We are presenting this case as a late abstract owing to the time of presentation and the learning that arose from it.

A 70-year-old man with T4b N3 M0 poorly differentiated squamous cell carcinoma of the oesophagus was referred to the Community Palliative Care Team. His preferred place of care and death were home and he requested not to receive CPR, although open to hospital admission for reversible causes. His condition deteriorated with intermittent delirium and agitation, making home care challenging. He was admitted to the local Cancer Centre as no beds were available in the local Hospice inpatient unit and suffered a witnessed fall on a Sunday. Examination revealed a shortened and externally rotated left leg and inability to weight bear. Pelvic XR demonstrated a left displaced intra-capsular hip fracture. The patient was discussed with the on-call Orthopaedic Registrar who advised that the patient would be discussed in the regular trauma meeting on Monday and should remain in the Cancer Centre. On Tuesday, in order to avoid admission to the local Major Trauma Centre, the patient was visited in the Cancer Centre by the Consultant Orthogeriatrician. After consultation with the patient and his family, it was agreed that he did not need surgery and that his hip fracture could be managed conservatively with bed-rest and analgesia. The patient was transferred to the Hospice on Tuesday and felt to be in the last days of life 24-hours later. The patient’s pain was managed effectively with a continued subcutaneous infusion with Morphine and Midazolam. The patient continued to steadily deteriorate and peacefully died on Saturday.

Discussion Orthogeriatricians now lead the acute peri-operative care and rehabilitation of hip fracture patients in every acute trauma unit in the UK. This case demonstrates how early discussion of complex patients with an Orthogeriatrician can help the patient, oncology and palliative care teams to make the right choice of available operative and non-operative options, and avoid inappropriate hospital transfers.

END OF LIFE CARE PARASOL SERVICE

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Aim To develop an End of Life Service that provided direct clinical support and education to health professionals to improve End of Life Care within Swansea Bay University Health Board.

Method Project started with obtaining retrospective baseline information from four general wards in acute hospital. Retrospective data collection incorporated the five priorities of care. Pre project survey from ward based health professionals. Real time data collected over 12 weeks to compare to baseline.

Analysis Collected data during a 12-week period identifying a need for direct clinical support and education to improve End of Life Care. Resource folders with core End of Life information provided to each ward. Contact details for staff to contact if advice or support required. Drop in sessions held on each ward for staff to promote awareness of All Wales Care Decision Guidance. Supported staff with recognising dying, clinical assessment, communication and administering of anticipatory medications. Staff survey repeated.

Results Over the 12-week period, the data showed:

- Recognising dying and documented effectively increased by 15% demonstrating timelier acknowledgement of when someone was dying.
- Documented evidence of communication to those important to the patient increased by 18%.

Use of All Wales Care Decision Guidance to guide and support care in the last days of life increased by 34%.

Conclusion End of Life Care identified as a Quality Priority for the Health Board. Action plan developed by steering group of health professionals from diverse clinical areas. Development of End of Life Care Parasol Service with X2 full time band 7 CNS and X1 full time Health Care Support Worker band 4. Implementation of End of Life Champion programme.

Development of End of Life Care Parasol framework, the PARASOL framework was developed and underpins the five priorities of care and is an underlying framework for a Champion programme and service.