GO HOME WITH YOUR FAMILY AND A LOT OF KIT, AND WE’LL LEAVE YOU TO IT: PERCEPTIONS OF OUT OF HOURS CARE BY THE PEOLC PSP RESPONDENTS

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Introduction
Out of hours care was the top concern of the 1403 respondents to the PeolcPSP. The respondents of the PeolcPSP were asked to answer big questions. In return, they gave big answers often with highly personal narrative accounts in illustration of their concerns.

Aim(s) and method(s)
We undertook a supplementary thematic analysis as a valuable opportunity to explore the uncertainties, questions and experiences of respondents to supplement the interventional questions taken forward by the PeolcPSP.

Results
Survey respondents talked about the need for 24 hour and out of hours care. Most of these responses consider access to good quality home care support and services to be a key priority. In particular, respondents struggled to understand why services were restricted outside normal working hours and expressed anger and frustration. Emergency admissions for crisis care, as the only option, were discussed frequently.

The results are categorised by themes and sub themes:
- (Lack of) support out of hours
- Quality of support
- Community services
  - Hospice at home
  - Telephone support network
- Emergency care and rapid response
- Emergency care at the end of life
- Coordination of out of hours emergency services
- Dealing with crisis admissions

Conclusion(s)
The results of the supplementary analysis expand the findings of the PeolcPSP and further reinforce the call for further investment in out of hours services, and palliative care research, including societal aspects of living with a terminal illness and end of life.

The dual approach of the PeolcPSP protocol and a thematic approach can appropriately explore the entire dataset in recognition of the time and personal effort given by the survey respondents.

REFERENCE