

Research *newsletter*



IN THIS ISSUE

- Introduction
- Recent studies
- Hospice UK Conference
- Hospice Research Governance project
- New Hospice Research Resources
- Upcoming Research Events
- Research Surveys


Princess Alice
Hospice

March 2024

For Excellence. For Compassion. For People. For Living.

Welcome to the Princess Alice Hospice Annual Research Newsletter

Introduction

Research at Princess Alice Hospice in 2023, as is the case for many hospices around the UK, has mainly focussed on delivering the [CHELseal](#) study, a large national clinical trial assessing whether giving patients “clinically-assisted hydration” in the last days of life is effective at preventing delirium. This was the first time many colleagues working in hospice inpatient units across the country have been able to participate in a clinical trial—a fantastic opportunity for us all to learn about clinical research and contribute to the evidence base. More about CHELseal later...

There is plenty afoot in palliative care research with the NIHR demonstrating their commitment to [funding research in palliative care](#) as a specialty as well as interesting studies from academics being planned for the future. Read on for news about how hospices are being supported to deliver research in the future.

Recent studies

CHELsea II: Cluster randomised trial of clinically assisted hydration in patients in the last days of life



For the duration of 2023, Princess Alice Hospice participated in the [CHELseal](#) study. We have now completed our recruitment of 20 patients to the study with our final patient being recruited in October 2023.

The study is progressing well across 80 UK hospices and hospitals with over 800 patients already recruited. The chief investigator is **Professor Andrew Davies** and the study is being co-ordinated by the Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Surrey.

THANK YOU to our ward doctors and to our IPU Nursing Team who supported patient recruitment and data collection. The most important **THANK YOU** goes to the patients and family members who agreed to participate in the study. We look forward to hearing the results of this important study!

ALLIANCE: Enhancing the quality of living and dying with advancing frailty through integrated care partnerships: Building research capacity and capability

We are awaiting the final report from the [ALLIANCE](#) research partnership -the aim of the project was to grow a research partnership of care providers that will improve the coordination of end-of-life care for older people living with advancing frailty in the community.



University of
Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

The project was led by **Professor Caroline Nicholson** at the University of Surrey, and **Professor Rowan Harwood** at the University of Nottingham, and funded by the NIHR.



Hospice UK Conference

LIVERPOOL, NOVEMBER 2023

6 Princess Alice Hospice colleagues attended the Hospice UK conference held in Liverpool last year.

All presentations from the conference can be found at [Publications and Resources | Hospice UK](#)

Professor Chris Whitty presented a [thought-provoking talk](#) on trends in health relevant to hospice and palliative care.

PAH colleagues presented 6 posters of work undertaken at PAH over the past year:

[Safe staffing in a Hospice Setting](#)

[How do Palliative Care Workers model and apply the concept of 'safe uncertainty'?](#)

[Implementing the resilience based clinical supervision model into an existing supervision framework](#)

[Share and Learn: Developing a collaborative network for care homes in Surrey](#)

[Service and pathways design in a Hospice setting](#)

[Equitable care: Starter for ten](#)



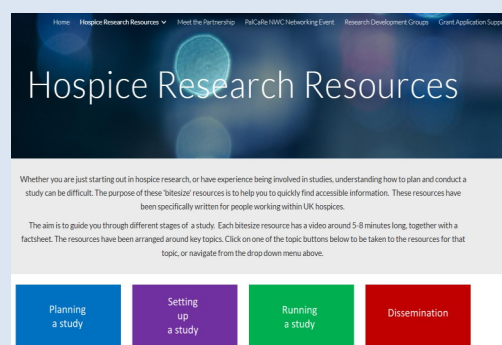
Hospice Research Governance project **NIHR** Clinical Research Network Kent, Surrey and Sussex

Princess Alice Hospice was awarded a small grant by the NIHR to carry out a pilot project to support hospices in Kent, Surrey and Sussex with Research Governance procedures and processes. Aims of the project are to investigate potential new ways to support hospice research across KSS, identify existing research activity and governance processes in KSS, support the development of robust research governance and identify processes and mechanisms by which research activity and governance may be supported after completion of the project.

There is other work taking place nationally to develop research governance resources for Hospices led by Tara Maitland, Research manager at LOROS along with others from a sub group of the Wider Health & Care & Community Working Group. If you would like to join this group please go to [Groups & Current Work - NHS R&D Forum \(rdforum.nhs.uk\)](#)

New Hospice Research Resources

Professor Catherine Walshe, Professor of Palliative Care and Dr Lesley Dunleavy, Senior Research Associate both from Lancaster University have created a suite of resources to help researchers working in UK Hospices to understand how to plan and conduct a study, [Go to Palliative Care Research Partnership North West Coast \(PalCaReNWC\)](#) to find these very helpful new resources.



Upcoming Research Events

[**SAWUBONA \(We See You\): Promoting Equity through research in Palliative Care**](#)

Wed, 24 Apr 2024 09:30 - 16:00 BST

[**Migrants and healthcare: views from the frontline of serious and terminal illness**](#)

Wed, 24 Apr 14:00 - 16:30 BST

Research Surveys

We have been asked to share this survey regarding the development of an NIHR incubator for Palliative Care to boost research capacity. Feel free to share with relevant colleagues: [A proposal for an NIHR incubator in palliative care \(office.com\)](#)

Dr Lucy Selman from the University of Bristol would be grateful for colleagues from bereavement services to complete this survey as part of the Equitable Bereavement Care for All project: <https://socs.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/equitable-bereavement-care-for-all-2>

Thank you for your interest in research at Princess Alice Hospice

Wishing you a happy, healthy and successful 2024

From

The Princess Alice Hospice Research Team

If you would like to apply to do research with us, please visit our website [here](#) for further information or contact our Research Lead at shannonmilne@pah.org.uk

Contact us

Princess Alice Hospice
West End Lane
Esher KT10 8NA

research@pah.org.uk

pah.org.uk

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