

summarise existing literature and identify directions for future research.

**Methods** Five online databases were searched for qualitative and quantitative studies, published in the last 10 years that explicitly explored the impact of intersectionality between two or more characteristics for people accessing palliative or end of life care or advance care planning (ACP).

**Results** Seven eligible papers were identified. Evidence of intersectional impacts were found. Four studies explored the impact of intersectionality on access to and attitudes towards ACP (age and ethnicity; and sexuality, gender and age). Two explored intersectionality and access to care (age and sexuality; ethnicity and gender), one investigated intersectionality (ethnicity and gender) and quality of care in the last year of life. Inconsistent operationalisations of intersectionality complicated the identification of eligible papers.

**Conclusions** There is limited evidence exploring the complicated interactions between the different elements of a person and their experiences towards the end of life. Studying intersectionality is complex and challenged by methodological issues and data limitations. A more robust definition of intersectionality, and an agreed theoretical framework will facilitate the sharing and translation of knowledge in this field. Improvements in the quantity and quality of data available, regarding characteristics linked to inequity would enable more nuanced analyses of intersectionality. Coproducing research and services with a diverse range of people could help identify intersections that defy existing analysis, and improve care and future research.

## Parallel session 5.1: Channelling change; building confident communities and cultures

Wednesday 8 November 2023, 09:00 – 10:15

### 0-17 POWERFUL WHEN FRAGILE: HOW PEOPLE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE OF BEREAVEMENT ARE CHANGING BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT FOR EVERYONE

Mary Hodgson, Jan Noble. *St Christopher's Hospice, London, UK*

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**Background** Lived experience is a powerful source of knowledge and action in society, giving its holder insight, knowledge and perspective, and often the motivation to change things or to help others. This experience can also be important in bridging a gap or redistributing power in designing new services and modelling new ways of working which work for people, and pay attention to the knowledge and strengths they have.

**Aims** This presentation will explore a co-production exercise in St Christopher's Hospice using community action methods with people with bereavement experience. We will review some of the outcomes of working to co-delivery and some of the feedback received from those who took part.

**Methods** We used Community Action and co-production techniques working with people with bereavement experience over some months to create a new programme of community-based support for bereavement. We also trialled it and co-created

the training with volunteers. We then supported the activity through to volunteer recruitment and delivery, creating a 1–1 matching system for those people who were in the first days of a post-death bereavement, and with carers, working pre-death to support them through the process.

**Results** We will report on the outcomes of the first year. In its first year the initiative has created a powerful form of peer support particularly focused at early bereavement which has helped people with early bereavement experiences, including them navigating to future support or turning down formal bereavement support offers. The training for volunteers has been very well evaluated by new volunteers, and focuses on experiential learning, future planning through to bereavement, and building confidence in real life situations.

### 0-18 EVALUATION OF THE SCHOOL BEREAVEMENT PROGRAMME IN NORTHERN IRELAND (PHASE 1 PILOT)

<sup>1</sup>Susannah Baines, <sup>1</sup>Katarzyna Patynowska, <sup>1</sup>Joan McEwan, <sup>2</sup>Eleanor Ellerslie, <sup>2</sup>Ann Scanlon, <sup>1</sup>Christine Irvine, <sup>1</sup>Austin Orr, <sup>2</sup>Ashleigh Maynard, <sup>3</sup>Megan Canning, <sup>3</sup>Rachel Ward, <sup>4</sup>Tracey McConnell, <sup>1</sup>Giles Skerry. <sup>1</sup>Marie Curie, London, UK; <sup>2</sup>Cruse Bereavement Support, London, UK; <sup>3</sup>School of Psychology, Queen's University, Belfast, UK; <sup>4</sup>School of Nursing and Midwifery, Queen's University, Belfast, UK

10.1136/spcare-2023-HUNC.18

**Background** Northern Ireland is one of the worst regions of the UK at acknowledging and talking about death and dying. This creates a barrier to children and young people impacted by a terminal illness receiving the care and support they need (Marie Curie. Creating a death literate society. The importance of boosting understanding and awareness of death, dying and bereavement in Northern Ireland. 2022). A recent report found that half of children in Northern Ireland have not received support from their school or college after a bereavement (The UK Commission on Bereavement. Bereavement is everyone's business. 2022) Marie Curie partnered with Cruse to address this gap through a school bereavement teacher training programme.

**Aim(s)** The evaluation examined the impact of the training on the confidence and knowledge of the teaching staff, impact on pupils, changes in school policy and practice since the training, and the barriers and enablers of impact.

**Methods** We compared the 86 pre and 23 six-month post responses to assess the difference the training had and verified the results using a Mann-Whitney U test for significance. Eight qualitative interviews with teaching staff and trainers were analysed using thematic analysis.

**Results** The programme was attended by 96 teachers from primary and secondary schools across Northern Ireland. The training had several statistically significant impacts on teachers' ability to support pupils affected by bereavement, including being able to recognise when a conversation around grief is needed (33% pre and 87% post training). It also increased their confidence, knowledge and ability to support pupils. Training broke down social taboos around talking about death and dying and there were examples of shared learning and changes to policy. Recommendations were made to extend the training to more teaching staff and inform the next stage of training.

**Conclusions** Evidence suggests that the school bereavement programme had positive outcomes for teaching staff and pupils by improved teachers' confidence, creating an open