptoms and side effects should be recorded in a personalised care plan described in quality statement 3.</p> <p>Safe, effective and appropriate symptom and side-effect management at any time of day or night may require coordinated input from a number of different professionals and services. As a minimum, essential 24/7 care services should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generalist medical services (including GPs) • nursing services (defined as visiting, rapid response services and provision of one-to-one care at home, including overnight) • personal care services • access to pharmacy services • access to equipment and adaptations • specialist palliative care advice for generalists on symptom and side-effect management.

	<p>Psychological support encompasses general emotional support and empowerment as well as specialist psychological care. Emotional support is covered in quality statements 5 and 14. Specific psychological needs are more likely to require psychological interventions beyond the general emotional support that most people will need.</p> <p>Psychological interventions may include, but are not limited to, cognitive behaviour therapy, social skills training, work with phobias and confidence issues, and medication to ease psychological distress, including anxiety and depression.</p> <p>Timescales for addressing symptoms and side effects will depend on the individual symptom, comfort and preferences of the person approaching the end of life and should be determined by clinical judgment. Response times should be independent of care setting.</p> <p>Appropriate steps should be taken to alleviate symptoms in all circumstances, including where the person approaching the end of life is unable to communicate.</p>
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Quality statement 5: Holistic support – social, practical and emotional

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life are offered timely personalised support for their social, practical and emotional needs, which is appropriate to their preferences, and maximises independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Structure: Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that people approaching the end of life are offered timely personalised support for their social, practical and emotional needs, which is appropriate to their preferences, and maximises independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p> <p>Process:</p> <p>a) Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life who receive information on social, practical and emotional support available.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving information on social, practical and emotional support available.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>b) Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life who receive social and practical support in accordance with their care plan.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving social and practical support in accordance with their care plan.</p>

	<p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) People approaching the end of life feel supported to live independently, in accordance with their preferences, for as long as possible.</p> <p>b) People approaching the end of life feel able to maintain social participation, in accordance with their preferences, for as long as possible.</p> <p>c) People approaching the end of life feel emotionally supported.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to provide timely personalised support to people approaching the end of life for their social, practical and emotional needs. Support should be appropriate to their preferences, and maximise independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p> <p>Health and social care workers follow local policies and procedures and signpost to relevant national or local services, to ensure that people approaching the end of life are offered timely personalised support for their social, practical and emotional needs. Support should be appropriate to their preferences, and maximise independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission</p>

	<p>services that provide timely personalised support to people approaching the end of life for their social, practical and emotional needs. Support should be appropriate to their preferences, and maximise independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life are offered social, practical and emotional support tailored to their needs and at the right time to help them feel supported, retain their independence and do things they enjoy for as long as possible.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 1.20, 7.6 and 8.5.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key recommendation 10 and recommendations 6.14, 6.16 and 6.24.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: Local data collection. National cancer peer review programme: Manual for cancer services: rehabilitation measures – various measures relating to rehabilitation for people with cancer (no national data collection).</p> <p>Process: a) Local data collection. 2011/12 Adult Social Care Outcome Framework: 3D: the proportion of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about services.</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: a) and b) Local data collection. Transparency in outcomes: a framework for quality in adult social care – The 2011/12</p>

	<p>adult social care outcomes framework indicator 1B: the proportion of people who use services who have control over their daily life.</p> <p>c) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on the level of emotional support provided in the last 2 days of life.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>The definition of ‘timely’ will depend on the type of need and individual circumstances.</p> <p>The Department of Health defines social care as a wide spectrum of activities that support and help people live their daily lives. It can include: intimate personal care, managing finances, adapting housing conditions, help attending leisure pursuits and support for carers.</p> <p>Social support should include, but is not limited to (adapted from NICE cancer service guidance):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance to obtain financial support, including information about ‘special rules’ or equivalent, and access to individuals such as welfare rights and benefits advisers who can provide information and assistance in completing applications. • Support with legal and practical affairs such as wills and funeral arrangements. • Practical support and advice, including personal and domestic care. • Support, advice and therapy to maintain independent living, including home adaptations and the provision of equipment.

- Services to assess the needs and protect the rights of vulnerable adults or children of a family member approaching the end of life, and to support people approaching the end of life in caring for vulnerable adults or children.
- Respite and day care/therapy in social and health care settings.
- Care home placements.

Support for social needs may or may not require social care services. For example, many people rely on families and friends and their community to meet their social needs. Some voluntary organisations provide support services for people approaching the end of life.

Further information on community-based support is available in the [‘think local act personal’](#) publications.

National eligibility criteria for adult social care is available in the Department of Health publication [Prioritising need in the context of Putting People First: a whole system approach to eligibility for social care – guidance on eligibility criteria for adult social care, England 2010](#).

Further detail on social care at the end of life is available from The National End of Life Care Programme: [Supporting people to live and die well: a framework for social care at the end of life](#).

[The Social Care Institute for Excellence End of Life Care](#) hub provides a place where new and existing information, resources and links are gathered together to support social care practitioners working with people and their

families at the end of life.

Practical support should be provided by a multidisciplinary team, which may include occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other health professionals employed by health services, in addition to social care services. Effective practical support will require timely and rapid access to appropriate equipment such as commodes, pressure-relieving mattresses and other aids, to meet individual needs and preferences.

A stepped approach to emotional support may be appropriate, which could include but is not limited to:

- information about local support services
- general emotional support, such as supportive conversations with generalist health and social care workers or support from the voluntary, community and faith sectors
- referral to more specialist support from trained counsellors, mental health workers or specialists in palliative care.

It is recognised that conflict can arise between what professionals may deem appropriate and what the person approaching the end of life wants or prefers, which may also differ with the views of families and carers. Appropriate support is support that has due regard to the preferences of the person approaching the end of life and is in their best interests.

Quality statement 6: Holistic support – spiritual and religious

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life are offered spiritual and religious support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local access to a range of spiritual care providers for people approaching the end of life, either in-house or through referral to appropriate providers in the community.</p> <p>b) Evidence of availability of local chaplaincy services in accordance with NHS chaplaincy: meeting the religious and spiritual needs of patients and staff (Department of Health 2003).</p> <p>Process: Proportion of people identified as approaching the end of life who receive spiritual and religious support in accordance with their care plan.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving spiritual and religious support in accordance with their care plan.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome: People approaching the end of life feel satisfied with the spiritual and/or religious support they have been offered and/or received.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to offer, facilitate and provide</p>

<p>the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>(including sign-posting and referral) spiritual and religious support to people approaching the end of life that is appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care workers offer, facilitate and provide (including sign-posting and referral) spiritual and religious support to people approaching the end of life that is appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services with adequate provision for offering, facilitating and providing (including sign-posting and referral) spiritual and religious support to people approaching the end of life that is appropriate to person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life are offered spiritual and/or religious support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>NHS National End of Life Care Programme draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care: spiritual support 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: a) Local data collection. b) Local data collection. c) Local data collection.</p> <p>Process: Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on the level of spiritual support provided in the last 2 days of life.</p>

Definitions

In the context of the [draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers](#), spirituality is defined as ‘those beliefs, values and practices that relate to the human search for meaning in life. For some people, spirituality is expressed through adherence to an organised religion, while for others it may relate to their personal identities, relationships with others, secular ethical values or humanist philosophies’.

In [Standards for NHS Scotland Chaplaincy Services 2007](#) spiritual and religious care are defined as follows: ‘religious care is given in the context of shared religious beliefs, values, liturgies and lifestyle of a faith community. Spiritual care is usually given in a one to one relationship, is completely person centred and makes no assumptions about personal conviction of life orientation. Spiritual care is not necessarily religious. Religious care, at its best is always spiritual’.

Spiritual support helps people approaching the end of life and those close to them including their relatives, carers and friends, to:

- explore how they might understand, make sense of or find meaning in what is happening to them
- identify sources of strength they can draw on, and
- decide whether those sources are helpful during this period in their lives.

Such support does not have to be structured, but the expectation is that it would also include assessment and provision of resources to support the person approaching

the end of life and those close to them. Spiritual support is tailored to the needs, beliefs and values of the person approaching the end of life.

Within healthcare, chaplains are the main spiritual care providers. In some circumstances, health and social care professionals and workers may assist with spiritual care. Spiritual interventions that make up spiritual support can come in many forms, such as:

- referral to a chaplain or dedicated spiritual care provider, counsellor, psychologist or therapist, or where appropriate a spiritual leader in the community
- arranging transport so that a person can attend religious services in places of faith and worship
- counselling someone who feels that life has lost all meaning, listening to them express doubts about their religious faith, or helping them make peace with their family or their own past.

Families and relationships tend to be an important influence on spiritual wellbeing, and much support can be provided from within the family or by close friends.

[Personal beliefs and medical practice](#)

(General Medical Council 2008) provides detailed guidance for doctors on personal beliefs.

Further detail on auditing spiritual support is available from [draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (NHS National

	End of Life Care Programme 2011).
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Quality statement 7: Holistic support – families and carers

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>Families and carers of people approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that families and carers of people approaching the end of life receive comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences.</p> <p>b) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that families and carers of people approaching the end of life are offered holistic support appropriate to their own current needs and preferences.</p> <p>Process:</p> <p>a) Proportion of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life, who receive a comprehensive and holistic assessment of their own needs and</p>

	<p>preferences.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving a comprehensive and holistic assessment of their own needs and preferences.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>b) Proportion of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life, who receive holistic support in accordance with their most recent assessment.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving holistic support in accordance with their most recent assessment.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life, who have received an assessment of their own needs.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) Carers and families of people approaching the end of life feel supported.</p> <p>b) Carer quality of life.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to offer families and carers of people approaching the end of life comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic</p>

<p>each audience</p>	<p>support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals offer families and carers of people approaching the end of life comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that offer comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.</p> <p>Families and carers of people approaching the end of life have their own needs fully assessed as appropriate for their changing needs and preferences, and are offered support to help them cope.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality marker for providers 5; and markers and measures 2.3, 3.10 and 3.11.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: a) Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) indicator MANAGEMENT 9 (primary care): The practice has a protocol for the identification of carers and a mechanism for the referral of carers for social services assessment. The Operating Framework for the NHS in England 2011–12 integrated performance measure SQU08: Agree and make available to local people policies, plans and budgets to support carers (not specific to end of life care).</p>

	<p>b) Local data collection.</p> <p>Process: a) Local data collection. Local Authority National indicator 135: Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information (not specific to end of life care). The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme core dataset from the Information Standards Board records carer details. The draft comprehensive dataset records whether there is a care plan in place for the carer.</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. 2011/12 Adult Social Care Outcome Framework indicators 3B – Overall satisfaction of carers with social services and 3C – The proportion of carers who say that they have been included or consulted in discussions about the person they care for (not end of life care specific). Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes a question on whether the responder and their family got as much help and support from health and social services as they needed when caring for the person who died and whether they were able to discuss any worries and fears they may have had about the person's condition, treatment or tests with GPs.</p> <p>b) Local data collection. The NHS Outcomes Framework 2011/12 indicator 2.4 – Health-related quality of life for carers (not end of life care specific). 2011/12 Adult Social Care Outcome Framework indicator 1D – Carer-reported quality of life (not end of life care specific).</p>
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<p>Definitions</p>	<p>A ‘holistic’ assessment includes, as a minimum: physical, psychological, social, spiritual, cultural, and where appropriate, environmental considerations. This may relate to needs and preferences as well as associated treatment, care and support.</p> <p>A comprehensive assessment is likely to be multidisciplinary and may require the input of both health and social care professionals, as well as other appropriate support services. A comprehensive assessment is one that is coordinated effectively in order to avoid duplication.</p> <p>‘Carers’ here are defined as informal, unpaid carers or supporters, rather than paid health and social care workers. Sometimes the main carer will be a child, a young person or a person with his or her own disability, and services should be sensitive to the particular issues that this may raise.</p> <p>The term ‘families’ is broad and relates to any person who has significant contact with the person approaching the end of life, including children, a partner or close friends. Occasionally, particularly in hostels, for example, staff working directly with the person approaching the end of life may fulfil this role.</p> <p>A carer’s assessment is defined by the Department of Health’s End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care. Carers can be identified for this assessment by social services, GPs and through self-referral by carers themselves.</p> <p>Support for families and carers may include</p>
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emotional and psychological support. Training on practical issues should be available for those caring for people approaching the end of life who require extra help with daily living or extensive care. Addressing the needs of carers should also include access to good quality respite care, appropriate to their circumstances. This may include residential and day respite, as well as overnight one-to-one care in the person's home, for example. Support may also encompass planning for other circumstances, for example when carers are taken ill.

The emphasis here is on support being offered to carers. The right of carers to refuse support must be respected. Carers who decline support initially should be offered the opportunity to change their minds later on, if they wish.

Examples of information resources available for families and carers are include those from the [Dying Matters Coalition](#).

[Supporting carers: an action guide for general practitioners and their teams](#) is available from the Royal College of General Practitioners.

Bereavement support is addressed specifically in quality statement 14.

Quality statement 8: Coordinated care

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life receive consistent care that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services at any time of day or night, and delivered by practitioners who are aware of the person's current medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>See pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems (such as those for information sharing) are in place, to provide consistent care at all times of day and night to people approaching the end of life, that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services and delivered by practitioners who are aware of the person's current medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals provide consistent care for people approaching the end of life at all times of day</p>

	<p>or night that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services. They follow local policies and procedures for information sharing so that care is delivered by practitioners who are aware of the person's current medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services with appropriate systems in place (including those for information sharing) to ensure that people approaching the end of life receive consistent care at all times of day and night, that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services and that is delivered by practitioners who are aware of their current medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life receive care whenever they need it (day or night) that is consistent, smoothly coordinated and delivered by staff who are aware of their medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality markers for providers 4 and 6; and markers and measures 1.14, 1.16, 1.17, 1.18, 1.19, 1.21, 1.24, 2.2, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.13, 4.2, 4.4, 4.12, 5.2, 5.4, 5.12, 6.2, 6.4, 7.6, 8.3, 8.4, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.6 and 10.5.</p> <p>NHS National End of Life Care Programme draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care: spiritual support 2.</p>
<p>Data</p>	<p>The following data sources may be relevant</p>

<p>source</p>	<p>to the referenced measures:</p> <p>Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) indicator RECORDS 3: The practice has a system for transferring and acting on information about patients seen by other doctors out of hours.</p> <p>QOF indicator RECORDS 13: There is a system to alert the out-of-hours service or duty doctor to patients dying at home.</p> <p>QOF indicator PC 2: The practice has regular (at least 3 monthly) multidisciplinary case review meetings where all patients on the palliative care register are discussed.</p> <p>The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on communication with primary care.</p> <p>The NHS inpatient services survey asks inpatients (not specific to end of life care) questions about delayed discharge from hospital.</p> <p>Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on whether services worked well together.</p> <p>The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme core dataset from the Information Standards Board records details of a key worker.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>Consistent care means that the person approaching the end of life experiences seamless care that is of a uniformly high standard, regardless of which professionals are delivering the care at the time and in what setting. Also, the information that the</p>

person receives is clear and the content is neither confusing nor contradictory.

The 'source references' provide detailed examples of what information should be shared, and between which providers and services. Particular attention should be paid to communication between settings and between daytime and out-of-hours services. One mechanism for facilitating effective care coordination could be the implementation of a locality register or equivalent system. Information on the use of locality registers for end of life care is available from the [End of life locality registers evaluation](#), supported by the Department of Health and National End of Life Care Programme. End of life care locality registers are also known as electronic palliative care coordination systems. Standardised documentation may also be helpful.

All information-sharing should be carried out with appropriate consents and in accordance with current confidentiality and data protection guidance.

[Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) refer to a 'key worker' as an example of how coordinated care might be facilitated. A key worker is one or possibly a small number of named workers who, with the consent and agreement of the person approaching the end of life, take an important role in coordinating the individual's care. They promote continuity, ensuring the individual, and their families and carers, know who to access for information and advice. Further definition of the key worker

	<p>role is available from NICE cancer service guidance recommendation 1.29.</p> <p>Coordination of care is important for ensuring timely, safe and effective transfer of appropriate documentation, patient records, equipment and medication.</p>
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Quality statement 9: Urgent care

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night receive prompt, safe and effective urgent care appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure: Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that people approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night receive prompt, safe and effective urgent care. This should be appropriate to their needs and preferences and delivered within locally agreed timescales.</p> <p>Process: Proportion of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life, who have information about how to access urgent care in the event of a crisis at any time of day or night.</p> <p>Numerator – the number of people in the denominator receiving information about how to access urgent care in the event of a crisis</p>

	<p>at any time of day or night.</p> <p>Denominator – the number of nominated informal carers (such as a family member) of people identified as approaching the end of life.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) People approaching the end of life feel that any crisis or need for urgent care was addressed in a prompt, safe and effective way appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>b) Carers of people approaching the end of life feel that any crisis or need for urgent care was addressed in a prompt, safe and effective way appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to provide people approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night, with prompt, safe and effective urgent care, appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals respond appropriately to crises experienced by people approaching the end of life, at any time of day or night, by providing prompt, safe and effective urgent care, appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission urgent care services that provide people approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night, with prompt,</p>

	<p>safe and effective urgent care, appropriate to the person's needs and preferences.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night receive prompt, safe and effective urgent care that takes into account their needs and preferences.</p>
Source references	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality marker for providers 4; and markers and measures 1.16, 1.17, 1.18, 1.19, 1.21, 2.2, 2.11, 3.7, 4.12, 6.7, 7.6, 8.4, 8.5, 8.8, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5 and 10.6.</p>
Data source	<p>Structure: Local data collection.</p> <p>Process: Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. The NHS Outcomes Framework 2011/12 indicator 4.3 – patient experience of A&E services (not specific to end of life care).</p> <p>b) Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on urgent care.</p>
Definitions	<p>A 'crisis' is a significant unplanned event where there is an element of distress or disruption requiring urgent response and appropriate intervention.</p> <p>The definition of 'prompt' will vary depending on the circumstances of the crisis.</p> <p>Timescales should be determined locally based on need.</p> <p>In the Royal College of General Practitioners' Urgent and emergency care clinical audit</p>

[toolkit](#), reference is made to a definition of urgent care as the range of responses that health and care services provide to people who require – or who perceive the need for – urgent advice, care, treatment or diagnosis. People using services and their families and carers, should expect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week consistent and rigorous assessment of the urgency of their care need and an appropriate and prompt response to that need.

Urgent care may also be described as unscheduled care and includes, but is not limited to, both daytime and out-of-hours GP visits in the community, as well as emergency 999 ambulance response and rapid access care. Urgent care may be provided by a range of professionals across all settings and is delivered in a number of different forms. Settings may include, but are not limited to, primary, secondary, and community-based services.

Coordinated care with effective information sharing is essential to delivering urgent care that takes into account both the needs and preferences of the person approaching the end of life (see quality statement 8 on coordinated care). There must also be adequate provision of appropriate specialist palliative care advice and staff who are responsive to emergency need, including the option for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week access to specialist palliative inpatient care (see quality statements 4, 10 and 16).

Quality statement 10: Specialist palliative care

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People approaching the end of life who may benefit from specialist palliative care, are offered this care in a timely way appropriate to their needs and preferences, at any time of day or night.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>See pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place (such as shift patterns and on-call rotas), to provide timely specialist palliative care and advice at any time of day and night for people approaching the end of life who may benefit from specialist input. Care should be appropriate to the person's needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals provide timely specialist palliative care and advice at any time of day or night for people approaching the end of life who may benefit from it, or know who to contact for specialist palliative care and advice. Care should be</p>

	<p>appropriate to the person’s needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission specialist palliative care services with sufficient provision and capacity to provide timely specialist palliative care and advice at any time of day and night for people approaching the end of life who may benefit from specialist input. Care should be appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life are offered specialist palliative care if their usual care team are unable to relieve their symptoms adequately. It is offered at the right time for them and is appropriate to their needs and preferences at any time of day or night.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality markers for providers 7; and markers and measures 1.22, 1.23, 1.27, 3.2, 6.7, 6.8, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6 and 10.4.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Process: Local data collection. The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme comprehensive dataset from the Information Standards Board records whether the person is known to a specialist palliative care team.</p> <p>The National Council for Palliative Care collects activity data on specialist palliative care services via the minimum data set (MDS) for Specialist Palliative Care Services.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>Specialist palliative care encompasses hospice care (including inpatient hospice,</p>

day hospice, hospice at home) as well as a range of other specialist advice, support and care such as that provided by hospital palliative care teams. Specialist palliative care should be available on the basis of need, not diagnosis.

‘People who may benefit from specialist palliative care’ are those whose symptoms cannot be managed in a timely way by their usual care team.

The following minimum recommended service levels have been adapted from [NICE cancer service guidance](#) and the [Department of Health quality markers](#).

Specialist palliative care inpatient facilities should be responsive to emergency need and able to admit people approaching the end of life at any time of day or night.

Palliative care services should ensure provision to:

- Visit and assess people approaching the end of life face-to-face in any setting between 09.00 and 17.00, 7 days a week (provision for bed-side consultations outside these hours is high-quality care).
- Provide specialist palliative care advice at any time of day or night, which may include telephone advice.

Specialist palliative care, including assessment and advice, may be provided by physicians in palliative medicine or other suitably trained practitioners, such as clinical nurse specialists in palliative care. Qualified district nurses – ‘specialist community practitioners in home nursing’ – may or may

	<p>not have an appropriate level of education in specialist palliative care. Social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other therapists may also have specialist skills in palliative care.</p>
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Quality statement 11: Care in the last days of life

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People in the last days of life are identified in a timely way and have their care coordinated and delivered in accordance with their personalised care plan, including rapid access to holistic support, equipment and administration of medication.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure: Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that people in the last days of life are identified in a timely way.</p> <p>Outcome: Families and carers of people in the last days of life feel that everything was done to meet the person’s needs and preferences during this time, as far as possible.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each</p>	<p>Service providers ensure they have systems in place to identify people who are in the last days of life in a timely way, and that care is coordinated and delivered in accordance with their personalised care plan. Systems for rapid access to holistic support,</p>

<p>audience</p>	<p>equipment and administration of medication should be in place.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals identify people in the last days of life, and coordinate and deliver care in accordance with their personalised care plan. Local procedures should be followed to ensure rapid access to holistic support, equipment and administration of medication.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that identify people who are in the last days of life in a timely way, and that coordinate and deliver care in accordance with their personalised care plan. Services should provide rapid access to holistic support, equipment and administration of medication.</p> <p>People in the last days of life are identified and receive care according to their care plan, which takes into account their needs and preferences, and ensures they can have rapid access to all the support they need, including equipment (such as a pressure-relieving mattress) and medication.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality marker for providers 9 and markers and measures 2.10, 3.9, 3.14, 3.17, 4.6, 4.11, 5.5, 5.11, 6.5, 6.11, 8.5, 8.6, 10.4 and 10.6.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on care in the last 2 days of life.</p>

	<p>The following data sources may also be relevant to the referenced measures:</p> <p>The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on prescribing rates for anticipatory medication and patient-reported comfort in the last hours and days of life. Compliance with completion of the Liverpool Care Pathway for the dying patient (LCP) is also collected.</p> <p>The draft End of life care locality register pilot programme core dataset from the Information Standards Board records access to anticipatory medicines/just in case box and whether an end of life care tool is in use. The draft comprehensive dataset includes home access to a syringe driver, catheter continence products and other equipment.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>‘The last days of life’ is the period of time when death is imminent and when the time before the anticipated death is being measured in days. Gold Standards Framework prognostic indicator guidance is an example of available guidance to assist generalist clinicians with identification of this phase.</p> <p>A system of care, such as the LCP or equivalent integrated care pathway, may be helpful in planning, coordinating and delivering safe and effective care in the last days of life. Any standardised tool should be individualised to the needs and preferences of the person dying and their families and carers.</p> <p>‘Holistic’ includes, as a minimum, physical, psychological, social, spiritual, cultural, and</p>

	<p>where appropriate, environmental considerations. This may relate to needs and preferences as well as associated treatment, care and support.</p>
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Quality statement 12: Care after death – care of the body

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>The body of a person who has died is cared for in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Outcome: Families and carers of a person who has died feel that the body was cared for after death in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place for culturally sensitive and dignified care of the body after death.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals care for the body of a person who has died in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that provide culturally sensitive and dignified care of the body after death.</p> <p>The body of a person who has died is</p>

	cared for in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.
Source references	Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 1.29, 3.9, 3.11 and 3.12.
Data source	Outcome: Local data collection. The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on care after death.
Definitions	Guidance for staff responsible for care after death (last offices) is available from the National End of Life Care Programme.

Quality statement 13: Care after death – verification and certification

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>Families and carers of people who have died receive timely verification and certification of the death.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Outcome: Families and carers of people who have died feel satisfied with how quickly verification and certification of the death took place.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to ensure timely verification and certification of death.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals follow local procedures to ensure timely verification and certification of the death.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that ensure timely verification and certification of death.</p> <p>Carers and family members of people who have died receive verification and</p>

	certification of the death as soon as possible.
Source references	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 1.29, 3.9, 3.10, 3.11 and 3.12.</p> <p>NHS National End of Life Care Programme draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care: bereavement care 2 and 4.</p>
Data source	<p>Outcome: b) Local data collection.</p> <p>The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on care after death.</p>
Definitions	<p>Guidance for staff responsible for care after death (last offices) and When a patient dies: guidance for professionals on developing bereavement services, which includes sections on verification and certification, are available from the National End of Life Care Programme. See also Home Office report: Death certification and investigation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland: the report of a fundamental review.</p> <p>Timely verification and certification of death should include information for families and carers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when, where and how to register a death • information on the role of the coroner (if coroner involvement is likely).

Quality statement 14: Care after death – bereavement support

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>People closely affected by a death are communicated with in a sensitive way and are offered immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of a local needs assessment for bereavement services, detailing specialist support needs for all sections of the community including vulnerable groups such as children and those with learning difficulties.</p> <p>b) Evidence that a local service specification for bereavement services has been developed in partnership with acute, community, voluntary and private sector providers and local authorities, which includes the provision of specialist support for groups identified in the needs assessment.</p>

	<p>Outcome: People closely affected by a death feel that information and support was available to them around the time of death and afterwards, which was appropriate for them and offered at the right time.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place for people closely affected by a death that include sensitive communication and provision for immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>Health and social care workers communicate sensitively with people closely affected by a death and offer them immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services for people closely affected by a death that include sensitive communication and provision for immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p> <p>People closely affected by a death are communicated with in a sensitive way and offered bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences. This may include information about practical arrangements and local support services, supportive conversations with staff, and in some cases referral for counselling or more specialist support.</p>
<p>Source</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and</p>

references	<p>measures for end of life care 1.15, 1.31, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12, 3.15, 3.16, 5.10, 6.10, 8.8 and 9.5.</p> <p>NHS National End of Life Care Programme draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care: bereavement care 1, 3, 4 and 5.</p>
Data source	<p>Structure: a) Local data collection. b) Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: Local data collection. Office for National Statistics (ONS) National bereavement survey (VOICES) includes questions on whether enough help and support was provided by the healthcare team to the family or carer at the actual time of death, whether staff dealt with them in a sensitive manner, and whether they have since talked to anyone from health and social services or from a bereavement service, about their feelings about the person's illness and death.</p>
Definitions	<p>People closely affected by a death may include care home residents, staff and volunteers, staff from a variety of health and social care organisations, as well as family members and carers, including children. Children may need particular tailored support.</p> <p>Families and carers of people who have died suddenly or in an unexpected way, as well as those who were expecting the death, should have access to information and support appropriate to their circumstances.</p> <p>Draft Spiritual support and bereavement care</p>

[quality marker 2](#) on bereavement support recommends that bereaved people are offered support at the time of death that is culturally and spiritually appropriate, immediate, and available shortly afterwards. Bereavement support may be not be limited to immediately after death, but may be required on a longer-term basis and, in some cases, may begin before death.

A stepped approach to emotional and bereavement support may be appropriate, which could include but is not limited to:

- information about local support services
- practical support such as advice on arranging a funeral, information on who to inform of a death, help with contacting other family members and information on what to do with equipment and medication
- general emotional and bereavement support, such as supportive conversations with generalist health and social care workers or support from the voluntary, community and faith sectors
- referral to more specialist support from trained bereavement counsellors or mental health workers.

See quality statement 6 for a definition of spiritual support.

A model of bereavement support is detailed in [NICE cancer service guidance](#) recommendation 12.30. Further guidance on bereavement support is available from [When a patient dies: guidance for professionals on developing bereavement services](#) (Department of Health 2005) and [UK](#)

[Standards for Bereavement Care \(London Bereavement Network 2001\).](#)

People closely affected by a death should be able to access all support within an appropriate physical environment that facilitates sensitive communication.

Further details on auditing bereavement support are available from [draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (NHS National End of Life Care Programme 2011).

Quality statement 15: Workforce – training

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>Health and social care workers have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care and support for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure:</p> <p>a) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that health and social care workers receive training appropriate to their role incorporating dealing with loss, grief and bereavement, and basic aspects of spiritual care, common to people of all faiths and none.</p> <p>b) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that training is informed by current legislation, national competences and good practice guidelines, where available.</p> <p>c) Evidence of local arrangements to ensure that training is followed up with the use of competences as part of appraisals and professional development plans for health and social care workers to ensure that appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes are embedded into practice and kept up to date.</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>a) Improved patient safety relating to end of</p>

	<p>life care treatment.</p> <p>b) Health and social care workers who come into contact with people approaching the end of life and/or their families and carers feel confident and supported in caring for this group.</p> <p>See also pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each audience</p>	<p>Service providers ensure that systems are in place to provide and assure education for all health and social care workers appropriate to their role. This should enable them to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p> <p>Health and social care workers participate in appropriate training and engage in evaluation and supervision to ensure they have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission services that provide and assure education for all health and social care workers appropriate to their role. This should enable them to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life and their families and carers are cared for and supported by staff with the knowledge, skills</p>

	and attitudes needed to provide high-quality care.
Source references	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care top ten quality marker for providers 8; and markers and measures 1.32, 1.33, 1.35, 1.37, 1.38, 1.39, 2.9, 3.3, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17, 4.10, 4.11, 5.1, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 6.9, 6.10, 6.11, 7.8, 8.8, 9.5 and 10.3.</p> <p>NHS National End of Life Care Programme draft Spiritual support and bereavement care quality markers and measures for end of life care: bereavement care 4 and spiritual support 4.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key recommendation 20 and recommendations 8.11 and 8.13.</p>
Data source	<p>Structure: a) Local data collection. The National care of the dying audit – hospitals collects data on the existence of education programmes on care of the dying for nurses, medical staff and non-qualified staff.</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p> <p>c) Local data collection.</p> <p>Outcome: a) Local data collection. The NHS Outcomes Framework 2011/12 indicators 5a – patient safety incident reporting, 5b – severity of harm, 5c – number of similar incidents, 5.4 – incidence of medication errors causing serious harm (not specific to end of life care).</p> <p>b) Local data collection.</p>
Definition	The term ‘workers’ includes paid staff and

<p>S</p>	<p>volunteers.</p> <p>Training includes formal, accredited training as well as informal or locally provided training. The level of education required for individual workers will depend on their role.</p> <p>Guidance on workforce training requirements in different settings is available from the source references. Broadly, these recommend the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum content relating to end of life care contained within pre-registration and undergraduate education for health and social care. • Training programmes within hospitals, community settings, care homes, ambulance services and other health and social care settings including specialist palliative care services. • Taking into account communication skills (including issues around loss, grief and bereavement), spiritual care, assessment and care planning, advance care planning, and symptom management as they apply to end of life care. Also training related to the Liverpool Care Pathway for the dying patient (LCP) or equivalent integrated care pathway. • Particular account should be taken of the training needs of those workers involved in discussing end of life issues with patients, families and carers. • Specialist palliative care services to act as an educational resource for training generalist palliative care in the community, including GP practices, district nursing services, care homes and community
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hospitals, and acute hospitals and other services.

- Medical and district/community nursing out-of-hours workers should be competent in providing general palliative care, including symptom management, the use of syringe drivers, assessment of need, communication skills and providing support both to the patient and to carers in relation to 'do not attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation' orders (also 'do not attempt resuscitation' orders), and advance decisions.

High-quality care and support is safe, effective and delivers a positive experience for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.

[National occupational standards](#) and common core competences for health and social care workers working with adults at the end of life are available from the National End of Life Care Programme.

Strategies for developing the workforce may include the use of [End of Life Care for All \(e-ELCA\)](#) (e-learning resource commissioned by Department of Health) in conjunction with face to face teaching, work-based learning and peer education.

Training needs within other appropriate settings not specified above, such as homeless hostels and prisons, should also be considered.

Examples of staff competencies in spiritual care are available from [Marie Curie Cancer Care spiritual and religious care competencies for specialist palliative care](#).

	<p>These outline four different competency levels for staff working in all areas of care, both specialist and non-specialist.</p> <p><u>Talking about end of life care: right conversations, right people, right time</u> from the National End of Life Care Programme provides information on communication skills training.</p>
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Quality statement 16: Workforce planning

<p>Quality statement</p>	<p>Generalist and specialist services providing care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers have a multidisciplinary workforce sufficient in number and skill mix to provide high-quality care and support.</p>
<p>Quality measure</p>	<p>Measures from End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care (Department of Health 2009) (see source references).</p> <p>Indicators from End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool (ELCQuA) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) (see appendix 2).</p> <p>See page 4 for further information on the above and guidance on how to use these and the below supplementary measures.</p> <p>Structure: Evidence of local service specification(s) that explicitly include generalist and specialist end of life care services in order to provide a multidisciplinary workforce to meet the needs of the local population identified in local needs assessment(s).</p> <p>Outcome:</p> <p>See pages 1-2 for overarching outcomes.</p>
<p>Description of what the quality statement means for each</p>	<p>Service providers (generalist or specialist) ensure that systems are in place to provide a multidisciplinary workforce sufficient in number and skill mix to provide high-quality care and support to people approaching the end of life and their families</p>

<p>audience</p>	<p>and carers.</p> <p>Health and social care professionals work as part of a multidisciplinary workforce that provides high-quality care and support to people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p> <p>Commissioners ensure they commission generalist and specialist palliative care services with a multidisciplinary workforce sufficient to provide high-quality care and support to people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p> <p>People approaching the end of life and their families and carers receive high-quality care and support because there is enough staff with the right skills to meet their needs.</p>
<p>Source references</p>	<p>Department of Health quality markers and measures for end of life care 1.3, 1.20, 1.22 and 1.36.</p> <p>NICE cancer service guidance key recommendation 19 and recommendations 8.22 and 8.24.</p>
<p>Data source</p>	<p>Structure: Local data collection.</p> <p>The National Council for Palliative Care undertakes a workforce survey looking at staff working in palliative care in a variety of settings.</p>
<p>Definitions</p>	<p>The terms ‘generalist’ and ‘specialist’ in relation to end of life care are defined on page 7). Broadly, generalist services include GPs, district nurses and general ward doctors and nurses. Specialist services deliver specialist palliative care, by palliative</p>

medicine physicians, clinical nurse specialists or specialist allied health professionals, for example, speech and language therapists. Specialists outside of palliative medicine may also be part of the multidisciplinary team, for example nephrologists, neurologists, cardiologists and geriatricians.

High-quality care and support is safe and effective and delivers a positive experience for patients, families and carers.

The [End of life care strategy](#) from the Department of Health recommends appropriate provision of essential services to meet the needs of the local population.

These services include, but are not limited to:

- nursing services (including visiting and rapid response services)
- medical services
- personal care services
- access to pharmacy services
- access to equipment
- specialist palliative care.

[NICE cancer service guidance](#) recommends the following composition for specialist palliative care teams:

- palliative medicine consultants
- palliative care nurse specialists
- a team secretary/administrator.

Furthermore, it recommends a range of expertise provided by:

- physiotherapists
- occupational therapists
- dieticians
- pharmacists

- social workers
- chaplains/spiritual care givers
- professionals able to deliver psychological support equivalent to level 3 of the psychological support service model (see topic 5, psychological support services).

This expertise may be provided by named individuals on a full-time, part-time or regular sessional basis.

In [Consultant physicians working with patients](#), the Royal College of Physicians recommends between 1.56 and 2.00 whole-time equivalent (WTE) consultants in palliative medicine per 250,000 population. Service requirements for specialist palliative care are detailed in quality statement 10.

The Department of Health document [NHS chaplaincy: meeting the religious and spiritual needs of patients and staff](#), recommends the following for adequate chaplaincy provision:

- Every 35 beds = 1 unit of chaplaincy-spiritual care
- Every 500 WTE staff = 1 unit of chaplaincy-spiritual care.

Each unit of chaplaincy-spiritual care is deemed to last for 3.5 hours. These units are intended to cover the general responsibilities of the healthcare chaplain – additional units are required for specific responsibilities.

Services should be efficiently coordinated in accordance with quality statement 8 on coordinated care, to ensure that multidisciplinary input does not become burdensome to people approaching the end

	of life and their families and carers or services themselves.
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Appendix 1: Evidence sources

Policy context

Department of Health (2011) [End of life care strategy: third annual report](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

Department of Health (2011) [Transparency in outcomes – a framework for quality in adult social care](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

Department of Health (2010) [The NHS outcomes framework 2011/12](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

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Department of Health (2009) [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

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NHS National End of Life Care Programme (2008) Available from www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk

Key development sources

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[and measures for end of life care](http://www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk). Available from www.endoflifecareforadults.nhs.uk

NHS National End of Life Programme and National End of Life Care Intelligence Network (2011) [End of life care quality assessment tool](http://www.elcqua.nhs.uk). Available from www.elcqua.nhs.uk

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Definitions and data sources

Audit Commission. [National indicator set](http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk). Available from www.audit-commission.gov.uk

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Department of Health. [End of life care for all \(e-ELCA\)](http://www.e-lfh.org.uk). Available from www.e-lfh.org.uk

Department of Health (2011) [Transparency in outcomes – a framework for quality in adult social care](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

Department of Health (2010) [NHS Operating Framework for 2011/12](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

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Department of Health (2010) [Prioritising need in the context of putting people first: a whole system approach to eligibility for social care – guidance on eligibility criteria for adult social care, England 2010](#). Available from www.dh.gov.uk

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Dying Matters Coalition. [Information resource materials](#). Available from www.dyingmatters.org

General Medical Council (2010) [Treatment and care towards the end of life: good practice in decision making](#). Available from www.gmc-uk.org

General Medical Council (2008) [Personal beliefs and medical practice](#). Available from www.gmc-uk.org

Gold Standards Framework (2008) [Prognostic indicator guidance](#). Available from www.goldstandardsframework.org.uk

Home Office (2003) [Death certification and investigation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland: the report of a](#)

[fundamental review](http://www.archive2.official-documents.co.uk). Available from www.archive2.official-documents.co.uk

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London Bereavement Network (2001) [UK Standards for Bereavement Care](http://www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk). Available from www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk

Marie Curie Cancer Care (2003) [Spiritual and religious care competencies for specialist palliative care](http://www.mariecurie.org.uk). Available from www.mariecurie.org.uk

Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute Liverpool. [Information resources for children](http://www.mcpcil.org.uk). Available from www.mcpcil.org.uk

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National Cancer Peer Review Programme (2011) [Manual for Cancer Services: rehabilitation](http://www.cquins.nhs.uk). Available from www.cquins.nhs.uk

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Royal College of General Practitioners (2011) [Supporting carers: an action guide for general practitioners and their teams \(second edition\)](#). Available from www.rcgp.org.uk

Royal College of General Practitioners (2011) [Urgent and emergency care clinical audit toolkit](#). Available from www.rcgp.org.uk

Royal College of Physicians (2008) [Consultant physicians working for patients: the duties, responsibilities and practice of physicians in medicine fifth edition](#). Available from www.rcplondon.ac.uk

Social Care Institute for Excellence. Hub where information, resources and links are gathered together to support social care practitioners working with people and their families at the end of life. Available from www.scie.org.uk

Think Local Act Personal Partnership: [think local act personal](#). Available from www.thinklocalactpersonal.org.uk

Appendix 2: NICE quality standard and the End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool

Table 1 provides examples of existing indicators from [End of Life Care Quality Assessment Tool \(ELCQuA\)](#) (National End of Life Care Programme 2011) that are considered relevant to the quality statements set out in this NICE quality standard on end of life care for adults.

Services already implementing [End of life care strategy: promoting high quality care for all adults at the end of life](#) (Department of Health 2008) and using ELCQuA, can identify elements of the quality standard that are already being achieved and identify local priorities for working towards achieving the NICE quality statements in full.

It is important to note that where relevant ELCQuA indicators are highlighted, these are unlikely to measure the NICE quality statement in full. Supplementary NICE quality measures and signposting to relevant measures from [End of life care strategy: quality markers and measures for end of life care](#) (Department of Health 2009) can be found beneath each quality statement in the main sections of the quality standard.

In order to measure achievement against each quality statement, the full set of measures (those in appendix 2 as well as the referenced Department of Health measures and supplementary NICE quality measures) must be taken into account.

Table 1 ELCQuA indicators relevant to NICE quality statements

Table 1 highlights examples of ELCQuA indicators that may be relevant to the quality standard, presented alongside each quality statement. These indicators should be considered along with the NICE quality measures and referenced Department of Health measures in order to measure each quality statement in full. The ELCQuA formats have been retained, where '#1' refers to the numerator and '#2' the denominator of a proportion. Some indicators do not have denominators.

NICE quality statement	ELCQuA measures and indicators relevant to the quality statement
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All	<p>0902. People's feedback is actively reviewed to inform improvements both to the individual's care and to services as a whole.</p> <p>Proportion of deaths where an after death survey was undertaken</p> <p>#1 Number of deaths for which After Death Analysis survey carried out</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p> <p>0401. Care for individuals is coordinated across organisational boundaries 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Evidence of reduction in emergency admissions at end of life</p> <p>#1 Number of emergency admissions for patients in last 12 months of life</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p>
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1. People approaching the end of life are identified in a timely way.

0301. People approaching the end of life are identified.

Proportion of non-cancer patients identified as approaching end of life

#1 Non-cancer deaths on register OR with an advance care plan identified

#2 Non-cancer deaths for same catchment for same time period

Proportion of people identified as approaching end of life

#1 Number of deaths on register OR with identified advance care plan

#2 Total deaths for same catchment and time period

<p>2. People approaching the end of life and their families and carers are communicated with, and offered information, in an accessible and sensitive way in response to their needs and preferences.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>
<p>3. People approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments, in response to their changing needs and preferences, with the opportunity to discuss, develop and review a personalised care plan for current and future support and treatment.</p>	<p>0304. Individuals' preferences and choices are documented and communicated and available at all times of day to all relevant professionals.</p> <p>Proportion of people with advance care plans available to all relevant professionals</p> <p>#1 Number of people who died who were recorded on an electronic end of life care register or equivalent, plus number who declined to have their record uploaded</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p>

<p>4. People approaching the end of life have their physical and specific psychological needs safely, effectively and appropriately met at any time of day or night, including access to medicines and equipment.</p>	<p>0501. People can access specialist palliative care as needed, regardless of diagnosis or location.</p> <p>Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#1 Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#2 Population</p>
	<p>0505. People have access to specialist palliative care advice 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Level of access to specialist palliative care</p> <p>#1 Actual number of hours availability across locality (based on lowest)</p>
	<p>0506. People approaching the end of life have access to and information about medical services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>

	<p>0507. People have access to community nursing as needed, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>
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0509. People have rapid access to palliative drugs as needed, including out of hours.

Average wait for palliative care drugs out of hours (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

Average wait for palliative care drugs (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (mean)

Average wait for palliative care drugs (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

Average wait for palliative care drugs out of hours (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (mean)

0510. People have rapid access to palliative equipment as needed, including out of hours.

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment out of hours (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment out of hours (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (mean)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (mean)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

<p>5. People approaching the end of life are offered timely personalised support for their social, practical and emotional needs, which is appropriate to their preferences, and maximises independence and social participation for as long as possible.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>
<p>6. People approaching the end of life are offered spiritual and religious support appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>

<p>7. Families and carers of people approaching the end of life are offered comprehensive holistic assessments in response to their changing needs and preferences, and holistic support appropriate to their current needs and preferences.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>
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<p>8. People approaching the end of life receive consistent care that is coordinated effectively across all relevant settings and services at any time of day or night, and delivered by practitioners who are aware of the person's current medical condition, care plan and preferences.</p>	<p>0304. Individuals' preferences and choices are documented and communicated and available at all times of day to all relevant professionals.</p> <p>Proportion of people with advance care plans available to all relevant professionals</p> <p>#1 Number of people who died who were recorded on an electronic end of life care register or equivalent plus number who declined to have their record uploaded</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p>
	<p>0403. Patients with an agreed do not attempt cardiopulmonary resuscitation (DNACPR) policy in place have their preferences respected.</p> <p>Rate of inappropriate resuscitation</p> <p>#1 Number of patients with a DNACPR in place where resuscitation is attempted</p> <p>#2 Total number of deaths where a DNACPR is in place</p>

	<p>0405. People can be transferred quickly and sensitively to their preferred location of care.</p> <p>Average number of days delay for patients to be transferred to preferred place of care</p> <p>#1 Sum of delay (days) for end of life patients awaiting transfer from home to preferred location</p> <p>#2 Total number of deaths where a transfer is requested</p>
	<p>0407. Ambulances services inform GPs where they have transferred a person who is at the end of life to a hospital.</p> <p>Proportion of ambulance transfers for people approaching the end of life where the GP is informed</p> <p>#1 Number of transfers for people on end of life care register where the GP is informed</p> <p>#2 Total number of transfers for people on end of life care register</p>

	<p>0503. People benefit from multidisciplinary specialist palliative care team input into their care.</p> <p>Proportion of people on end of life care register considered by a multidisciplinary team</p> <p>#1 Number of people on palliative care register discussed in multidisciplinary team meetings</p> <p>#2 Number of people on palliative care register</p>
<p>9. People approaching the end of life who experience a crisis at any time of day or night receive prompt, safe and effective urgent care appropriate to their needs and preferences.</p>	<p>0304. Individuals' preferences and choices are documented and communicated and available at all times of day to all relevant professionals.</p> <p>Proportion of people with advance care plans available to all relevant professionals</p> <p>#1 Number of people who died who were recorded on an electronic end of life care register or equivalent, plus number who declined to have their record uploaded</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p>

	<p>0403. Patients with an agreed DNACPR policy in place have their preferences respected.</p> <p>Rate of inappropriate resuscitation</p> <p>#1 Number of patients with a DNACPR in place where resuscitation is attempted</p> <p>#2 Total number of deaths where a DNACPR is in place</p>
<p>10. People approaching the end of life who may benefit from specialist palliative care, are offered this care in a timely way appropriate to their needs and</p>	<p>0501. People can access specialist palliative care as needed, regardless of diagnosis or location.</p> <p>Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#1 Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#2 Population</p>

<p>preferences, at any time of day or night.</p>	<p>0505. People have access to specialist palliative care advice 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Level of access to specialist palliative care</p> <p>#1 Actual number of hours availability across locality (based on lowest)</p>
<p>11. People in the last days of life are identified in a timely way and have their care coordinated and delivered in accordance with their personalised care plan, including rapid access to holistic support, equipment and administration of</p>	<p>0304. Individuals' preferences and choices are documented and communicated and available at all times of day to all relevant professionals.</p> <p>Proportion of people with advance care plans available to all relevant professionals</p> <p>#1 Number of people who died who were recorded on an electronic end of life care register or equivalent, plus number who declined to have their record uploaded</p> <p>#2 Total deaths for same time period</p>

<p>medication.</p>	<p>0403. Patients with an agreed DNACPR policy in place have their preferences respected.</p> <p>Rate of inappropriate resuscitation</p> <p>#1 Number of patients with a DNACPR in place where resuscitation is attempted</p> <p>#2 Total number of deaths where a DNACPR is in place</p>
	<p>0506. People approaching the end of life have access to, and information about, medical services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>

	<p>0507. People have access to community nursing as needed, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>
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0509. People have rapid access to palliative drugs as needed, including out of hours.

Average wait for palliative care drugs out of hours (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

Average wait for palliative care drugs (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (mean)

Average wait for palliative care drugs (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (range)

Average wait for palliative care drugs out of hours (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care drugs in number of hours (mean)

0510. People have rapid access to palliative equipment as needed, including out of hours.

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment out of hours (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment out of hours (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (mean)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment (mean)

#1 Actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (mean)

Average waiting time for palliative care equipment (range)

#1 Shortest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

#2 Longest actual waiting time for palliative care equipment in number of hours (range)

0601. People are treated with dignity and respect and are supported by a common care pathway management approach in the last hours or days of life.

Compliance with Liverpool Care Pathway for the dying patient (LCP) or equivalent pathway

#1 Completed and available LCP goals documentation fields (scored either as 'achieved' or 'variance') for a consecutive sample of end of life patients.

#2 Number of available and applicable LCP goals documentation fields for consecutive samples of the same number of end of life patients

Proportion with care pathway in place

#1 Number of deaths with LCP or equivalent in place

#2 Total deaths for same time period

12. The body of a person who has died is cared for in a culturally sensitive and dignified manner.

0601. People are treated with dignity and respect and are supported by a common care pathway management approach in the last hours or days of life.

Compliance with LCP or equivalent pathway

#1 Completed and available LCP goals documentation fields (scored either as 'achieved' or 'variance') for a consecutive sample of end of life patients.

#2 Number of available and applicable LCP goals documentation fields for consecutive sample of the same number of end of life patients

Proportion with care pathway in place

#1 Number of deaths with LCP or equivalent in place

#2 Total deaths for same time period

13. Families and carers of people who have died receive timely verification and certification of the death.

0601. People are treated with dignity and respect and are supported by a common care pathway management approach in the last hours or days of life.

Compliance with LCP or equivalent pathway

#1 Completed and available LCP goals documentation fields (scored either as 'achieved' or 'variance') for a consecutive sample of end of life patients.

#2 Number of available and applicable LCP goals documentation fields for consecutive sample of the same number of end of life patients

Proportion with care pathway in place

#1 Number of deaths with LCP or equivalent in place

#2 Total deaths for same time period

14. People closely affected by a death are communicated with in a sensitive way and are offered immediate and ongoing bereavement, emotional and spiritual support appropriate to their needs and preferences.

0702. Families and carers can access designated quiet spaces, and are able to view the deceased in appropriate surroundings.

Proportion of organisation wards with designated quiet area

#1 Number of wards with designated quiet area per organisation

#2 Total number of wards per organisation

0703. Relatives, carers and friends of the deceased, including other residents or patients and children, have access to effective bereavement services.

Proportion of providers meeting 75% of NICE bereavement standards

#1 Number of providers meeting 75% of NICE bereavement standards

#2 Total number of providers

<p>15. Health and social care workers have the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be competent to provide high-quality care and support for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers.</p>	<p>None identified.</p>
<p>16. Generalist and specialist services providing care for people approaching the end of life and their families and carers have a multidisciplinary</p>	<p>0501. People can access specialist palliative care as needed, regardless of diagnosis or location.</p> <p>Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#1 Number of specialist palliative care consultants</p> <p>#2 Population</p>

workforce sufficient in number and skill mix to provide high-quality care and support.

0503. People benefit from multidisciplinary specialist palliative care team input into their care.

Proportion of people on end of life care register considered by a multidisciplinary team

#1 Number of people on palliative care register discussed in multidisciplinary team meetings

#2 Number of people on palliative care register

0505. People have access to specialist palliative care advice 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Level of access to specialist palliative care

#1 Actual number of hours availability across locality (based on lowest)

	<p>0506. People approaching the end of life have access to, and information about, medical services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>
	<p>0507. People have access to community nursing as needed, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p> <p>Actual number of hours per day availability across locality (based on lowest)</p> <p>#1 Lowest actual number of hours per day availability across locality</p>