

End of Life Care in Liver disease

BASL Special interest group meeting

20th March 2019

The Aims of a SIG

- Interest itself
- Facilitate research
- Identify and share best practice
- Spread the word



How to achieve
scalability

I feel that if Sean had been offered palliative care upon discharge, or even in the hospital setting, life would have been a little easier to bear for all of us. We hadn't even had a chance to discuss an end of life scenario with Sean or initiate those types of conversations as we weren't fully aware exactly

how gravely ill he was. He died without making a will or leaving any wishes about funeral arrangements or other personal issues. I'm not sure if Sean himself fully understood the complexities and prognosis of his condition, I do know that over Christmas he had just had enough of the pain and monotony of his life and despite our encouragement and reassurance I do believe he was very depressed.

But please do keep this in mind and educate your young Team – people with decompensated liver disease have a life limiting illness – whatever the reason that put them in that situation, they deserve to live their last months with their pain adequately managed and still trying to live a life with dignity instead of just surviving or existing. Palliative care can make so much difference to the patient and their loved ones and often people don't realise that you can get it for other conditions, not just cancer. I have since found out that our local Hospice (Oakhaven) could have supported Sean and us locally, I simply had no idea, neither the Hospital nor GP mentioned this to any of us. If we had had home visits by a nurse his condition could have been better monitored and the situation may not have escalated as quickly as it did.

However, it cannot be stressed enough about the psychological effect on the patient and the carer which is not always obvious.

You are given a scenario with very few treatment options and the knowledge that there is just one way you are going and that is down. The hopelessness of our future took its toll on both of us. Over the years Jim changed from a sociable extrovert to a monosyllabic introvert. I began to comfort eat and not to be bothered undertaking any of my hobbies. I spent most afternoons just watching daytime television. All the energy I had went into keeping Jim alive.

What I can say is, he had the correct interventions at the correct time. He had excellent support right up to the end and he died (what most of us would wish for) a peaceful death.

Increasing participation in advance care planning for end of life care of patients with liver disease

NIHR Doctoral Research Fellowship Proposal

Dr. Roberta Jordan

Academic Clinical Fellow in Palliative Medicine, University of Leeds



PLANNING

FOR YOUR FUTURE CARE

A Guide

Voluntary

Discussion with a patient

Patient education about the future

May choose to make wishes or express preferences for future care

These would be referred to if a patient loses capacity in future

Supported nationally

Prolonging life vs. maximising quality of life

Emergency plans for worsening symptoms or complications

Preferred place of care and death

Advance decisions and LPOAs

CPR decisions

Talking about dying:

How to begin honest conversations about what lies ahead

October 2018



4% patients dying in hospital in England have documented ACP

Patients with liver disease.....

72% patients with cirrhosis ineligible for liver transplantation did not have documented resuscitation decisions (prognosis 52 days)

30% HCPs in Leeds were unfamiliar with ACP

57% rarely had end of life conversations with patients (2014)

Qualitative studies highlight a lack of ACP

What is the evidence behind ACP?

Improved communication between healthcare professionals and patients/carers

Increased decision-making confidence

Increased awareness of decisions and reduced psychological distress for carers

Reduced healthcare costs

Increased documentation of patients' wishes/preferences for care

Reduced hospitalisation and intensive care unit admission rates

Increased specialist palliative care involvement

Increased agreement between preferences for care and the care that is actually delivered

Why do we need more research in advance care planning in liver disease?

Unpredictable disease trajectory with sudden life-threatening complications

Liver transplantation for minority of patients – possibility of cure for those with a poor prognosis

We know advance care planning isn't well implemented nationally

We know patients with liver disease have significant end of life care needs that aren't being addressed

We know there may be liver-specific implementation problems that affect the process of advance care planning

Complex social circumstances that reduce access to healthcare and hinder care planning

Hospital-centred care and lack of well-established community pathways

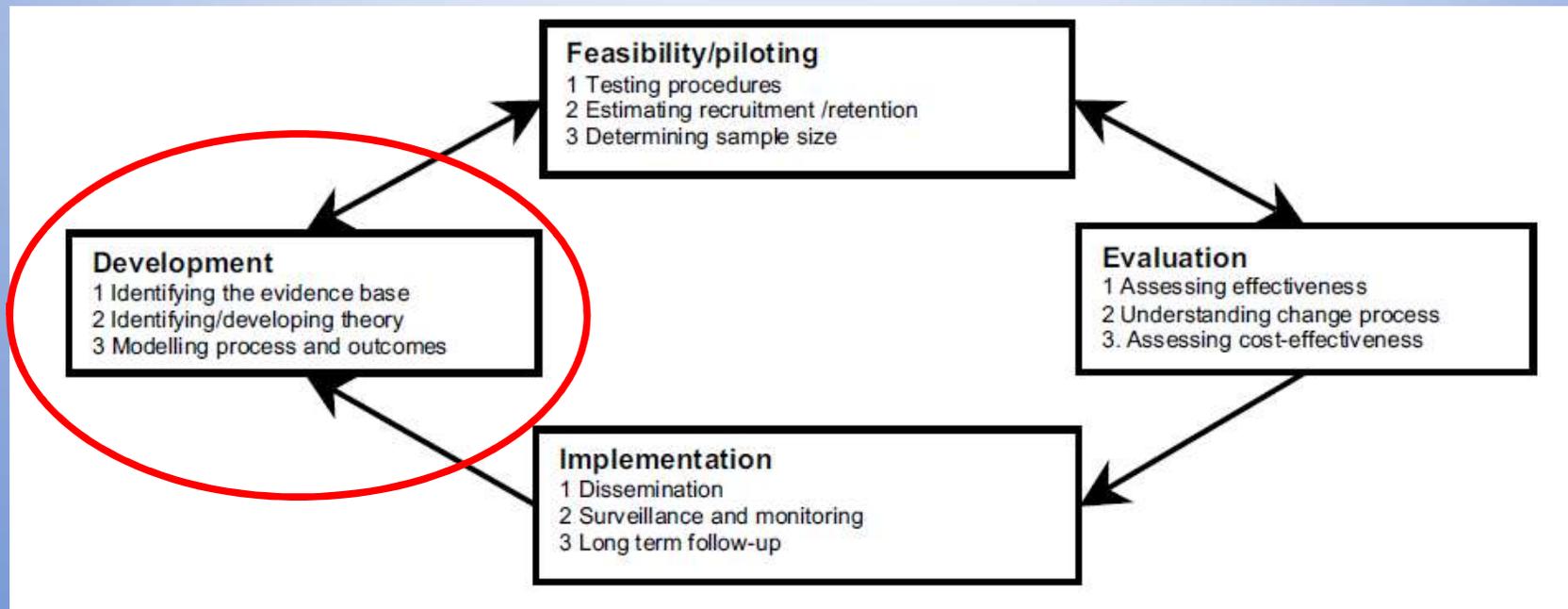
Hepatic encephalopathy preventing patient participation

Research aim: to develop an intervention that will encourage healthcare professionals to increase patient participation in ACP for end of life in the context of liver disease

Objectives:

1. To understand attitudes towards advance care planning, barriers and facilitators to its implementation and opinions on its optimal conduct in liver disease and wider practice **(Phases 1 & 2)**
2. To design and manualise a behaviour change intervention for healthcare professionals, aiming to increase the participation of patients with liver disease in ACP **(Phase 3)**
3. To field-test the intervention, evaluating healthcare professionals' perceptions of behaviour change and patient acceptability of ACP in order to refine the intervention **(Phase 4)**

MRC Developing and evaluating complex interventions framework and guidance



Phase 1 methods

**Systematic review to identify
evidence of:**

**Attitudes
Barriers
Facilitators
Optimal conduct**

**of
ACP in wider healthcare settings**

Phase 2 methods

12-16 patients with:

- Current or previous advanced disease (Child-Pugh score B/C)
- At least 1 hospital admission with decompensated liver disease

Qualitative study

using focus groups and interviews to identify

Attitudes
Barriers
Facilitators
Optimal conduct

of ACP in liver disease settings

12-16 carers:

- Identified by recruited patient
- Bereaved 1-5 years before recruitment

24- 32 HCPs:

Including consultants, GPs, junior doctors, transplant coordinators, specialist nurses, day care/inpatient nursing staff

Phase 3 methods

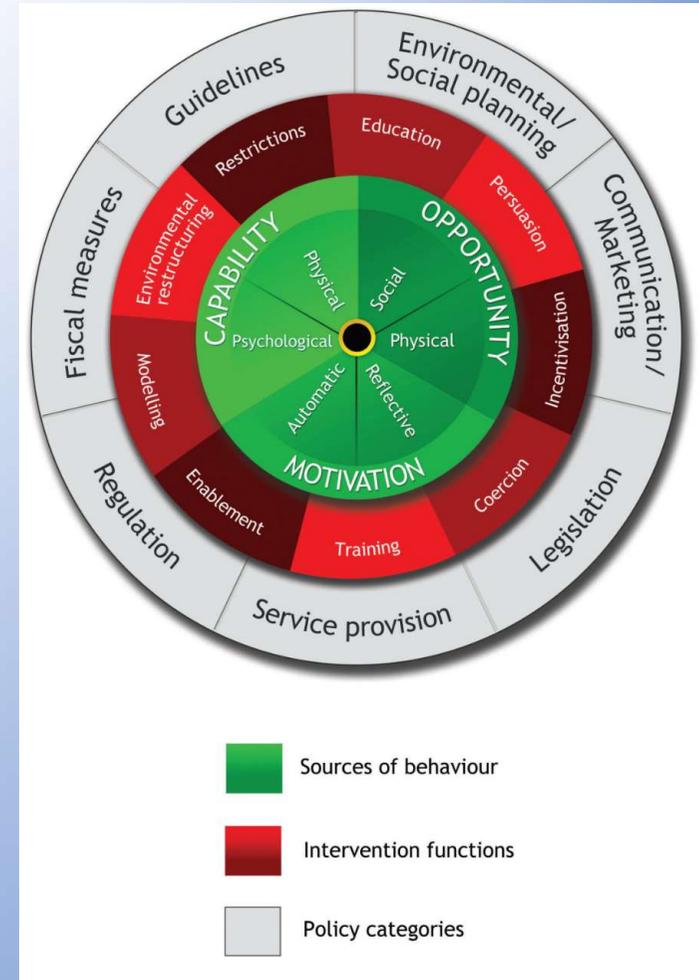
13 participants:

- 2 patients
- 2 carers
- 9 HCPs –
3 hepatology/
gastroenterology
consultants
3 senior nurses
2 GPs
1 palliative medicine
consultant

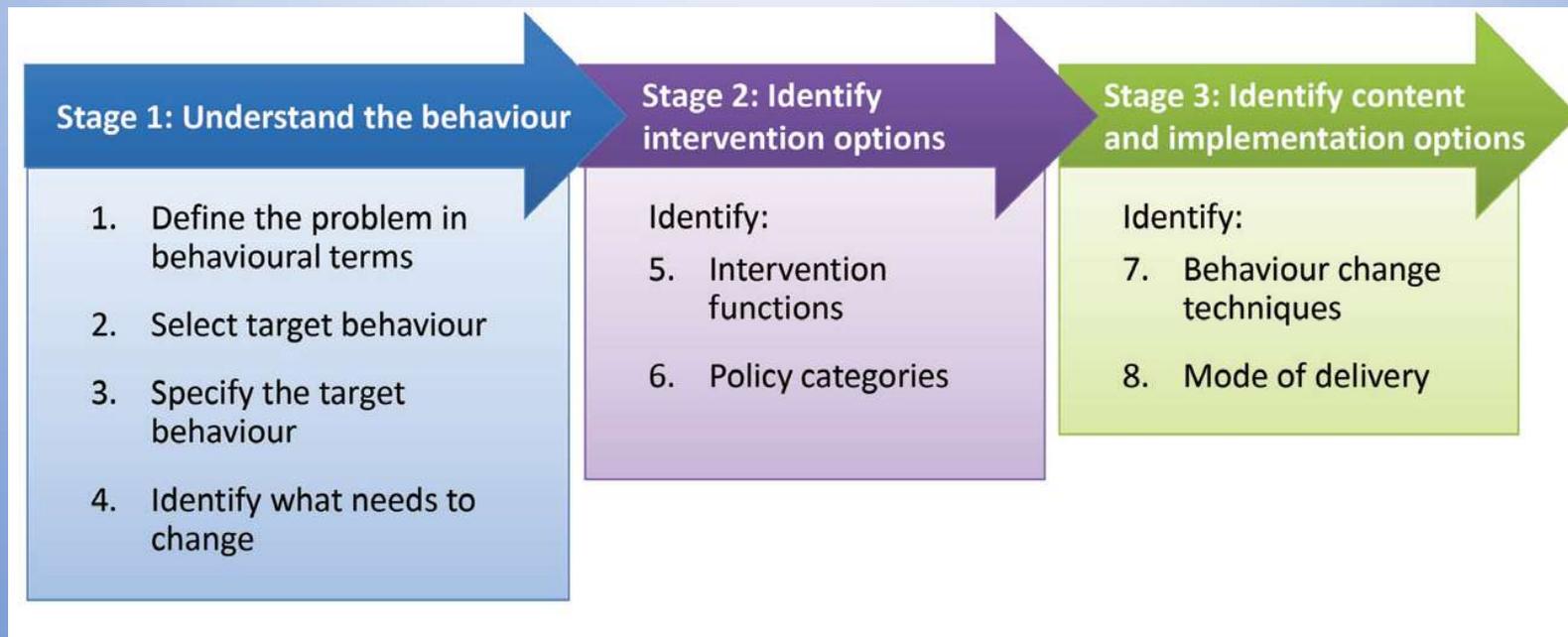
Participatory research

with stakeholder
workshops

to develop a behaviour
change intervention for
HCPs



Phase 3



Phase 4 methods

Field-testing intervention

with HCPs

using before-and-after
questionnaires

to identify:

- perceptions of behaviour change
- patient acceptability of ACP

6-9 HCPs:

- Transplant unit
- Hepatology unit with no local transplant service
- Gastroenterology unit with no subspecialty hepatology

Final output: a refined behaviour change intervention, ready for further evaluation

Process analysis
Intervention feasibility testing/piloting

Recruitment

- Currently plans to recruit from:
 - **Leeds** – transplant unit
 - **Hull** – hepatology unit with no local transplant service
 - **Edmonton** Cirrhosis Care Clinic, Canada (HCPs only)

We would like to recruit participants from a Gastroenterology unit with no subspecialty hepatology

Please contact me if interested – r.i.jordan@leeds.ac.uk

Acknowledgements

- Prof Mike Bennett
- Dr Shenaz Ahmed
- Dr Lynsey Corless
- Dr Jayne Dillon
- Dr Ben Hudson
- Dr Puneeta Tandon
- St James Liver Transplant Support Group
- LIVErNORTH



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Any questions?

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Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Department
UCL Division of Psychiatry

Improving communication in Liver out-patient clinics for people with cirrhosis: The Development of a Question Prompt List (QPL).

Joe Low

The wider multidisciplinary research team

- UCL, Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Department
 - Sarah Davis (Senior Research Nurse), Paddy Stone (Head of MCPCRD), Vicki Vickerstaff (Medical Statistician), Anna Gola (Senior Health Economist)
- Royal Free London NHS Trust, Sheila Sherlock Centre for Liver Disease
 - Doug Thorburn (Consultant Hepatologist), Aileen Marshall (Consultant Hepatologist), Lynda Greenslade (Clinical Nurse Specialist), Jen Clancy (Clinical Nurse Specialist)
- Royal Free London NHS Trust, Palliative Care
 - Cathy Carroll (Clinical Nurse Specialist, Enhanced Supportive Care), Jo Wilson (Macmillan Consultant Nurse in Palliative care), Rachel Craig (Consultant in Palliative Medicine)
- PPI representatives
 - Janet Walsh

Introduction

- Why QPL?
 - Communication difficulties
 - liver HP and patients/family discussing liver disease and its prognosis.
 - QPL promoted as a way of ↑communication
 - Developed in cancer/non-cancer
 - ↑ patient participation during the consultation about prognosis in advanced cancer
- Aims
 - To develop and pilot a liver specific QPL for use in out-patient clinics

3 Phases

Phase 1 – Item generation

- Scoping literature review

- On-line survey

- Interviews/focus groups

Phase 2 – QPL development and refinement

- Development - Expert panel

- Refinement – interviews/focus groups

Phase 3 – Pilot study

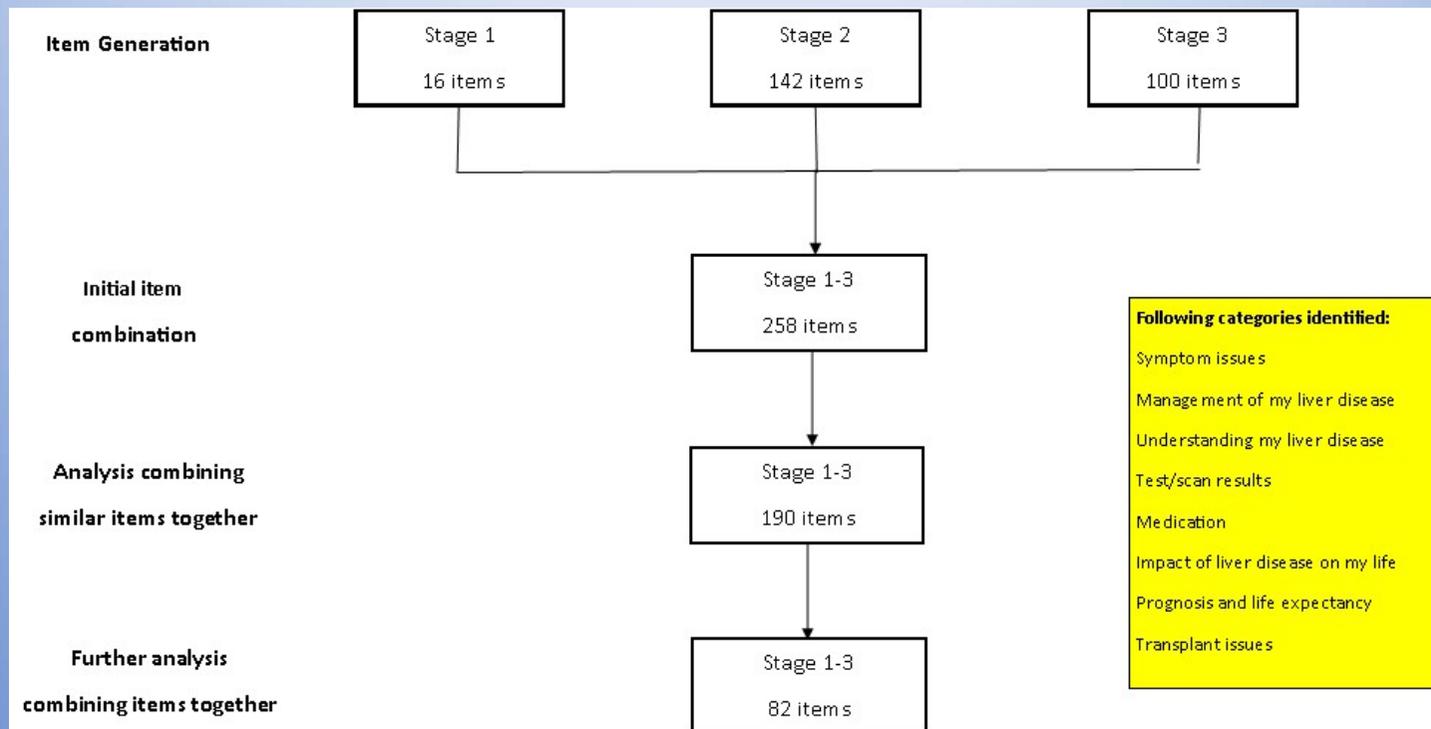
Item generation (Phase 1)

- Scoping literature review
 - 10 studies on unmet information needs in people with cirrhosis and their families
 - Key findings extracted to identify themes
- On-line survey
 - Questions asked/would have asked during OP consultations
 - Sent to 4 voluntary liver organisations
 - 78/278 respondents identified
 - Items extracted from responses

Item generation (Phase 1)

- Interviews/focus group work
 - Sample
 - 12 patients with cirrhosis, 6 family members, 14 HP
 - Hepatology out-patients from a liver tertiary unit (RFH)
 - Topics discussed
 - Questions asked
 - Question would have asked but did not
 - Different aspects of communication
 - Key findings extracted to identify themes

Item generation (Phase 1)



Expert group – Issue lists

Version 1.0* Jan 2018

List of possible items for a Question Prompt List

Pseudonym: _____ Date: _____

Background
Thank you for agreeing to take part in this group discussion. This document contains a list of issues or problems associated with quality of life, which may affect people with advanced liver disease. We have grouped these issues into 8 sets, listed below, and each set has been divided into sub-groups. The final questionnaire may not necessarily be organised in this way.

What we need you to do
During this session we will work through the document, one page at a time, to understand which issues are most relevant and important. We would like you to add a tick in the 'Relevant' column for each issue you think is relevant to be included in a questionnaire about quality of life. In the 'Important' column, for the issues you have marked as relevant, we would like you to add a tick for the ones you feel are most important to include in a questionnaire about quality of life.

Please remember that there are no right or wrong answers here, so there is no need to spend too much time thinking about your answers. Some issues may be quite similar, and in these cases we are interested in which wording you prefer.

Key themes	Page number
1. Prognosis and life expectancy	7
2. Symptom issues	2
3. Understanding my liver disease	3
4. Management of my liver disease	4
5. Test/scan results	4
6. Medication	4
7. Impact of liver disease on my life	5
8. Transplant issues	6
9. Instructions page	7-8

1. Prognosis and life expectancy 2. Symptom issues	Relevant?		Important?
	Yes	No	
Prognosis and life expectancy			
1. What is the prognosis for my liver disease?			
2. Survival			
a. How long will I survive with my liver disease?			
b. What is my life expectancy?			
3. How long will it be before my liver disease gets worse?			
4. What can I expect from the future?			
5. What progression may I experience?			
Symptom issues			
6.			
a. What symptoms should I be aware of?			
b. What symptoms should I watch out for?			
7. What are the symptoms of deteriorating liver disease?			
8. What are the causes of my symptoms?			
9. What symptoms are related to my liver disease?			
10. What symptoms do I need to inform my GP about?			
11. Easing of symptoms			
a. What can be done to improve the effects of my symptoms?			
b. What can be done to ease symptoms of my liver disease?			
12. More information about confusion/hepatitis <i>encephalopathy</i> ?			
13. What are the reasons and causes of pain?			
14. ii ... (any symptoms) ... (normal)? E.g. fatigue, sickness, swollen feet			
15. How do I know when to get <i>ascites</i> drained?			

QPL development (Phase 2)

- Expert Panel

- Tasks

1. To review **all 82 items** and reduce number of items, ideally to **30 items**
 - a) To rate which items are relevant and important
 - b) To remove repetitive items
 - c) To remove badly phrased/unclear items
2. To finalise QPL instructions

QPL v0.1 - transplant

Royal Free London 
NHS Foundation Trust

Instructions

Many people with advanced liver disease have concerns and questions that they are afraid to ask when they see their liver doctor. We created this question sheet to help you get the information that you want about your liver disease.

Some of the questions or topics may not be relevant to you at your stage of illness. We suggest that you read the topic headings first and decide which questions are relevant for you. You may like to circle the questions you want to ask your doctor or nurse and keep this question sheet for future reference.

Plan to ask your most important questions first. One visit may not be long enough to cover all of your questions.

Question

Symptom issues

- What symptoms should I watch out for?
- What do I need to do about it, if these symptoms occur?

Understanding my liver disease

- Why do I have liver disease?
- What is cirrhosis?
- How damaged is my liver?
- What can I do to improve my liver function?
- How do I explain my liver disease to my friends and family?

Management of my liver disease

- What do my test results mean?
- What is my treatment plan (short-term/long-term)?

Prognosis and life expectancy

- What can I expect from the future?
- What is my life expectancy?

Transplant issues

- How long am I likely to wait for a transplant?
- What are the options if I cannot have a transplant?
- Could my relative donate part of their liver to me?
- What are the expected benefits of having a transplant?
- What are the risks of having a transplant?
- What is the possibility of dying before a transplant and what support is available if my condition deteriorates?

Medication

- What is the medication for my liver disease trying to achieve?
- What are the side effects of the medication?
- Can you review the medication for my liver?
- Will I be able to stop my medication?
- What "over the counter" medication should I avoid?

Impact of liver disease on my life

- Will liver disease affect my ability to work?
- How do I get support with benefit claims?
- Can I travel abroad?
- I am feeling worried or 'low'. Where can I get help?
- I am concerned about my sex life. Can anything be done to help?
- How do I get help at home?
- Can I get support for my transport costs?
- Can I drive?
- Is there any special diet that I should follow?
- Can I have an occasional alcoholic drink?
- Can I drink low alcohol beer/wine?

Other questions you might want to ask



QPLv0.1 refinement (Phase 2)

- Interviews/focus group
 - Sample
 - 8 patients with cirrhosis, 3 family members, 9 HP (3 interviews, 1 focus group) –
 - Patients/family members participated in Stage 3.
 - PPI input – leads of 2 voluntary organisations (BLT, LIVErNORTH)
 - Topics explored
 - Clarity, relevance, appropriateness, additional questions
 - Practical issues about implementation
 - Acceptability of using QPL in out-patient clinic (HP)

QPLv0.1 refinement (Phase 2)

- Key findings
 1. All groups – happy with content
 2. Clinicians
 - a) Shorten, reduce questions
 - b) Remove transplant section
 - c) Factual questions ⇨ specific information sheet
- Expert panel
 - Reconvened to discuss and finalise QPL layout

Current version QPL

Question Prompt List

- Communication is important between doctors and patients with liver disease.
- This list of questions may help to improve communication with your doctor about your disease and future care.
- Due to limited time in clinic, it is unlikely your doctor will be able to answer more than 3 questions from this list.
- **Please TICK the 3 questions that you would most like to ask.**

RESEARCH

If you're happy to use this list in your clinic appointment, please tick here

If you're happy for your data to be used for research to improve services, please tick here

If you're happy to be approached about an interview, please tick here

Understanding my liver disease

- Why do I have liver disease?
- How can I improve my liver function?

Symptom issues

- What symptoms should I watch out for?
- What should I do if these symptoms occur?

Management of my liver disease

- What do my test results mean?
- What is my treatment plan (short-term/long-term)?
- Why do I need this treatment/procedure/test?

Medication

- What is my liver medication trying to achieve?
- What are the side effects of my medication?
- Can you review my liver medication?

Impact of liver disease on my life

- Will liver disease affect my ability to work?
- Can I drive?
- Can I travel abroad?
- I am feeling worried/low. Where can I get help?
- Is there any special diet that I should follow?
- Can I have occasional alcohol/low alcohol?
- I am concerned about my sex life. Can anything be done to help?

Progression of liver disease + life expectancy

- What can I expect from the future?
- What is my life expectancy?

Other questions you would like to ask

.....

.....

.....

Please turn over for details about where to get practical advice and further information

1 2 3

UCL Royal Free London NHS NHS Foundation Trust

Current version QPL

<h2>Where to get practical advice and information</h2> <p>Please read through the next few pages for advice about where to get more information</p> <h3>Information about liver disease</h3> <p>If you want to know about the following, <i>please tick the relevant circle</i>:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> What is liver disease ? <input type="radio"/> What is cirrhosis?</p> <p>If you have ticked any of the boxes above, please ask your doctor in clinic for a brief summary sheet.</p> <p>Alternatively, you can go on the websites of the following organisations</p> <p>British Liver Trust Helpline 0800 652 7330 https://britishlivertrust.org.uk</p> <p>NHS choices Website https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cirrhosis</p> <p>4</p>	<h2>General advice and information</h2> <p>Do you need advice and information on the following topics?</p> <p>Benefit claims Debts and financial support Transport costs Help at home Care, equipment etc. Planning wills/Power of Attorney</p> <p>If yes, your doctor can make a referral to the Support Hub at the Royal Free Hospital.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Please tick if you would like your doctor to refer you the Support Hub</p> <p>Alternatively, you can visit the Royal Free Support Hub in person (see below)</p> <h3>Support Hub Royal Free Hospital</h3> <p>LG floor 0207 794 0500 ext 39963 Monday – Thursday 10 - 4pm (except Bank Holidays) rf.royalfreesuppothub@nhs.net</p> <p>5</p>	<h2>Health information – Contact details</h2> <p><i>For general health enquiries, contact</i></p> <p>- Your GP.</p> <p><i>For help with specific liver disease problems in office hours contact</i></p> <p>Hepatology Clinical Nurse Specialist (non-transplant) on 0777 358 2584</p> <p><i>For help with specific liver disease problems out of hours</i></p> <p>- Call 111 if the problem requires immediate non-urgent advice - Call 999 for emergencies</p> <h3>Psychological support</h3> <p>Problems with mental health such as anxiety or depression</p> <p>You can contact: Samaritans 24 hr Helpline on Tel 116 123 (free from any phone). OR Check the NHS choices Website https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/</p> <p>6</p>
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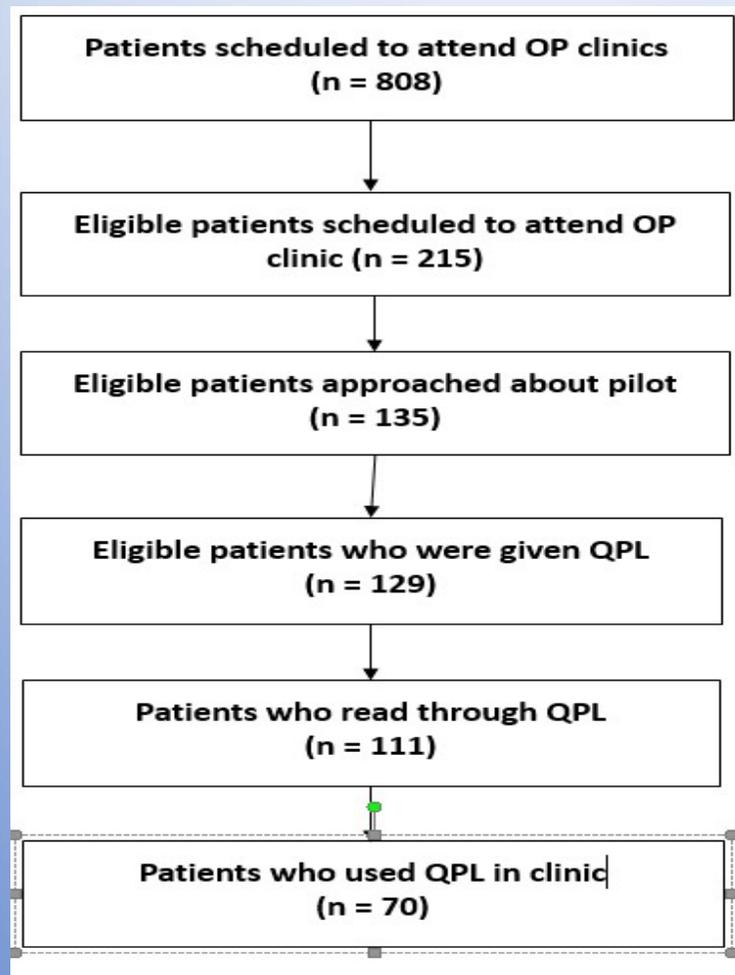
Pilot study (Phase 3)

- Aims
 - Feasibility and acceptability of QPL v0.2 in clinical setting
 - Finalise QPL layout
 - Determine optimum QPL delivery

Procedure

- 3 months, 64 OP clinics (RFH)
 - Eligible patients given and asked to read QPL
- All patients asked
 - Did they use the QPL?
 - If Y, what items were used. If N, why?
- Detailed interviews - 10 patients and 1 family member
- Future work: relevant HP to be interviewed about impact, benefits, burden.

Recruitment (since 13 Dec 2018)



Preliminary findings

- Demographics
 - Male (62%), white UK (67%),
 - Mean (SD), range: 62 years (12), 27-85
- General observations
 - Many patients found it useful
 - To generate questions
 - In T/x, people used it more as a prompt/reminder.
 - All questions on QPL asked at some point

Preliminary findings

- QPL users
 - Useful as needs change over time
 - Good source as a battery of questions
- QPL non-users
 - QPL more useful at an earlier stage
 - First referred to the RFH
 - First diagnosed with cirrhosis
 - Common response particularly with Tx patients
 - Language difficulties

Preliminary findings

- Other
 - Life expectancy question, symptoms and treatment plan – most frequently asked
 - Communication between Dr & patient clear, but useful to have responses in writing.
 - Patients can't remember what they have been told.

Future directions

- Extend patient eligibility criteria
 - First OPA visit (tertiary liver services)
- Sites of recruitment
 - Extend to DGH?
- Time of delivery
 - As a resource on the internet
 - Enclosed in OPA reminder letters
 - Opportunity to discuss with other family members

Future work

- Directions
 - Extend patient pool
 - Extend recruitment sites
- Design of future study
- What is the main outcome of using QPL

Any questions?
Any thoughts?
Any comments?

Basl end of life special interest
group meeting
education update: march 2019

Fiona Finlay

Consultant in Palliative Medicine

Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow

Where we are

- Context
- Key Priorities
- Progress so far...

MARCH 2018



Interest/input

HEPATOLOGY

- Fiona Thompson (Birmingham)
- Pooja Khanna (Luton/Dunstable)
- Lynda Greenslade (Royal Free)
- Mary Martin (Glasgow)

PHE

- Julia Verne

PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

- Wendy Prentice (King's)
- Suzanne Ford-Dunn (Worthing)
- Yvonne Cartwright (Addenbrooke's)
- Carol Davis (Southampton)
- Lucy Bemand-Qureshi (London)
- Fiona Finlay (Glasgow)

NOVEMBER 2018

- Teleconference
- 4 pall med cons, 1 hepatologist, 1 liver CNS
- Key questions:
 - Who are we educating?
 - Where do we fit?
- Action points

Advanced renal care – a model?

ARC project

- Engaged renal physicians in developing own services
- Funded project: NHS Kidney Care
- Guy's & St Thomas's, King's College NHS FT
 - Identified dialysis patients approaching last year of life
 - Systematic introduction of ACP including preferred place of care
 - **Advanced comms skills for nephrology professionals**
- Progress from this pilot

Priorities/scope

PRIORITIES

- liver specialists/gastroenterologists
- Nursing/medical staff working in these areas

INITIAL FOCUS

- Curricula (gastroenterology/core+advanced hepatology)
- Assessment/examination in specialty training
- Online resource development

CURRICULA

Gastroenterology curriculum

- Describe different disease trajectories and prognostic indicators and the signs that a patient is dying
- Know that specialist palliative care is appropriate for patients with other life threatening illnesses as well as those with cancer
- Describe the analgesic ladder, role of radiotherapy, surgery and other non-pharmacological treatments
 - Recognising when a patient may be in the last days / weeks of life

Abdominal malignancy

- Can work in a multidisciplinary environment that includes the pain and palliative care teams and the oncologists
- Discusses the ethical issues involved in prolonging life and to weigh this up against quality of life
- Can speak honestly about often sensitive issues with the patient, carers, friends and family

Core hepatology curriculum

- Understands prognostic scoring systems including Child - Pugh, MELD, UKELD, Maddrey and disease-specific scoring systems
- Communicates effectively with at risk populations patients, their relatives in the context of their disease , its severity, prognosis and substance abuse

Sub-specialty/advanced hepatology curriculum

LIVER TRANSPLANT

- Can identify potential candidates for liver transplantation, as well as demonstrating an understanding of why patients with end-stage liver disease are not appropriate candidates for liver transplantation

Specialty exams

GASTROENTEROLOGY

- No questions specific to palliative/end of life care

PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

- Questions relating to life limiting illness (non-cancer)
- Pharmacology/therapeutics – hepatic impairment
- Symptoms relating to organ failure

(Shape of training)

- CMT replaced by IMT (internal medicine training) as of August 2019
- Pall Med SAC – contributed to 1 of 8 specialist CiPs

GASTRO/HEPatology CURRICULA

- Ian Gee: SAC Chair Gastroenterology
- Bill Griffiths, Mark Hudson: SAC Hepatology Leads

suggestions for curricular development

- Poor prognostic implications of end stage liver disease
- Identification of a deteriorating patient
- Communication skills around this
- Consideration of specialist palliative care input when patient referred for transplant

Interface with other bodies

- APM Education Committee
 - In principle, keen to support joint conferences – stand alone, or under umbrella of RCP
 - RCP study day 2020: pall care in acute hospital environment - ?slot
 - ?key session at next BASL conference



WEBSITE AND Resources Update

Hazel Woodland
Clinical Research Fellow in Hepatology

British Liver Trust: Thinking Ahead

The screenshot shows the British Liver Trust website. The header includes the logo, a 'Donate' button, and a search bar. The main navigation menu lists: Home, Liver Health, About Us, Find Support, Professionals, Publications, Our Work, and Support Us. A 'Latest News' section mentions 'Hereditary Haemochromatosis, a common gene disorder causes serious "stealthy" disease, but could be easily treated 17th January 2010'. The main content area features a red banner for the article 'Thinking ahead - planning for your future' and a 'Support us' section with a 'Donate' button. A 'In this section...' list includes: Living With Liver Disease, Thinking ahead - planning for your future, Diet & Liver Disease, Liver Transplantation, and Life After Liver Transplant.

The graphic has a green header with the text 'Thinking ahead: Planning for your future with advanced liver disease'. Below the header is a large circular image of a dandelion seed head with seeds blowing away. At the bottom left is the British Liver Trust logo, and at the bottom right is the text 'Pioneering Liver Health'.

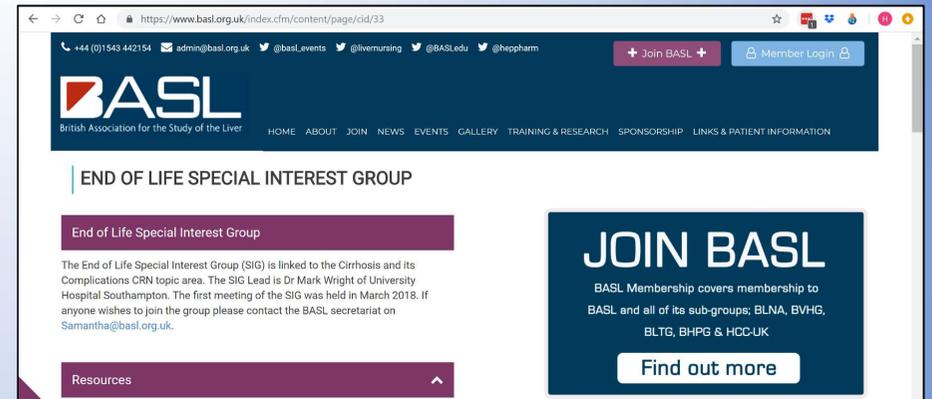
Feedback from BLT Helpline

- *“Patient felt more prepared to discuss end of life care with her family after reading it”*
- *“Patient stated he did not even know that he could access palliative care or how to do so, but now he was aware”*
- *“Carer whose husband died last year of alcohol liver disease rang to say how absolutely amazing our ‘Thinking ahead’ publication is and how useful it would have been if she had read it last year”*

SIG Website

Currently

- Group reports
- Publications list
- Current projects + shared resources
- Useful websites



Location	Title	Information and resources
St Luke's Hospice and Basildon & Thurrock NHS Foundation Trust	Management of advanced chronic liver disease in a hospice setting – a shared care strategy	Download Shared Care Liver Project.pdf
University Hospitals Bristol, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (Glasgow) Royal Free (London)	Early integration of palliative care into the management of patients with advanced liver disease	Download Early integration of palliative care.pdf Download Patient Information Leaflet (Bristol).pdf
Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Department, UCL	Validation study to evaluate whether prognostic screening tools assess palliative care needs in patients with advanced liver disease.	Download Validation of prognostic screening tools.pdf
Marie Curie Palliative Care Research Department, UCL	Improving communication in medical consultations in people with cirrhosis: The development of a Question Prompt List (QPL).	Download Development of a QPL.pdf
University Hospitals Plymouth, Southwest Liver Unit	'Thinking Ahead' Advance Care Planning Clinic	Download Thinking Ahead Clinic.pdf Download Thinking ahead - ACP Example Document.pdf Download Thinking Ahead - ACP Example GP letter.pdf
Brighton and Sussex University Hospital	REDUCE feasibility study (long term abdominal drains vs large volume paracentesis)	Download REDUCE published manuscript.pdf
Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and St Barnabas House Hospice	Worthing collaboration to improve EOL care for patients with liver disease: Advanced Liver Disease MDT and community based Advanced Liver Disease Nurse	Download Worthing collaboration - ALD MDT and community based ALD Nurse.pdf
Pennsylvania, USA. Albert Einstein Healthcare Network (recruiting at 14 medical centres)	Comparing Two Ways to Offer Palliative Care to Improve Quality of Life for Patients with End-Stage Liver Disease	https://www.pcori.org/research-results/2017/comparing-two-ways-offer-palliative-care-improve-quality-life-patients-end

Other Ideas

- Opportunities for research collaboration
- Models of care in practice

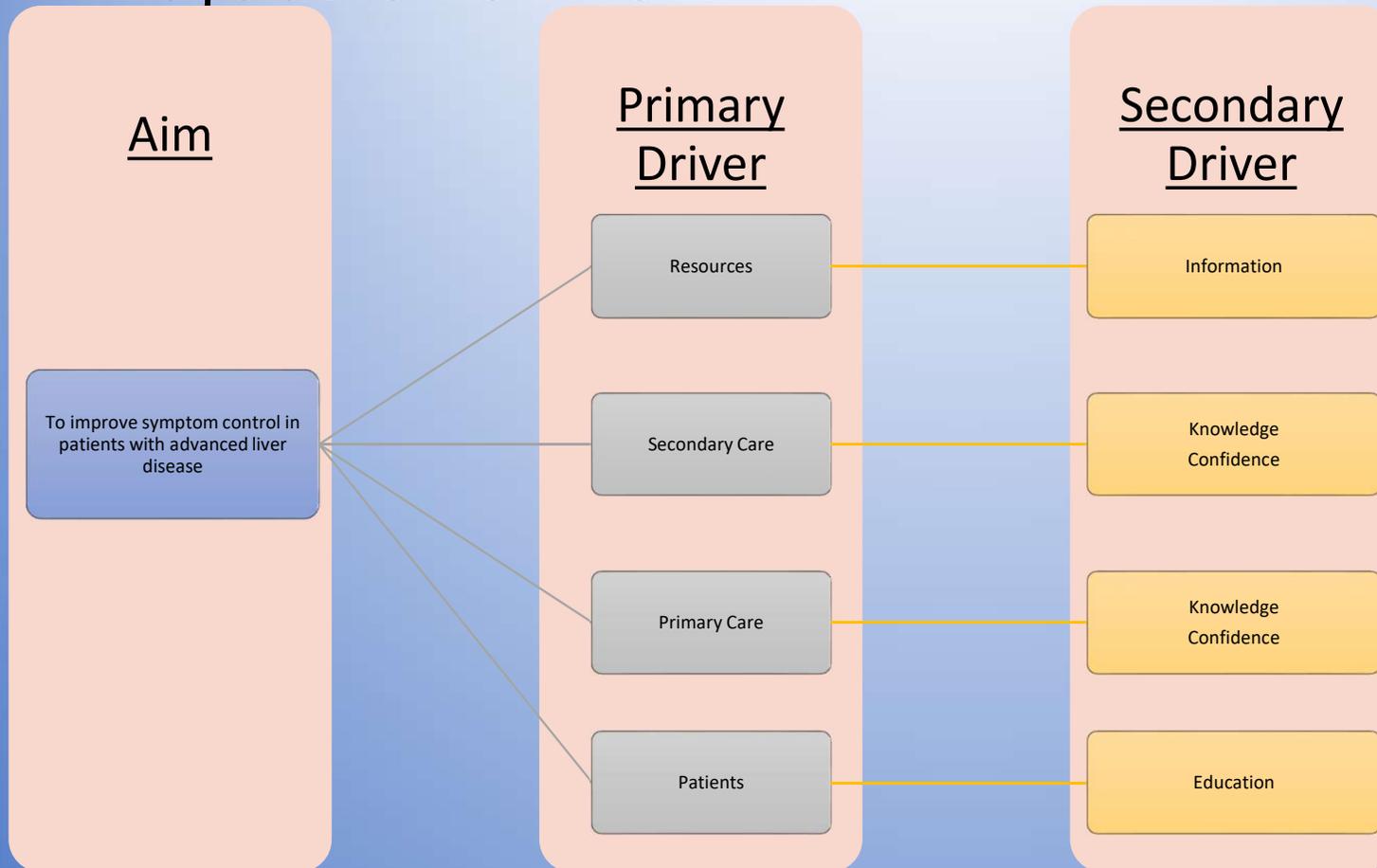
Suggestions

Improving Symptom Control in Patients with Advanced Liver Disease

Dr Bonita Stevens and Dr Sarah Case

Background

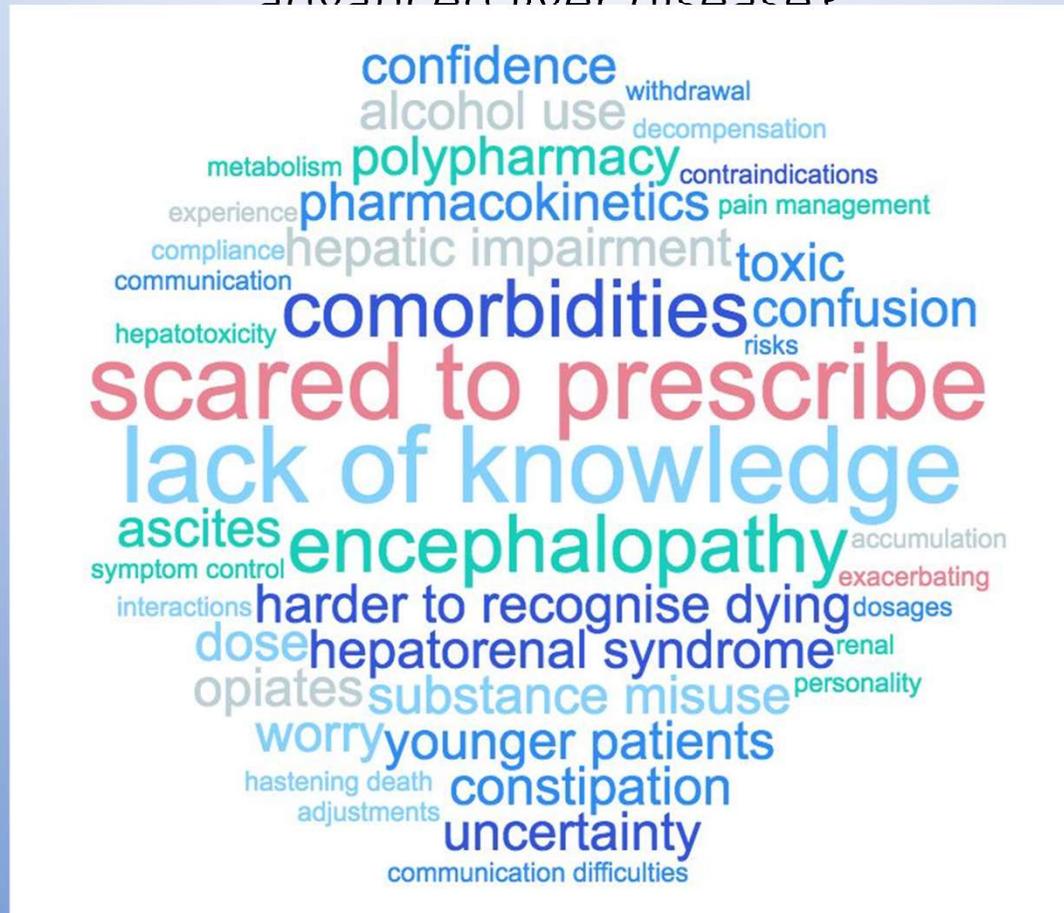
Project Overview



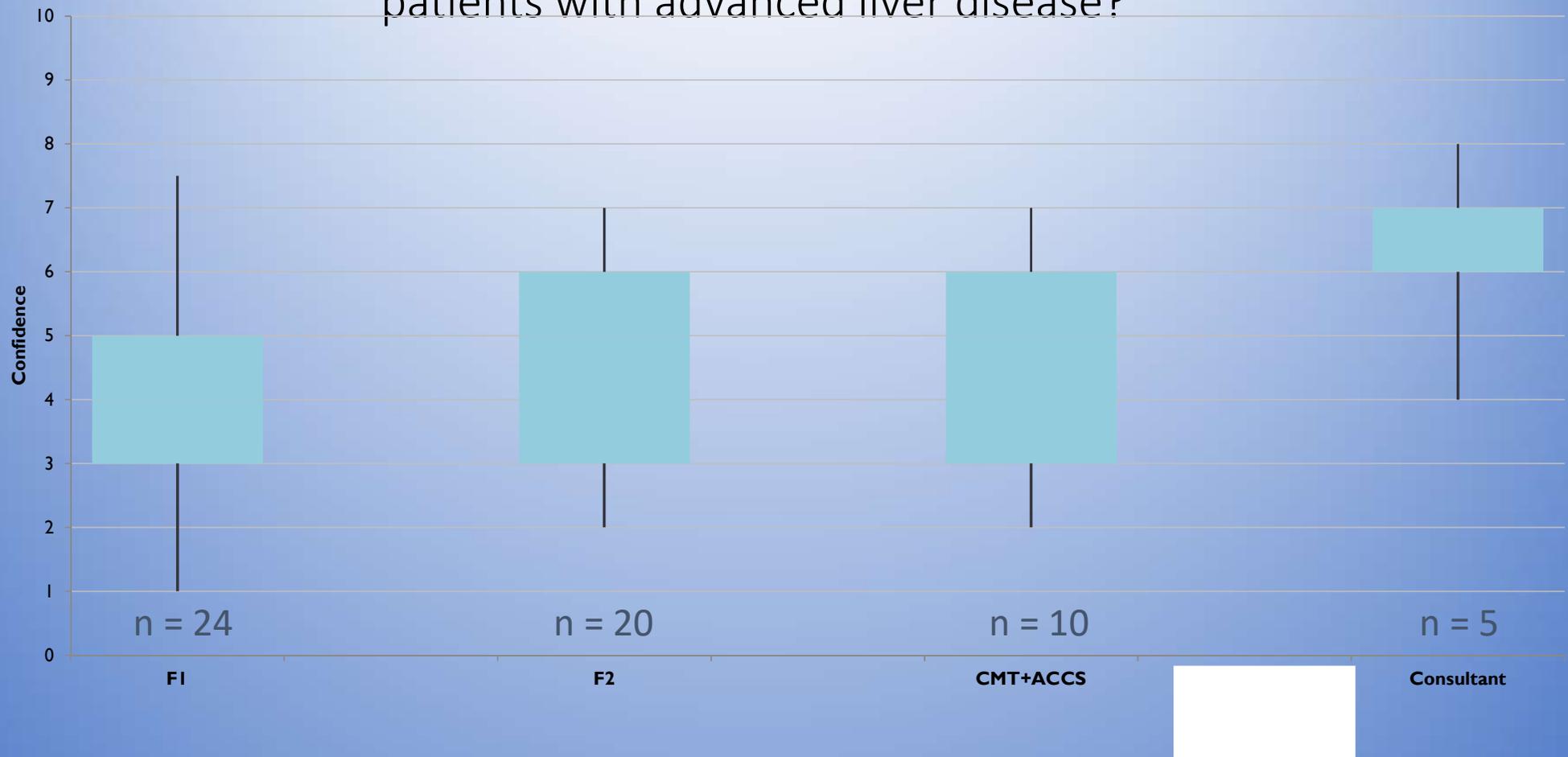
Evidence

Doctor Survey

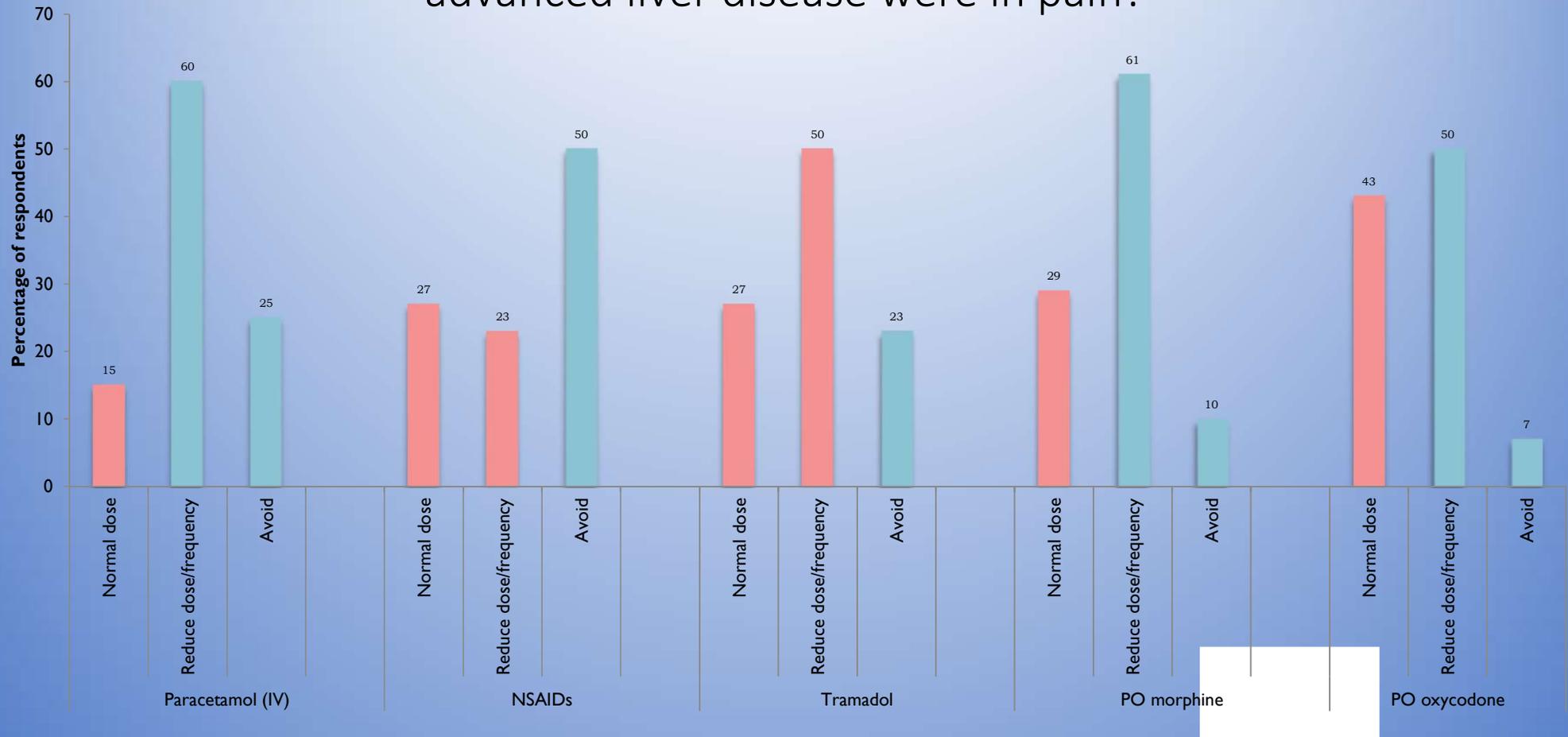
What are the main barriers to good symptom control in patients with advanced liver disease?



How confident do you feel prescribing medications for symptom control in patients with advanced liver disease?



How you would you prescribe the following medications if a patient with advanced liver disease were in pain?

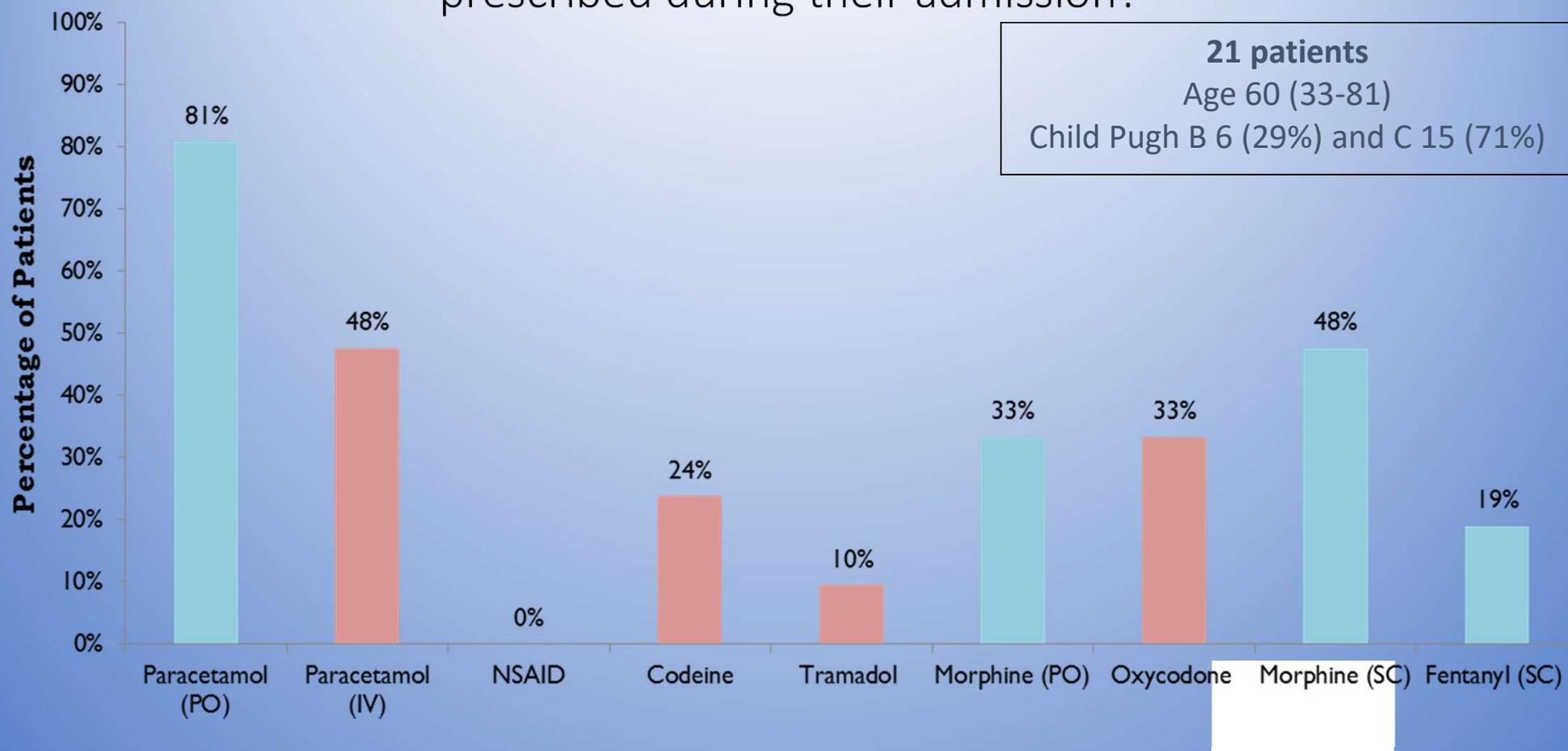


Survey of medical students, junior doctors and consultants; Bristol Royal Infirmary, UK; 2019

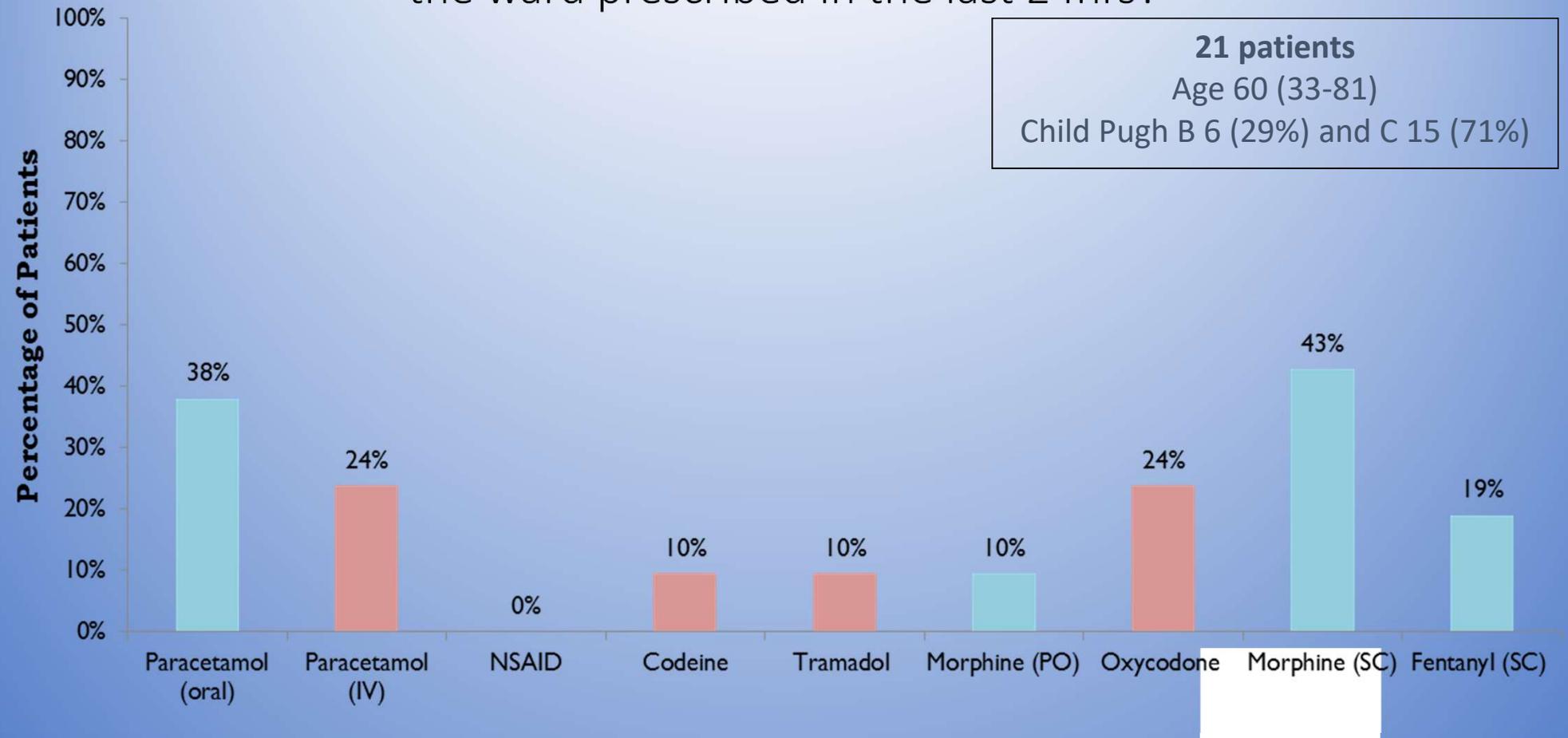
Evidence

Prescribing Practice

Which medications were patients with Child Pugh B or C cirrhosis prescribed during their admission?



Which analgesics were patients with Child Pugh B or C cirrhosis who died on the ward prescribed in the last 24hrs?

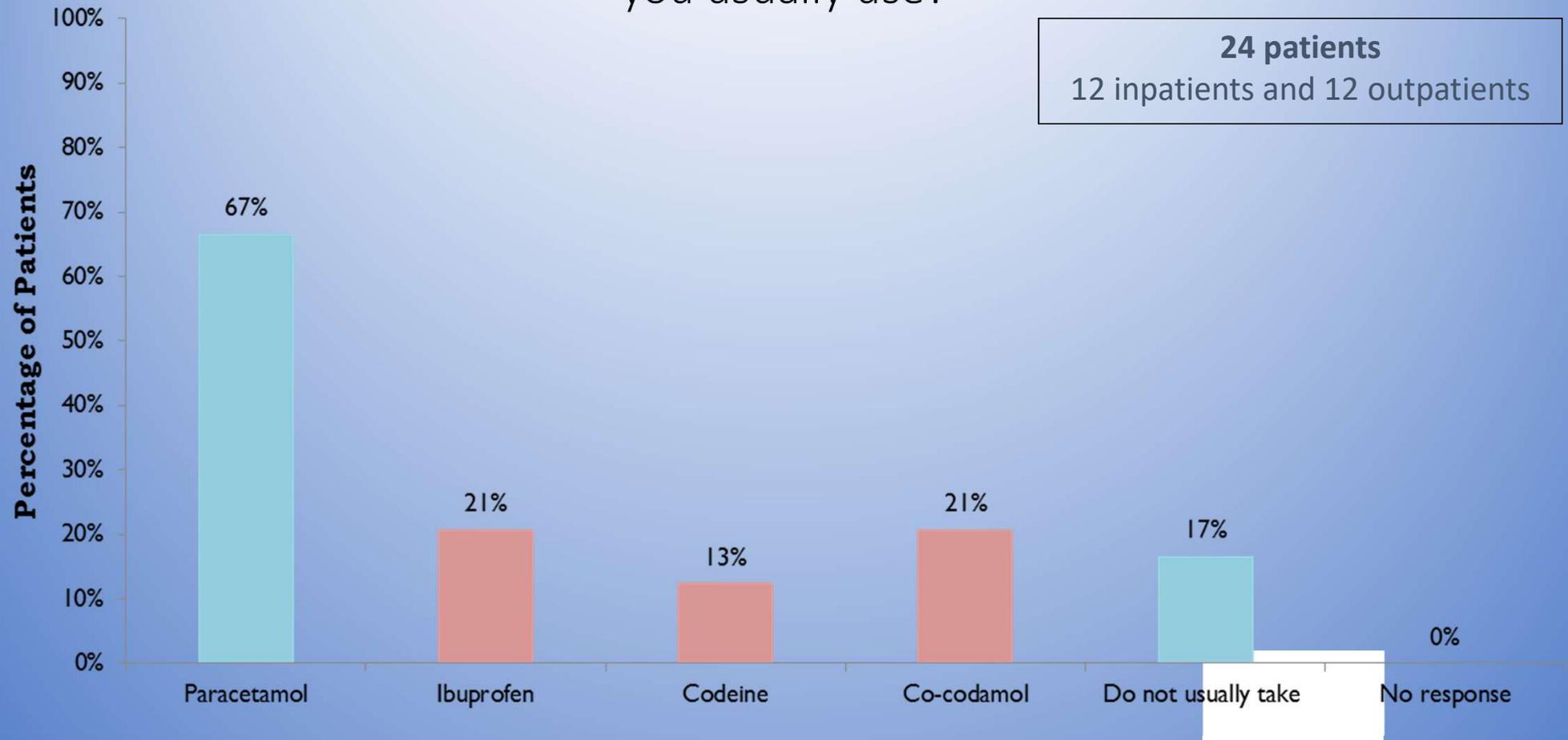


Review of medical notes; Bristol Royal Infirmary, UK; 2018

Evidence

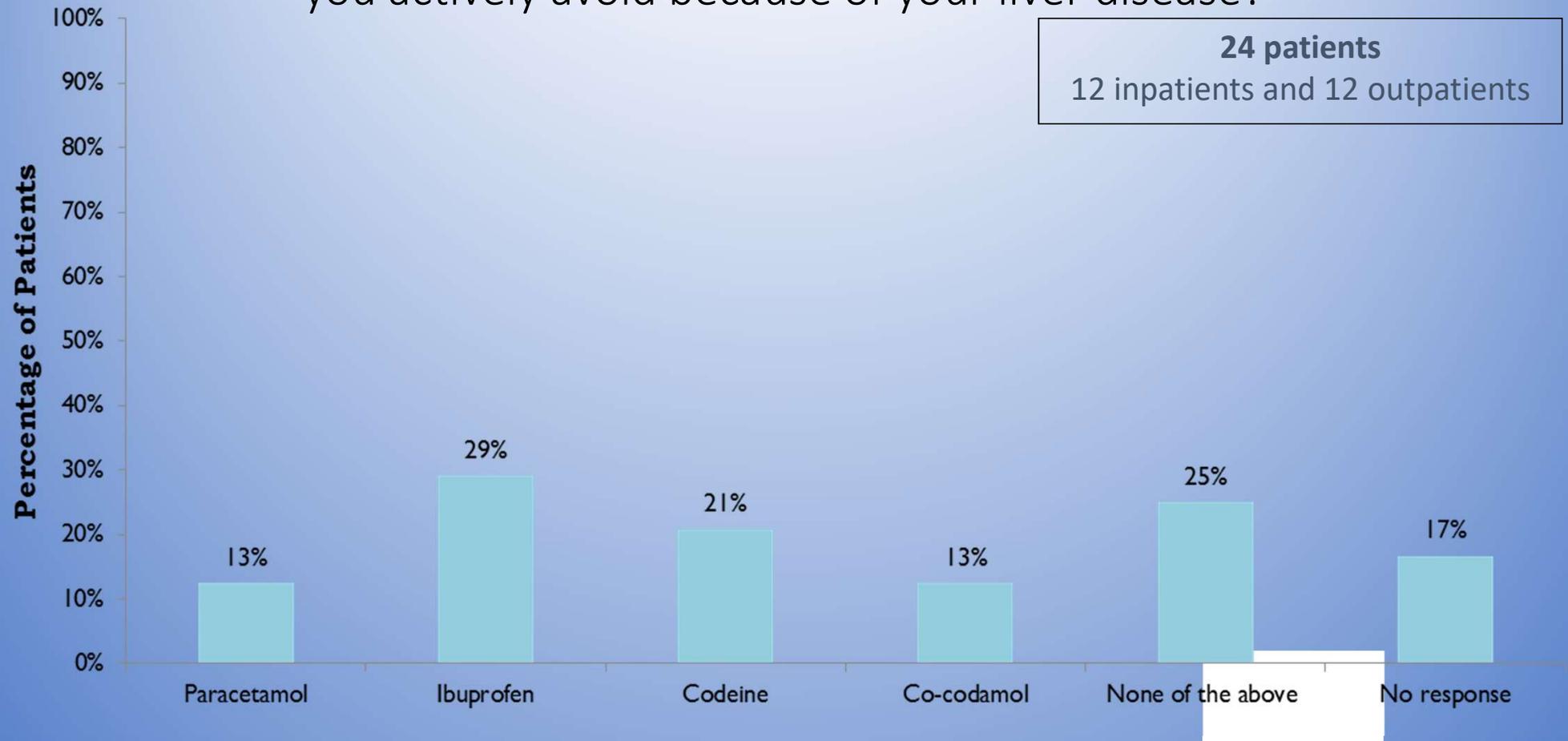
Patient Survey

If you are in pain, which of the following over the counter medications do you usually use?



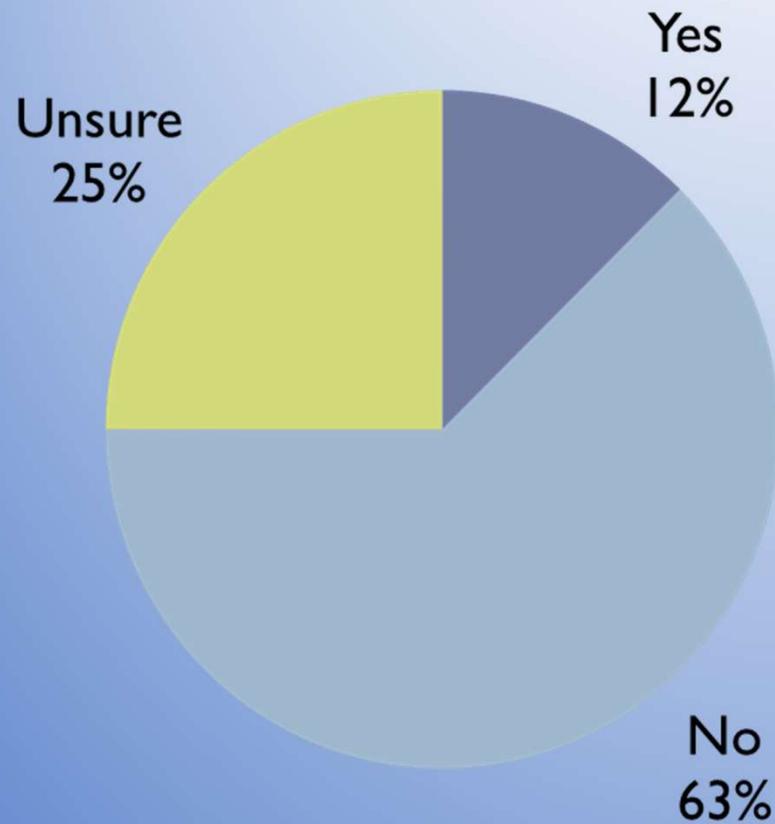
Survey of inpatients and outpatients with Child Pugh B and C Cirrhosis; Bristol Royal Infirmary, UK; 2019

If you are in pain, which of the following over the counter medications do you actively avoid because of your liver disease?



Survey of inpatients and outpatients with Child Pugh B and C Cirrhosis; Bristol Royal Infirmary, UK; 2019

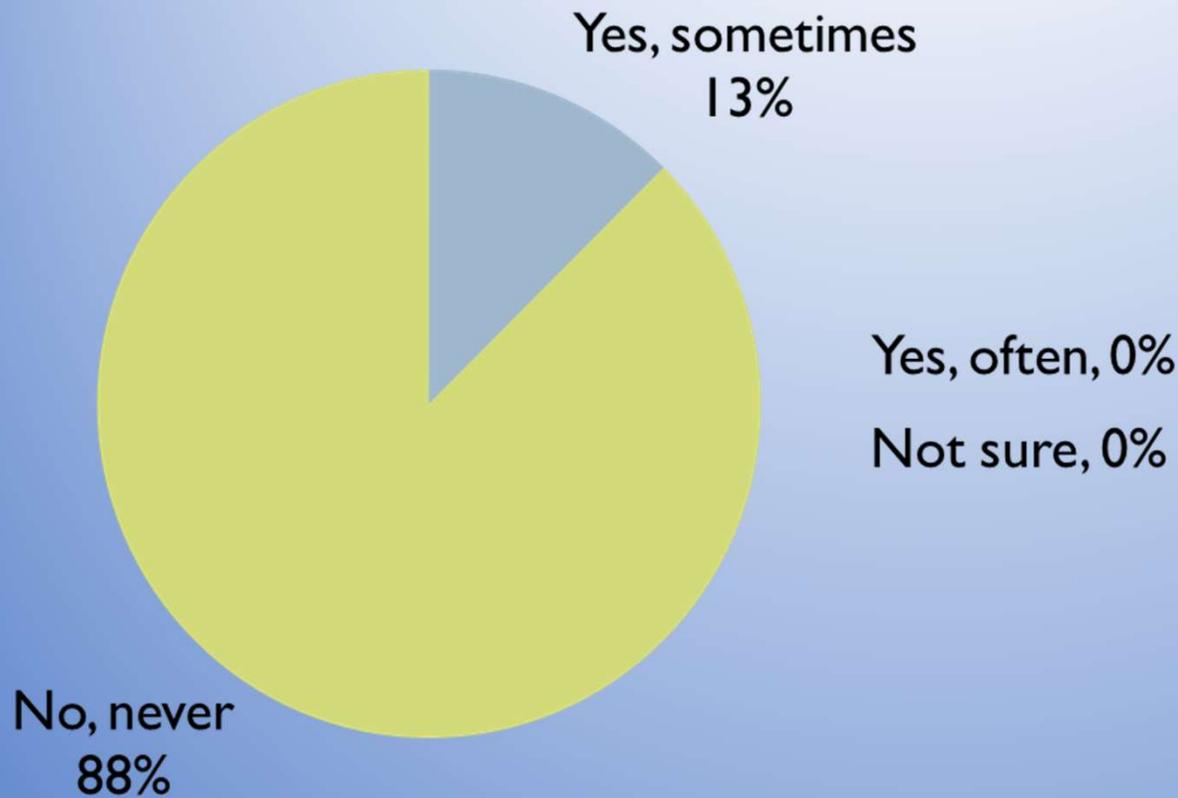
Have staff at Bristol Royal Infirmary given you any advice about using painkillers in cirrhosis?



24 patients
12 inpatients and 12 outpatients



Have you ever been left in pain because staff have been unsure which painkillers you can take because of your liver disease?



24 patients
12 inpatients and 12 outpatients



Evidence

Literature review

Literature review

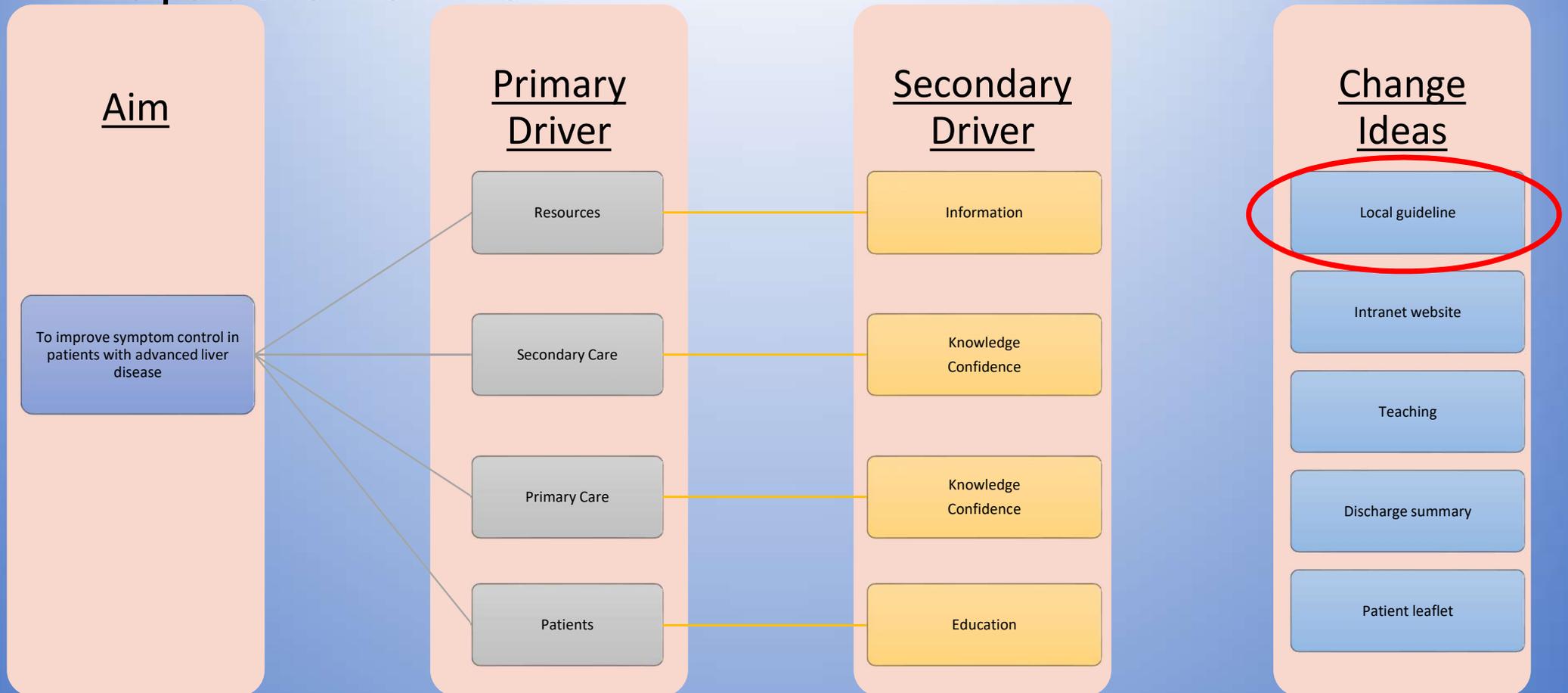
“90% of 108 patients with end-stage liver disease were prescribed medication for pain, but only 33% of them received favourable pain relief.”

Literature review

- *“Recommendations against the use of NSAIDs were significantly less common than recommendations against paracetamol use”*
- *“It was the recommendation of most respondents that over-the-counter analgesics should be avoided in patients with cirrhosis”*

Project Overview

Project Overview

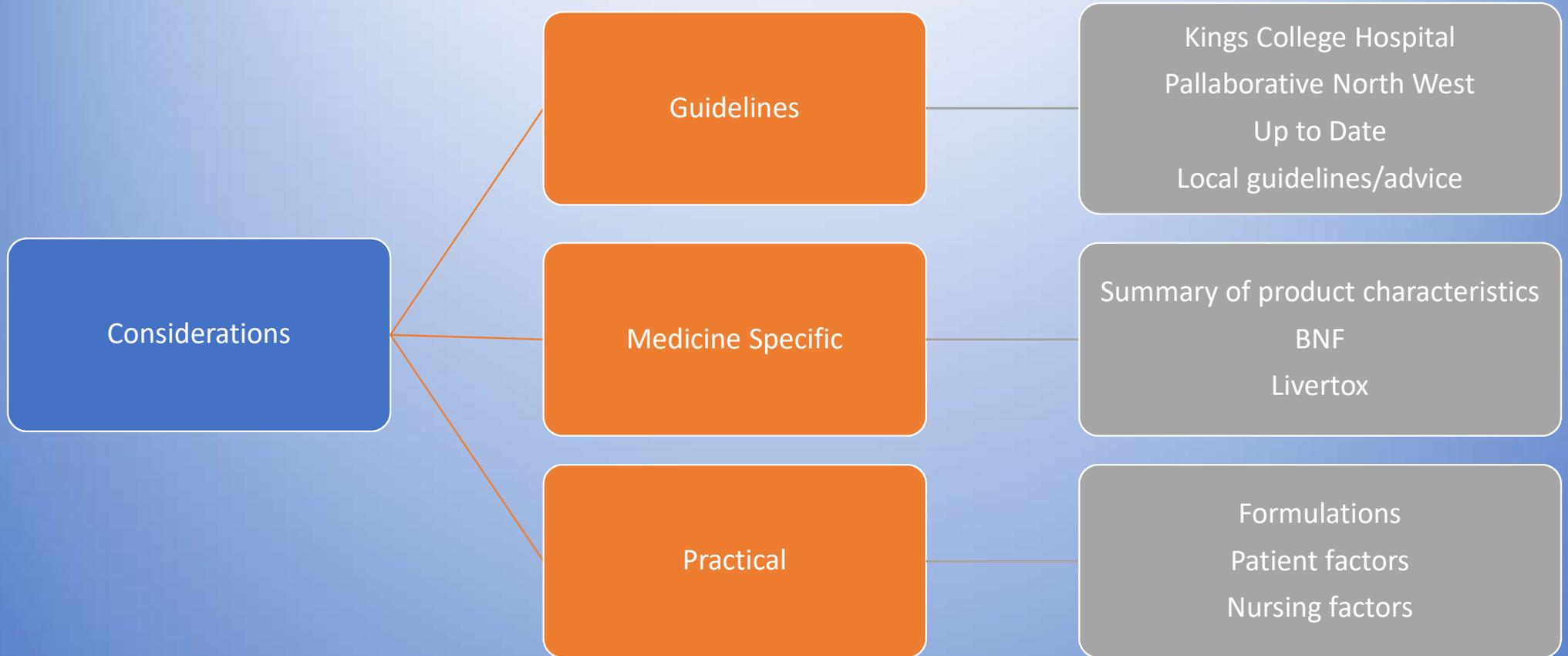


Local Guideline

Local Guideline

- Why?
 - From results identified need for local guideline
 - Liver-specific
 - Easy to use for those with limited expertise
 - Safe
 - Specific doses
 - Pragmatic
 - Practical

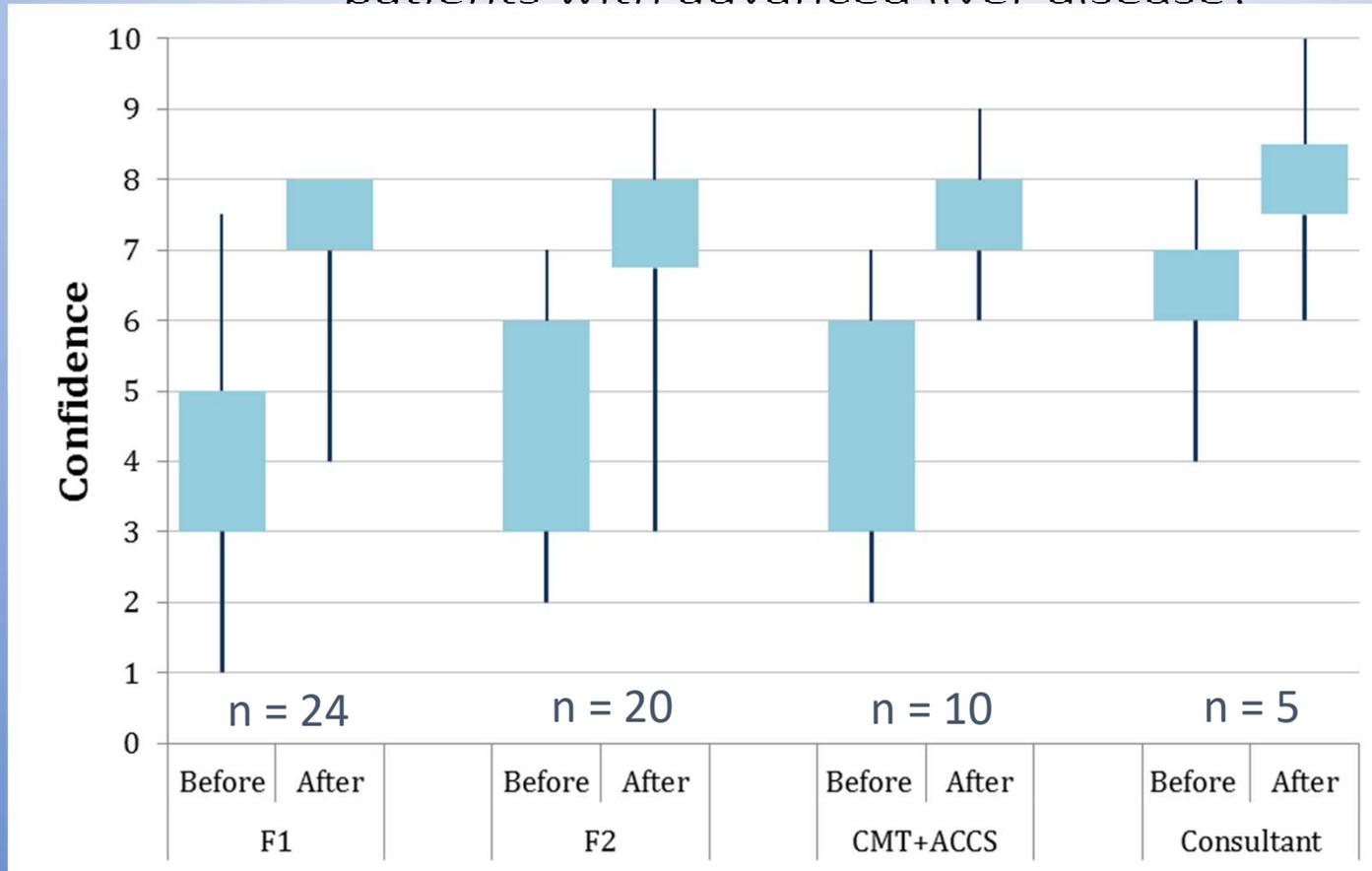
Local Guideline



Local Guideline

- Take home messages
 - Oral paracetamol – reduce 24hr dose if using long term
 - IV paracetamol – try to avoid, maximum 3g / 24hrs
 - Avoid NSAIDs
 - Oramorph preferable to codeine and tramadol as step up
 - Try to avoid oxycodone
 - Try to avoid cyclizine; dose reduce metoclopramide & ondansetron
 - Consider renal impairment
 - Consider liver specific symptoms
 - Consider other issues specific to this patient group e.g. methadone

How confident do you feel prescribing medications for symptom control in patients with advanced liver disease?



Next steps

Further work

- Patient information leaflet
- Intranet page
- Discharge summary template
 - Standardised paragraph featuring OTC medications, signs and management of encephalopathy
- Work with primary care
- Teaching for nurses, site managers

Discussion

Discussion

- We would be keen to hear your feedback on...
 - Our guideline
 - Resources used at other trusts

Acknowledgements

- Dr Hazel Woodland
- Janki Jethwa, pharmacist
- Hepatology consultants, BRI
- Palliative Medicine consultants, BRI
- Clinical Pharmacy Team, BRI
- Dr Fiona Finlay, Consultant in Palliative Medicine, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Glasgow
- Guidelines for prescribing for symptom control in patients with hepatic impairment, 2018, Kings College Hospital

Preparing for the end stage

*living with kidney
disease*

Dr Barny Hole
University of Bristol
barnaby.hole@bristol.ac.uk
@barnyhole



Why kidney disease?

**Is kidney medicine ahead
of the game?**

**Is it easier to do this in
nephrology?**

**Are kidney clinicians doing
well?**

Why kidney disease?

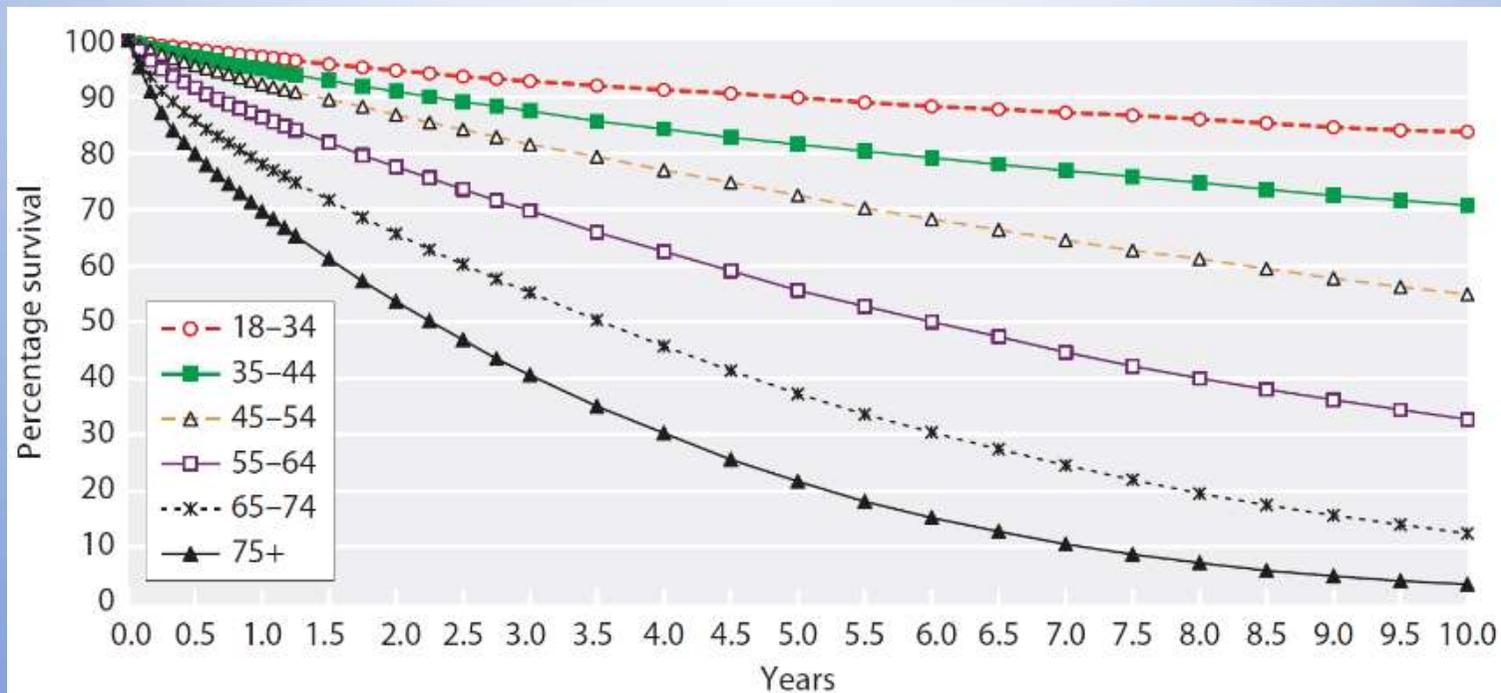
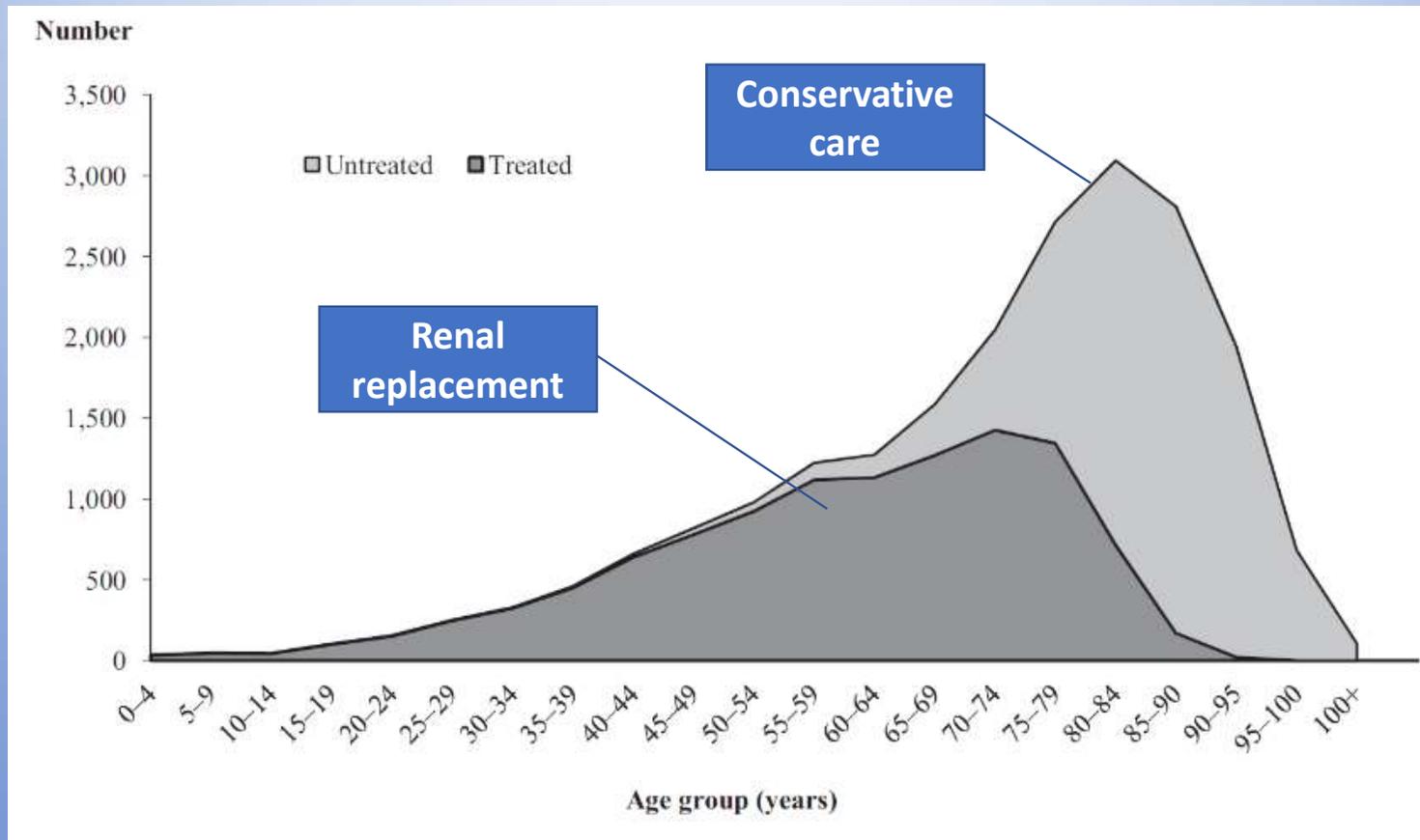


Fig. 5.4. Survival of incident RRT patients (unadjusted), 1997–2015 cohort (from day 0)

Why kidney disease?



Sparke, et al. Estimating the Total Incidence of Kidney Failure in Australia Including Individuals Who Are Not Treated by Dialysis or Transplantation (2013) *Am J Kidney Dis.* 61(3):413-419.

Why kidney disease?

	Dialysis	Conservative Care	Last day of life
Fatigue	71%	86%	
Itch	55%	84%	
Pain	48%	73%	42%
Breathlessness	37%	80%	25%
Nausea	33%	59%	12%
Restless legs	30%		28%
	<i>Murtagh et al. Adv Chr Kidney Dis 2007</i>	<i>Murtagh et al. JPSM 2010</i>	<i>Cohen et al. Am J Kidney Dis 2000</i>

Why kidney disease?

"...the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual"

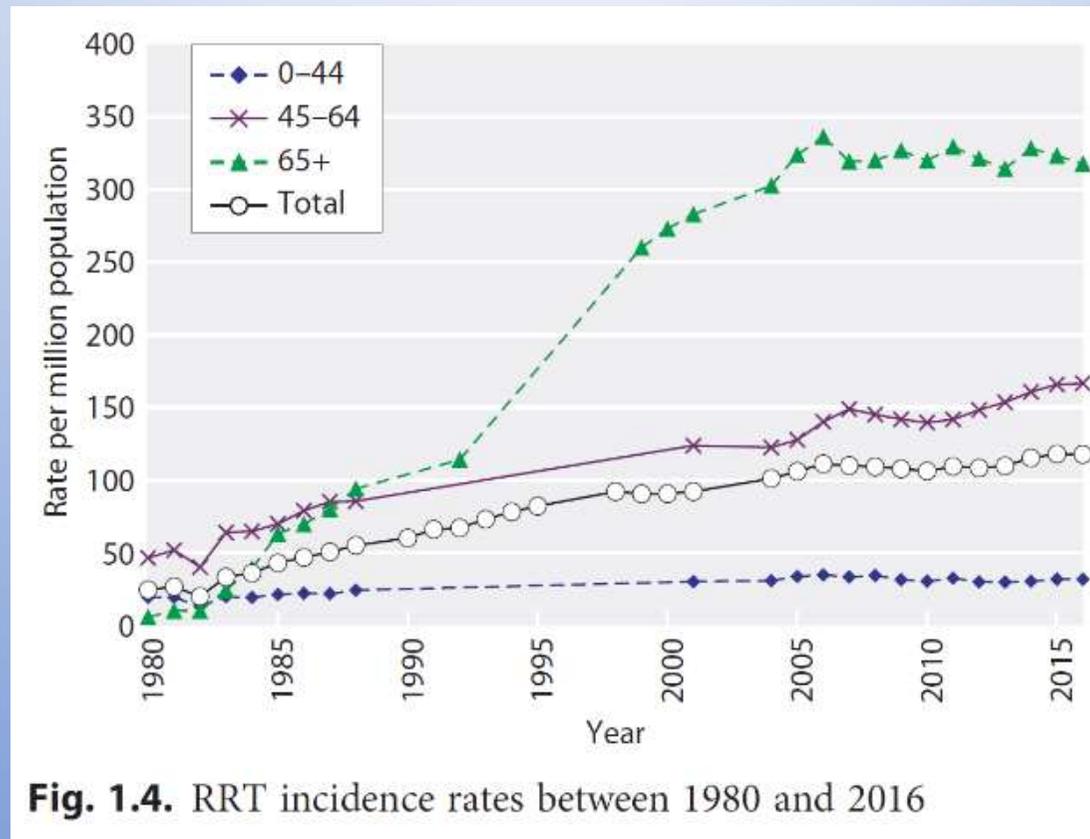
Why kidney disease?

**Is kidney medicine ahead
of the game?...**

Is kidney medicine ahead of the game?...



Is kidney medicine ahead of the game?...



Hole *et al.*, 2018. UK Renal Registry 20th Annual Report: UK Renal Replacement Therapy Adult Incidence in 2016. *Nephron*. 139(suppl1):13–46. DOI: 10.1159/000490959

National Service Framework



Services – 2005

“[People should]...
receive the
prognosis
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*The National Service Framework
for Renal Services*

Part Two: Chronic Kidney Disease,
Acute Renal Failure and End of Life Care

February 2005

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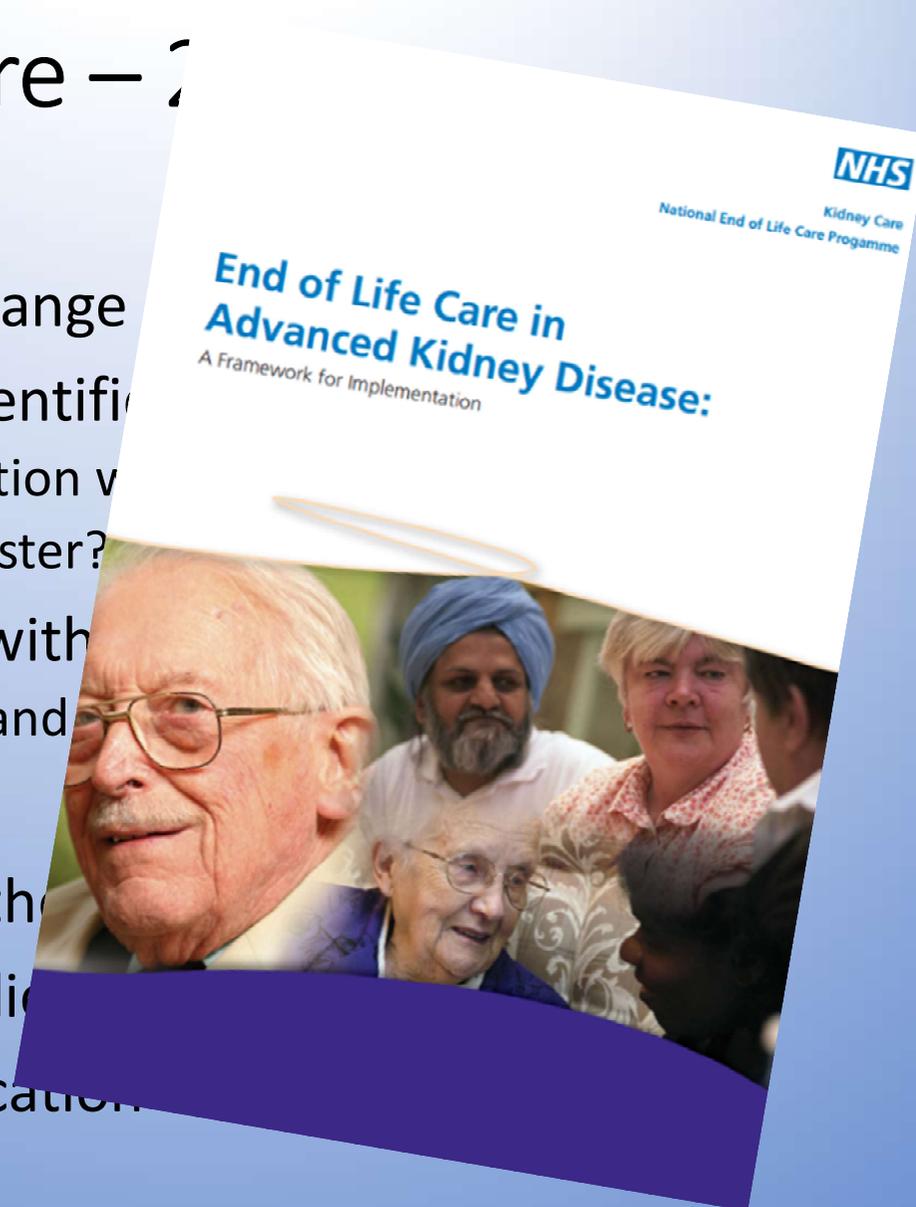
National Service Framework for Renal Services – 2005

“[People with kidney failure should]... receive timely evaluation of their prognosis, information about the choices available to them, and for those near the end of life a jointly agreed palliative care plan, built around their individual needs and preferences”

NHS Kidney Care – 2

Recommendations

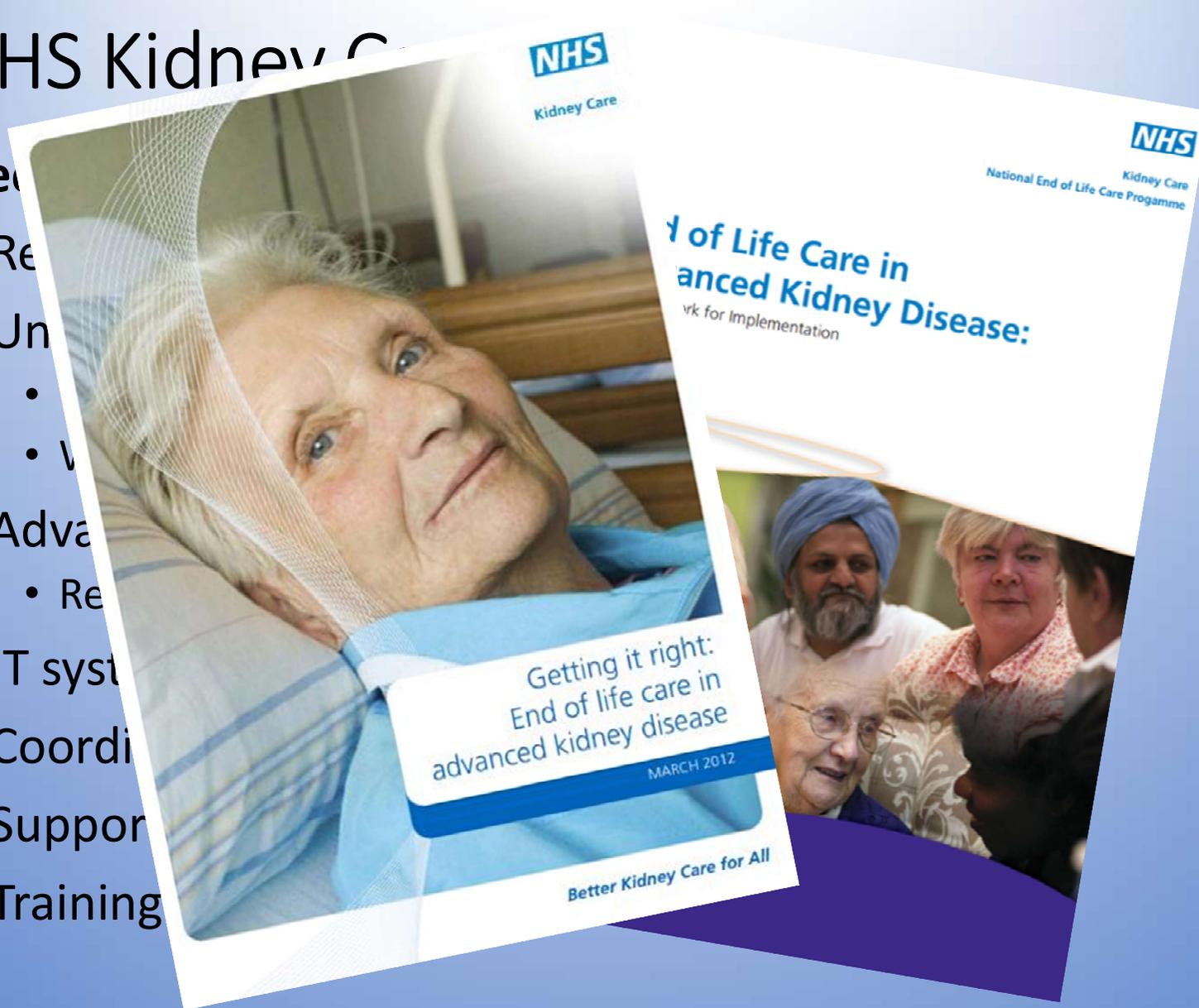
- Recognise culture change
- Unit-wide patient identification
 - Who agrees registration with patient?
 - What to call the register?
- Advance care plans with patients
 - Recognise the time and effort
- IT systems that work
- Coordination with other services
- Support carers, families and friends
- Training and identification



NHS Kidney Care

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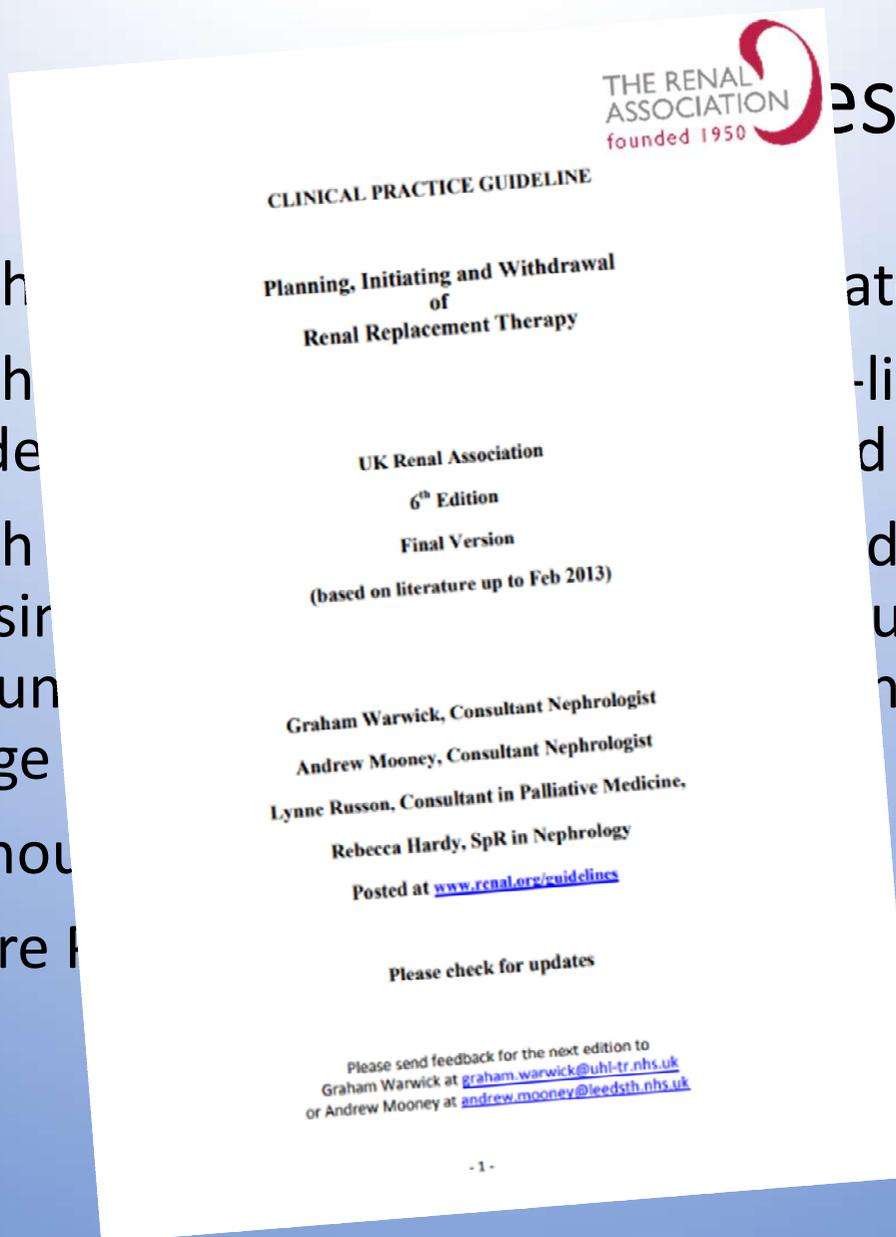
NHS Kidney Care – 2012

Recommendations

- Recognise culture change needed
- Unit-wide patient identification and registration
 - Who agrees registration with patient?
 - What to call the register?
- Advance care plans with all dialysis patients
 - Recognise the time and work that this will take
- IT systems that work
- Coordination with other organisations
- Support carers, families and staff
- Training and identification of appropriate staff

UK Renal

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UK Renal association guidelines - 2013

- Patients with CKD4/5 should be given estimated prognosis
- Patients with CKD4/5 with imminent end-of-life care needs should be identified and their care prioritised
- Patients with less than one year to live should be identified using a combination of criteria including co-morbidity, functional status, evidence of malnutrition, advanced age and the 'surprise question'
- A register should be kept
- Advance Care Planning recommended

UK Renal association guidelines - 2013

- Patients with CKD4/5 should be given estimated prognosis
- Patients with CKD4/5 with imminent end-of-life care needs should be identified and their care prioritised
- Patients with less than one year to live should be identified using a combination of criteria including co-morbidity, functional status, evidence of malnutrition, advanced age and the 'surprise question'
- A register should be kept
- Advance Care Planning recommended
- **SET OF AUDIT MEASURES DEFINED**

International consensus - 2015

meeting report

<http://www.kidney-international.org>
© 2015 International Society of Nephrology

Executive summary of the KDIGO Controversies Conference on Supportive Care in Chronic Kidney Disease: developing a roadmap to improving quality care

Sara N. Davison¹, Adeera Levin², Alvin H. Moss³, Vivekanand Jha^{4,5}, Edwina A. Brown⁶, Frank Brennan⁷, Fliss E.M. Murtagh⁸, Saraladevi Naicker⁹, Michael J. Germain¹⁰, Donal J. O'Donoghue¹¹, Rachael L. Morton^{12,13} and Gregorio T. Obrador¹⁴

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International consensus - 2015

Key components of renal supportive care

- Proactive symptom assessment and management
- Estimation and communication of prognosis
- Shared decision making
- Advance care planning
- End-of-life care
- Bereavement care



Royal College
of Physicians

Our  future health

Talking about dying:

How to begin honest
conversations about
what lies ahead

October 2018





Royal College of Physicians

Our  future health

Talking about dying: How to begin honest conversations about what lies ahead

October 2018



Information Leaflet for Patients, Families and Friends

The Gold Standards Framework in Palliative Care *A framework to help deliver a 'Gold Standard of Care' to all people with advanced disease* Information Leaflet for Patients, Families and Friends

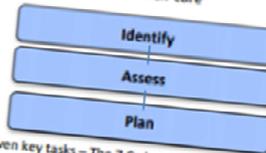
What is the Gold Standards Framework?

The Gold Standards Framework (GSF) is a way of working that has been adopted by your GP practice and District Nursing team (your Primary Care team) along with thousands of others across the UK. It involves them working together as a team and with other professionals in hospitals, hospices and specialist teams to help to provide the highest standard of care possible for patients and their families.

Patients with advanced disease deserve the 'best' care that we can provide – the 'gold quality of care'. This includes support that is of a high quality, reliable and consistent.

GSF involves three steps, each involving good communication to:

- Identify people in need of special care
- Assess and record their needs
- Plan and provide their care



And seven key tasks – The 7 Cs (overleaf)

How will it improve care?



Using the Gold Standards Framework involves the practice team working to achieve a number of goals and standards. These goals were developed with the help of patients and carers.

The goals of the Gold Standards Framework relating to you and your family are:

1. That physical symptoms such as pain and sickness are anticipated and reduced where possible.
2. That you feel you have some choice and control relating to your care especially that your preferred place of care is discussed with you and observed as far as possible.
3. That you feel a sense of safety and security, you feel supported and informed and forewarned of any potential problems and issues
4. That your family and/or carers feel supported enabled and informed.
5. That your Primary Care team work effectively as a team together with other health professionals, they communicate clearly and feel enabled to provide the best possible standard of care and support.

Who can you contact?

Name of GP, Practice name and contact details:

Hospital contact details:

Out of Hours Provider contact details:

Named Nurse / Key Worker and contact:

Useful information or contact details:

"You matter because you are you. You matter to the last moment of your life. And we will do all we can, not only to let you die peacefully but to help you to live until you die"
Dame Cecily Saunders, Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement

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Observation and preparation

- > Active observation of an end-of-life care conversation
- > Debrief with a senior colleague, focusing on what questions or concerns may arise in a second conversation



Feedback and reflection

Facilitated reflection with a senior colleague

Experiential learning

- > Participation in second conversation
- > What went well?
- > How did you feel?
- > What could have gone better?

and Friends

Network in Palliative Care

'of Care' to all people with advanced disease

nts, Families and Friends

How will it improve care?



old Standards Framework involves the practice g to achieve a number of goals and standards. ere developed with the help of patients and

Gold Standards Framework relating to you e:

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best possible standard of care and support.

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<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Out of Hours Provider contact details:	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Useful information or contact details:

"You matter because you are you. You matter to the last moment of your life. And we will do all we can, not only to let you die peacefully but to help you to live until you die"
 Dame Cecily Saunders, Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement



Royal College of Physicians

Our future health

Information Leaflet

gold standards framework in primary care

Observation and preparation

- > Active observation of an end-of-life care conversation
- > Debrief with a senior colleague, focusing on what questions or concerns may arise in a second conversation

Named Nurse and Friends

Framework in Palliative Care

'of Care' to all people with advanced disease

Patients, Families and Friends

How will it improve care?



Gold Standards Framework involves the practice of achieving a number of goals and standards. These were developed with the help of patients and...

RESPECT

Feedback and reflection

Facilitated reflection with a senior colleague

> What has gone better?

General contact details:	Named Nurse / Key Worker and contact:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Out of Hours Provider contact details:	Useful information or contact details:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

"You matter because you are you. You matter to the last moment of your life. And we will do all we can, not only to let you die peacefully but to help you to live until you die"
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Royal College of Physicians

Our future health

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Information Leaflet
Active observation of an end-of-life

A gorgeous writer and storyteller
MALCOLM GLADWELL



Atul Gawande



Being Mortal

Medicine and What Matters in the End

gold standards
framework
in primary care

and Friends
Network in Palliative Care
'of Care' to all people with advanced disease
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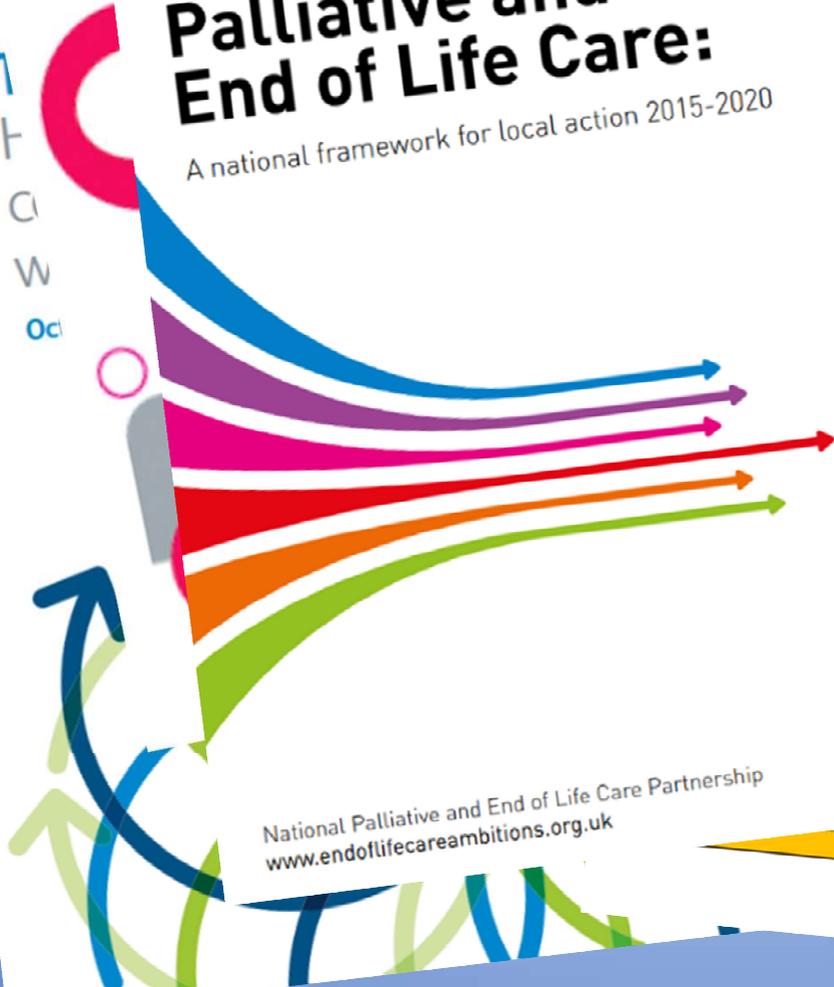
Royal College of Physicians

Our future health

Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care:

A national framework for local action 2015-2020

Framework



National Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership
www.endoflifecareambitions.org.uk

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gold standards framework in primary care

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Framework in Palliative Care

'of Care' to all people with advanced disease
Patients, Families and Friends

How will it improve care?



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Royal College of Physicians

Our future health

Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care

A national framework

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Serious Illness Conversation Guide

CONVERSATION FLOW

1. **Set up the conversation**
 - Introduce purpose
 - Prepare for future decisions
 - Ask permission
2. **Assess understanding and preferences**
3. **Share prognosis**
 - Share prognosis
 - Frame as a "wish...worry", "hope...worry" statement
 - Allow silence, explore emotion
4. **Explore key topics**
 - Goals
 - Fears and worries
 - Sources of strength
 - Critical abilities
 - Tradeoffs
 - Family
5. **Close the conversation**
 - Summarize
 - Make a recommendation
 - Check in with patient
 - Affirm commitment
6. **Document your conversation**
7. **Communicate with key clinicians**

PATIENT-TESTED LANGUAGE

"I'd like to talk about what is ahead with your illness and do some thinking in advance about what is important to you so that I can make sure we provide you with the care you want — is this okay?"

"What is your **understanding** now of where you are with your illness?"
"How much **information** about what is likely to be ahead with your illness would you like from me?"

"I want to share with you **my understanding** of where things are with your illness..."
Uncertain: "It can be difficult to predict what will happen with your illness. I **hope** you will continue to live well for a long time but I'm **worried** that you could get sick quickly, and I think it is important to prepare for that possibility."
OR
Time: "I **wish** we were not in this situation, but I am **worried** that time may be as short as ____ (express as a range, e.g. days to weeks, weeks to months, months to a year)."
OR
Function: "I **hope** that this is not the case, but I'm **worried** that this may be as strong as you will feel, and things are likely to get more difficult."

"What are your most important **goals** if your health situation worsens?"
"What are your biggest **fears and worries** about the future with your health?"
"What gives you **strength** as you think about the future with your illness?"
"What **abilities** are so critical to your life that you can't imagine living without them?"
"If you become sicker, **how much are you willing to go through** for the possibility of gaining more time?"
"How much does your **family** know about your priorities and wishes?"

"I've heard you say that ____ is really important to you. Keeping that in mind, and what we know about your illness, I **recommend** that we _____. This will help us make sure that your treatment plans reflect what's important to you."
"How does this plan seem to you?"
"I will do everything I can to help you through this."



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ARIADNE LABS

National Palliative and End of Life Care Partnership
www.endoflifecareambitions.org.uk

...to the last moment of your life. And we will do all we can, not only
...you die peacefully but to help you to live until you die"
Dame Cecily Saunders, Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement

gold standards
framework
in primary care

and Friends

Network in Palliative Care
of Care' to all people with advanced disease
Patients, Families and Friends

How will it improve care?

...k involves the practice
of goals and standards.
...e help of patients and

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Royal College of Physicians

Our future health

Ambitions for Palliative Care End of Life

A national framework

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Decisions relating to cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Guidance from the British Medical Association, the Resuscitation Council (UK) and the Royal College of Nursing
(previously known as the 'Joint Statement')

3rd edition (1st revision) 2016

National Palliative and
www.endoflifecareamt



...to the last moment of your life. And we will do all we can, not only to help you die peacefully but to help you to live until you die"
Dame Cecily Saunders, Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement

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Framework in Palliative Care

'of Care' to all people with advanced disease
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How will it improve care?

...about what is important to you

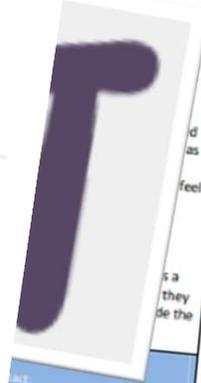
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Our future health



Ambitions for Palliative End of Life Care

NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence



End of life care for adults

Quality standard
Published: 28 November 2011
nice.org.uk/guidance/qs13

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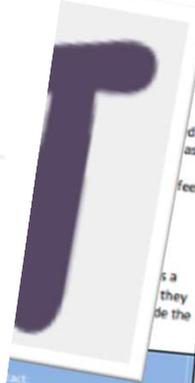
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End of life care for adults

Quality standard
Published: 28 November 2011
nice.org.uk/guidance/qs13

Care of dying adults in the last days of life

NICE guideline
Published: 16 December 2015
nice.org.uk/guidance/ng31



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National Palliative and End of Life Care Association
www.endoflifecareamt.org



Treatment and care towards the end of life: good practice in decision making

Working with doctors Working for patients

General Medical Council

and Friends

Network in Palliative Care
'of Care' to all people with advanced disease
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How will it improve care?



The last days of life

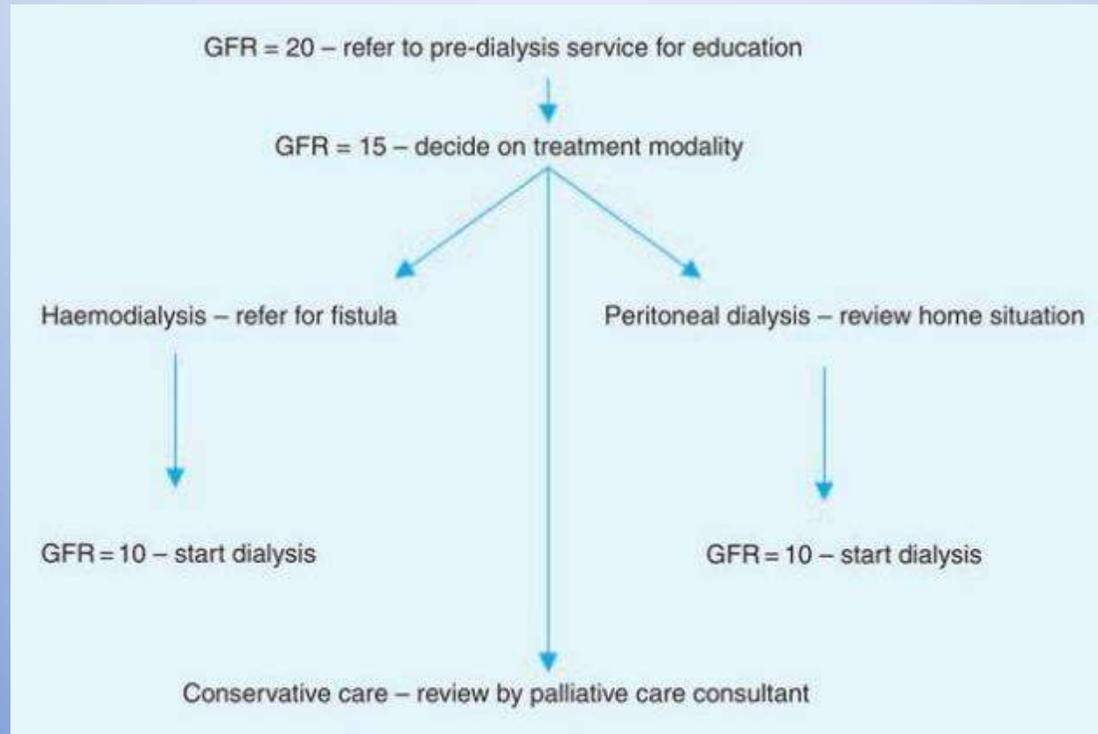


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**Is kidney medicine ahead
of the game?...**

**Is it easier to do this in
nephrology?**

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Davison et al **Longitudinal validation of a modified Edmonton symptom assessment system (ESAS) in haemodialysis patients**

Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation,
Volume 21, Issue 11, 1 November 2006,
Pages 3189–3195.

Raj et al **Validation of the IPOS-Renal Symptom Survey in Advanced Kidney Disease: A Cross-sectional Study.** J

Pain Symptom Manage. 2018
Aug;56(2):281-287.

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Are kidney clinicians doing well?



NIHR | National Institute
for Health Research

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Patient  view

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



- 55% of units used a register to identify patients approaching end of life
- 25% of units had renal nurses whose time was specifically allocated for palliative care
- 13% of units had palliative care specialists involved in ACP
- 15% had funding dedicated to providing conservative care
- Specialist palliative care services within the hospital were used by 91% of units

Roderick et al 2015 A national study of practice patterns in UK renal units in the use of dialysis and conservative kidney management Health Services and Delivery Research, No. 3.12

Are kidney clinicians doing well?

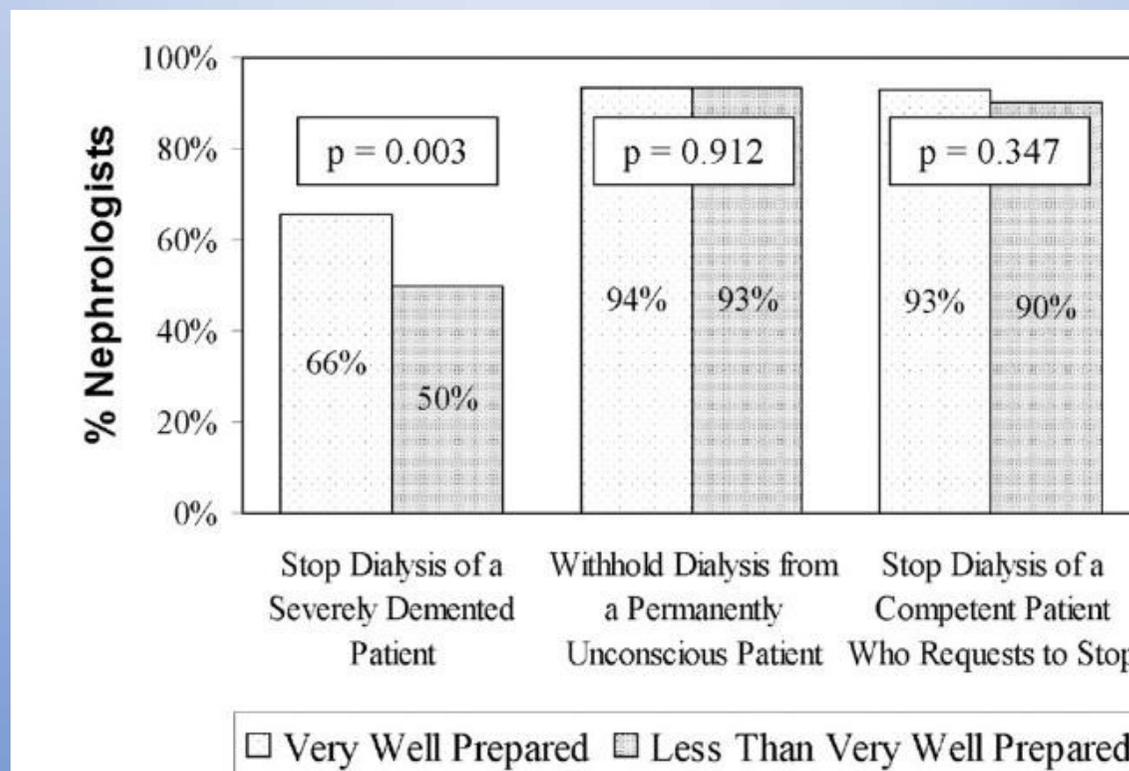


Only 22.2% of 436 dialysis and conservative care patients possessed a correct understanding of palliative care

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Thirty-nine percent of nephrologists perceived themselves to be very well prepared to make end-of-life decisions



Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Patients significantly more optimistic than their nephrologists about 1- and 5-year survival and more likely to think they were transplant candidates....

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



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Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Patients significantly more optimistic than their nephrologists about 1- and 5-year survival and more likely to think they were transplant candidates....

...Among the 62 interviewed patients, no patients reported that their nephrologist had discussed an estimate of life expectancy with them...

...nephrologists reported that they had done so for only 2 interviewed patients...

...nephrologists provided us with estimates of life expectancy for 89% of patients, but reported that, if the patient insisted on an estimate, they would refuse to provide any estimate for 60%.

Are kidney clinicians doing well?



Half of patients who died with ESKD received palliative care consultations

- 74% for people with cancer
- 61% for people with dementia

Approximately one-third of patients with ESKD died in the ICU

- 13% cancer
- 9% dementia

Rates of excellent end-of-life care quality reported decedents' families 54% ESKD

- 59% cancer
- 59% dementia

This quality advantage was mediated by palliative care consultation, setting of death, and do-not-resuscitate order: adjustment for these variables rendered the relationship between diagnosis and overall end-of-life care quality non-significant...

Preparing for the end stage

Thank you

Comments and questions?

Dr Barny Hole
University of Bristol
barnaby.hole@bristol.ac.uk
@barnyhole





How to achieve
scalability

- What have we achieved so far?
- What have we still to achieve?
(and why have we not yet?)
- What are we going to do next?

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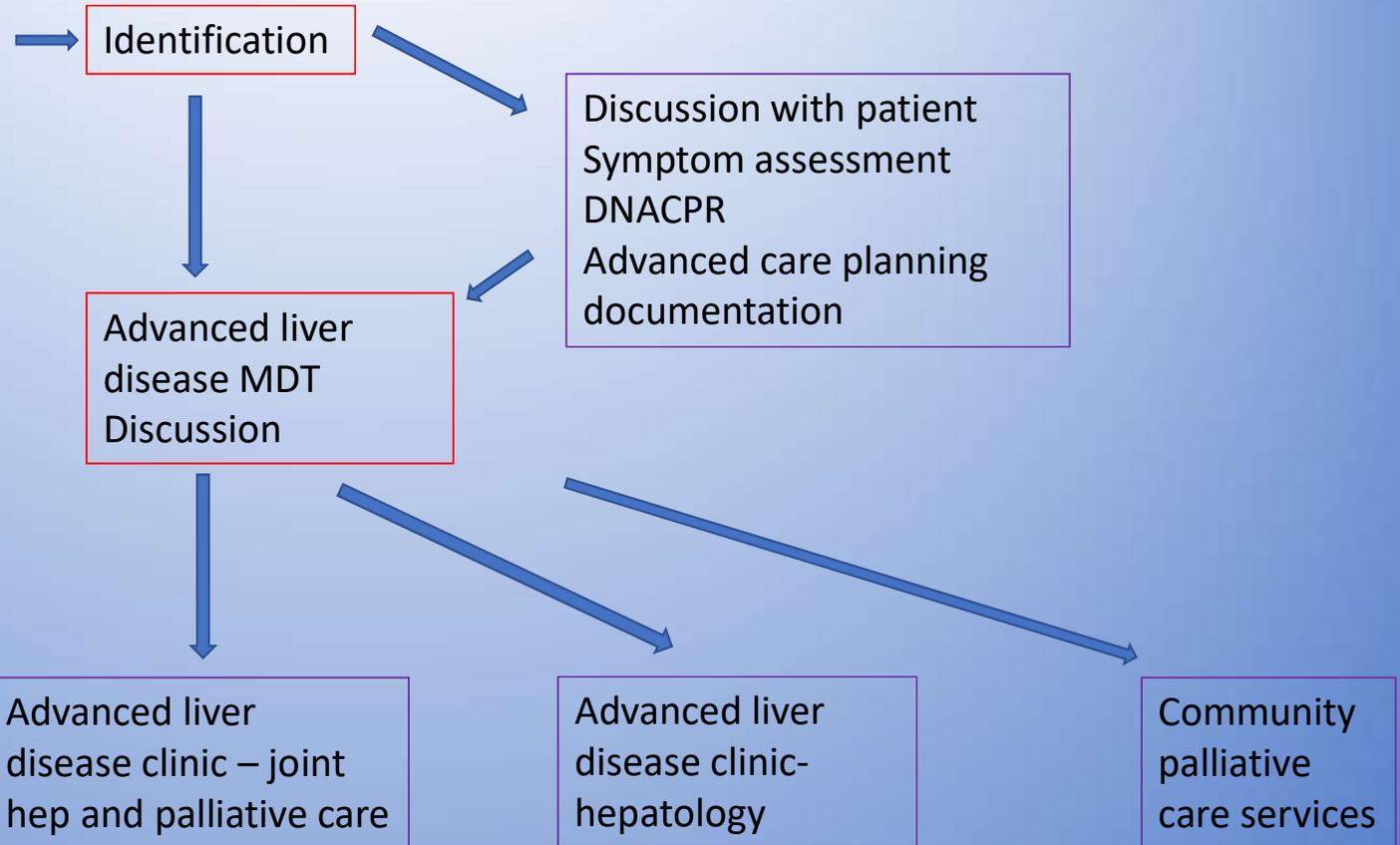
*System of prompts in
cirrhotic clinics?*

Paracentesis service
Ward
Clinic
Transplant clinic
General Clinic
HCC clinic

Surprise question

Prognostic tools
e.g.
NHSE frailty scale
Ben Hudsons tools
Comorbidities

*Idea is to be inclusive
rather than exclusive-
tools to find people we
might not have
considered*



What is the aim of the work?

- Increase confidence in identification of poor prognosis
- Improve Carer/Patient understanding of diagnosis/ prognosis and likely events
- Continuity of care (primary, secondary. Within Hospital between teams.
- Escalation plans and communicating them. Pre-emption
- Admission avoidance

Minimum data set for an MDT

- HCC/ Varices screening?
- Endoscopy in event of bleeding
- TIPS?
- Transplant assessment?
- Escalation status
- DNA CPR
- Need for supportive care status
- Candidate for long term drain/ other

Agenda for extended Hepatology appointments

- What do patients want
- Understanding of diagnosis, progression, prognosis, complications
- Screening plans
- Transplant options
- Medication review
- Carer support/ housing situation
- Contact details in case of issues
- Resources for help in future.

Next Steps