preliminary end of life care planning toolkit with separate resources for ‘illness planning’ and ‘funeral planning’, consisting of conversation pictures, pictorial choice cards and staff guidance. These will be trialled within learning disabilities services in autumn 2023.

Conclusion The active involvement of stakeholders, including 24 people with learning disabilities, was crucial to developing sensitive, appropriate and useful end of life care planning resources and guidance.

Abstracts

PIECING IT TOGETHER: WORKSHOPS EXPLORING WHY DYING MATTERS WITH YOUNG, ETHNICALLY DIVERSE PEOPLE

Christina Faulk, Helen Cullinan, Jackie McNair, Zeedia Islam, Vijay Umrao. LOROS Hospice, Leicester, UK; EAVA FM, Leicester, UK.

Background Our research has found that young people may have a pivotal role in helping their family navigate unfamiliar systems and many acts as interpreters but often feel excluded from any discussion of the impact of serious illness and death in their family. People in diverse ethnic communities often have little understanding about palliative care and hospices and consequently experience inequity of access to services and outcomes in end of life.

Aims We wanted to open up the conversation with young people about dying, including the concept of palliative care and what a hospice does.

Methods Two hour workshops were conducted in partnership with a community youth worker and a visual artist. Recruitment focussed in areas of Leicester and Loughborough with low white British population density. Participants shared and developed visual representation of their thoughts in response to ‘why does dying matter to me?’

Findings Forty-nine 13–25 year olds attended 9 workshops held in schools, the hospice and youth education project venues. The art they produced was of great diversity and focus and what a hospice does.

Background People with neurological conditions can find it difficult to communicate effectively through speech, and some have cognitive difficulties that make it challenging to process complex issues. A range of resources are available for developing Advance Care Plans (Healthcare Improvement Scotland. Anticipatory care planning toolkit; What Matters Conversations. What matters most charter; Planning ahead tool – hosted on Hospice UK website). Many of these require literacy and an ability to talk about and consider emotive issues through words. Talking Mats is a visual communication tool that can support these conversations in an accessible way (Stans, Dalemans, de Witte, et al. Tech. Disab. 2019; 30 (4):153–76).

Aim To find out how the ‘Thinking ahead’ Talking Mats resource can be used to support people with neurological conditions to have conversations about future plans.

Methods We trained 18 people to use Talking Mats through a foundation session, then a face-to-face simulation day using the ‘Thinking ahead’ resource. Sessions were planned with people with neurological conditions, and covered issues they prioritised. Participants were asked to have three Talking Mats conversations and provide feedback. They were invited to attend a focus group exploring the barriers and facilitators to using Talking Mats. Care Measures (Mercer, McConnachie, Maxwell, et al. Fam Pract. 2005;22(3):328–34) were completed after each session.

Results To date, 26 reflections have been returned. Care Measures results show high levels of engagement and involvement. Talking Mats (card or digital) has enabled people to see what they need to do in relation to planning ahead. Though emotional, this is useful and powerful. Barriers include professional gatekeeping around who should have these conversations (e.g. care and treatment). Further work is needed to explore the best ways to introduce Talking Mats.

Conclusions Initial feedback suggests that people with neurological conditions benefitted from using Talking Mats to plan ahead. Training is required to ensure professionals can use Talking Mats and hand over control to the person and their family.

INTERSECTIONALITY AND PALLIATIVE CARE – A RAPID REVIEW

Briony Hudson, Fiona Taylor, Devi Sagar, Rini Jones, Alison Penny, Ruth Ditsoll, Dominic Carter, Sam Royston, Marie Curie, London, UK; University of Southampton, Southampton, UK; Childhood Bereavement Network and National Bereavement Alliance, London, UK; Formerly, Hospice UK, London, UK.


Aim To examine and map the type and focus of research exploring intersectionality and access to palliative care.