

Dear Colleague,

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5 March 2015

“Caring for the Dying Patient” document

The End of Life Network has been working over the last few months to produce a document to help clinicians in every setting look after dying patients.

The “Caring for the Dying Patient” document takes into account the issues raised with the Liverpool Care Pathway in the Neuberger report and the recommendations in “One Chance to Get it Right”, published in June 2014, which sets out the priorities for care when a person is dying.

The document has been piloted in a variety of clinical settings and after an extensive consultation period, is now ready to be rolled out across the region. The End of Life Network has agreed to review the document next year.

It is imperative for good end of life care to have sufficient training in place for teams to manage patients well and to hold sensitive conversations with dying patients and their relatives. This document will help to support that process but forms only a small part of good end of life care.

To support the new documentation, the End of Life Network is also producing clinical guidance, a community drug chart and training resources. The actual documentation is being sent to Palliative Care Leads in Trusts and End of Life Leads in CCGs, and will be made available on our website – www.nescn.nhs.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or feedback.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Elizabeth Kendrick
Chair, End of Life Network
Northern England SCN



Dr Paul Paes
Clinical Lead for End of Life Care
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