**Bulletin**

**Palliative Care**

**Articles**

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**Affording patients their dying wish at the end of life.**
[One of the challenges is how the patient's dying wish can be realised or fulfilled before they die. Without doubt, such wishes inevitably involve support from healthcare professionals, like community nurses, to achieve fruition. Therefore, this issue cannot be discussed without including nurses and others, such as family members and doctors, who may also play a crucial role in helping patients achieve their wish.]

**Barriers and facilitators to implementing the Carer Support Needs Assessment Tool in a community palliative care setting.**
[Key Points: Palliative care nurse specialists acknowledge the importance of the role played by informal carers in palliative care, and encourage carer support practices; The study participants accepted the Carer Support Needs Assessment Tool (CSNAT) and perceived it as useful, but used it as an ‘add on’ to current practice, rather than as a new approach to carer-led assessment.]

**Caring for people with multiple sclerosis who use cannabis for symptom control.**
Daly L. *British Journal of Community Nursing* 2019;24(6):257.
[Key Points: People using cannabis for relief of symptoms of MS may fear stigma and judgement from others, including health professionals, which may influence their willingness to disclose this to community nurses caring for them; There is poor evidence about community nurses’ perspectives and practices relating to cannabis use among persons with MS; Community nurses need to be open to the possibility that persons living with MS may use cannabis illicitly and seek opportunities for open dialogue]

**Exploring an integrated palliative care model for older people: an integrative review.**
[This review identified themes relevant to the emerging issues in the global health sector of end of life care. The literature suggests that the optimised use of an integrated care approach to a palliative model of care is required and in need of further investigation.]

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**Getting anticipatory prescribing right in end-of-life care.**
This article highlights the challenges faced by district nurses providing or dealing with anticipatory prescribing during end-of-life care.

**Nursing interventions to support family caregivers in end-of-life care at home: A systematic narrative review.**
Although only eight studies are available on nursing interventions to support family caregivers in end-of-life care at home, they show that interventions can have a positive effect on family caregivers' outcomes. Multicomponent interventions proved to be the most successful, implying that nurses should combine different components when supporting family caregivers.

**Reports**
The following report(s) may be of interest:

**End of life dementia care: helping people live well and die well.**
The Mental Elf; 2019.
[https://www.nationalelfservice.net/mental-health/dementia/end-of-life-dementia-care/](https://www.nationalelfservice.net/mental-health/dementia/end-of-life-dementia-care/)
[A group of UCL Mental Health MSc students summarise a recent clinical review of the challenges we face in providing end of life dementia care.]
Freely available online

**Statutory funding for children’s hospice and palliative care charities in England 2018/19.**
[https://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk/make-good-your-promise-to-properly-fund-childrens-hospices/](https://www.togetherforshortlives.org.uk/make-good-your-promise-to-properly-fund-childrens-hospices/)
[This survey of 27 children’s hospices in England shows that NHS and local council cuts are hitting lifeline care for seriously ill children. The report calls on NHS England to keep its promise to protect the Children’s Hospice Grant – and go further by increasing it to £25 million per year.]
Freely available online
This Bulletin was created by Barbara Peirce, Outreach Librarian of NHS East Dorset Knowledge and Library Service

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