



Association for Palliative Medicine

APM Bulletin | January 2025

Bulletin Contents

To jump straight to a specific article within the bulletin, please click on the links below:

[Happy New Year from Dr Sarah Cox, President.](#)

[Do you have concerns about the Assisted Dying Bill and would like to discuss these with other members in an open forum? Join us for our Webinar on 21 January 2025. The link to register is available here.](#)

[Find out what some of our committees and SIFs have been up to.](#)

[Great for your CV's! Take a look at our Council and Committee vacancies here.](#)

[Deadline fast approaching - have your say and take part in the 'Mapping the palliative and end-of-life care research workforce in the UK: A mixed method study'.](#)

[Calling all members! Join our bulletin working group and help the APM develop the bulletin into the future.](#)

[Interested in how decisions are made at the APM? Apply to observe an APM Council or Executive meeting](#)

[ABC's of e-ELCA - find out more here about the e-ELCA learning resource.](#)

[Save the date - upcoming events: Masterclasses, Conferences, Medical Updates & more!](#)



Happy New Year to you all! I sincerely hope the holidays were happy ones and that you managed to have a rest with your families.

Palliative and EOL Commission and NHS 10 year plan

The APM has a seat on the Palliative and EOL Care independent Commission, launched on the 11th December. There will be a call for written evidence in January, panel sessions with invited witnesses, roundtable events and a provider visit. We will keep you updated about how you can respond and of course the APM will be providing a response. Wes Streeter has been receptive to the commission and is expecting to have the findings in time to feed into the NHS 10 year plan. There will be more opportunities to engage with the government about the 10 year plan and we will share these with you as they are published.

NCEPOD

The NCEPOD EOL report was published late last year. It is a really important and influential report which recognises that palliative care needs to be involved earlier in the patient journey. The webinar is [here](#), and the report is here [NCEPOD - End of Life Care: \(2024\)](#).

PCC 2025

Don't forget to register before 24th January to get the early bird rate for the Palliative Care Congress 2025. To book your ticket, please [click here](#).

Further details of the items in my report are available from Charlotte and Georgina at office@compleat-online.co.uk. As always, please let us know if you have ideas or

comments. The officers remain happy to attend local or regional groups or meetings to hear about your issues.

Dr Sarah Cox,

President



Assisted Dying Bill

Assisted Dying Webinar - 21 January 2025 - open to all APM Members

The APM Executive will be hosting a webinar on Tuesday 21 January (12:30 - 14:00) which will consist of a short opening presentation followed by open discussion. There will be:

- An update for APM members about the Assisted Dying bill
- An update on what the APM has been doing
- An opportunity for members to share their thoughts.

The presentation will be recorded and provided to members. **The discussion will not be recorded.**

To register for free please [click here](#).

Committee Update



Race Equity Committee Update

The REC has been growing over the past year. Our new Chair is Professor Dr Qamar Abbas, and Vice Chair is Dr Bhajneek Grewal. We have welcomed Dr Sunitha Daniel and Dr Amaal Weli to the committee. Dr Jamilla Hussain, our outgoing chair, also remains a valued member of the REC and we thank her for all her hard work in getting us this far.

We have successfully run Race Equity ECHO sessions on topics such as *Power differential & privilege*, *Racism and its manifestations in end of life care* and *Epistemic Injustice in the Workplace*. The ECHO network is a great way for racialised staff to connect and gain peer support. The REC has also worked alongside the Compassionate Communities team to deliver education sessions.

We have had some great conversations with the APM's recently appointed Lay Trustee, Trudie Roiz de Sa and will continue to work with her and the wider board on matters of race equity. In 2025 we will also be working more closely with our colleagues in the APM's EDI and Education committees.

We are always keen to hear from APM members who are interested in joining our committee – please contact Bhajneek.grewal@nhs.net

Dr Bhajneek Grewal,

Vice Chair, APM Race Equity Committee

SAS and Hospice Doctors Committee Update

The SAS and Hospice Doctors committee have welcomed two new members to the committee over the last 6 months or so, Dr Rebecca (Bex) Maiti and Dr Beth Goundry.

Committee Work

The committee have continued to support SAS and Hospice doctors by responding to both email and phone queries, mostly relating to CESR applications and contract issues. Beth Goundry has now taken responsibility for being point of contact for these enquiries.

We held a virtual study afternoon on 21 November with sessions on innovative SC drugs, endocrinology and career updates / contractual changes affecting SAS and hospice doctors. The study afternoon was well attended with our record numbers yet! The committee will continue to arrange 1 study session per year working alongside the Education committee on the topic. The study session will be targeted to all APM members, rather than just SAS and hospice doctors. Equally, to ensure we still meet the specific needs of SAS and Hospice doctors, we also plan to host a virtual event at least twice a year where the committee provide an online surgery for members. We are aiming for this to be a free session for members.

Alongside the work above, we have updated our Terms of Reference, and our aims and objectives. We have also spent time working on Development framework for SAS doctors to take account of Specialist Grade, to include sample Job Description and person specification.

Dr Katie Jerram and Dr Paul Selway

Co-Chairs, APM SAS and Hospice Doctors committee

Neuro SIF Update

2024 has seen the routine work of the NeuroSIF continue, distributing information and the occasional requests for support. Beyond this, we supported the APM endorsement of a chapter on neuropalliative care for a book on the care and rehabilitation of people living in care homes by Dr Emma Husbands and the development of a questionnaire on prolonged disorders of consciousness aimed, among others, at palliative care physicians.

In July, Idris Baker and I were invited to support Hospice UK on a project aimed at encouraging hospices to develop their work with patients with neurological conditions, which we hear has proved popular. In addition, two guideline development groups have recently been convened both of which will be seeking APM endorsement: one on palliative care guidelines in CJD and other prion conditions and another on an aspect of myasthenia gravis care. These are both in their early phases but look exciting.

Next year we hope to run the postponed neuropalliative care study day. A number of APM members have agreed to support the development of this and I will be in touch with those individuals in due course.

Finally, we would welcome a trainee to join the NeuroSIF committee. If you are interested, please discuss with your educational supervisor and then get in touch with me.

Jon Martin,

Chair APM Neuro SIF

jmartin17@nhs.net

Other Items



Mapping the palliative and end-of-life care research workforce in the UK: A mixed method study

You are warmly invited to take part in a Marie Curie-funded project to map the palliative and end-of-life care research workforce in the UK. The project aims to identify workforce challenges and opportunities, improve career paths for researchers, and inform decision-making on future funding to expand research capacity. As part of this work, a national online survey has been created inviting participation from anyone involved in palliative and end-of-life care research.

To take part in the survey please [click here](#).

The deadline for responses is Sunday 5 January 2025.

Thank you for taking the time to support this survey.

Palliative Digest - December 2024

Patrick Edmonds from the Academy Library and Information Service shares a monthly bulletin containing the latest articles published, along with details of resources available to support practice. This will be very useful for many members, therefore we would like to direct you to the December 2024 update. Please note, you will need an Open Athens account to access these resources.

To view the December End of Life Bulletin, please [click here](#).



Launch of Community of Practice for Palliative and End-of-life Virtual Wards

Thank you to those APM members who completed my survey, 'Survey of UK Palliative Virtual Wards' I'm pleased to announce that we are launching a Community of Practice for Palliative and End-of-life care Virtual Wards, for the sharing of experience between those who are running Palliative & End-of-life care Virtual Wards and those who are considering setting up a Virtual Ward.

The first meeting will be on **Thursday 23rd January 13:00 - 14:30** and we're pleased to have an excellent line-up of speakers and time for Q&A, including:

- Palliative Virtual Ward UK 2024 survey results
- Compton Care Virtual Ward
- Oxford RIPEL Virtual Ward, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Queenscourt Hospice Virtual Ward

- Marie Curie Research Team

For more information and to register, please follow [this link](#)

This event will be recorded for catch-up for those who are unable to attend.

Any queries, please contact Hannah May-Miller hannah.may-miller@nhs.net

Hannah May-Miller

Darzi Fellow in Virtual Ward, Palliative and Internal Medicine Specialty Registrar.

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

Calling all members!



We need your help!

We are looking for a willing APM Member who would like to be involved in our soon to be formed 'Bulletin Working Group'. The group will be responsible for assisting the Secretariat to pull together the monthly bulletin.

If you would like to be involved, contributing your thoughts and recommendations to make the APM monthly bulletin even better, then we would love to hear from you. Please [contact the APM Secretariat](#) to put your name forward.

If you do not wish to join the working group, but would like to share your thoughts on how we can improve the bulletin, please send your ideas through to the Secretariat. We want to ensure that the bulletin is a useful resource for all of our members so your input is invaluable.

Thank you for your support.

Meeting Observer Opportunities

If you have an interest in the workings of the APM, perhaps to find out more about what we do or to find out if being on the Council is for you in the future, there are

opportunities available for APM members to join our Executive and Council meetings as 'meeting observers'.

Please contact the Secretariat if you would like to put your name forward.

We look forward to hearing from you!

APM Executive & Council Vacancies



Elected Council Member Vacancy

We are looking to recruit an elected member of the APM Council, following the end of term for one of our members. For further information on what is involved, please [click here](#)

To apply for the post, please [click here](#) to be taken to the nomination form.

We welcome applications from members across the Association.

The deadline for applications has been extended to Friday 31 January 2025, 5:00pm.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Secretariat.

Committee Vacancies



APM Race Equity Committee - Committee Member

The Race Equity committee is looking to extend their membership and for that purpose are seeking two new APM members who are working within a palliative care setting and from minoritised racialised group. The committee would be especially keen to recruit allied health and nursing professionals. Interested individuals will share our commitment to the values outlined and the wellbeing of the people we support.

The committee will be reviewing/accepting applications as they are submitted.

Please visit the [APM website](#) for more information.

Deadline: Friday 28 February 2025 at 09:00

Clinical Quality Committee - Chair

The Committee has vacancies for a committee member and also for the chair. Role descriptions and nomination forms are available below and we would be happy to discuss these roles if you have any questions.

[Committee Chair](#)

[Committee Member](#)

The deadline for expressions of interest for the Committee Chair role is **9am on Friday 17 January 2025.**

New Committee Members



Dr Andrew Thorns

I am a firm believer that ethics and research are two key areas for us in the APM so I look forward to joining the committee. Previously medical director and now consultant and research lead at Pilgrims Hospice, as I start to wind down for retirement I have more time to help address the important issues we face in these area.

Dr Andrew Thorns

Research and Ethics Committee Member

OxCERPC 'feature event'



Advanced Ethics in Palliative & End of Life Care

Focus on personhood and identity.

Date: 31 March 2025

Format: Online

Cost: £250

For more information and to book, please [click here](#).



Save the Date



Masterclasses in Palliative Care

Dates:

January 24 2025 at Dorothy House Hospice,

28 February 2025 at Marymount Hospice

5 March 2025 at Strathcarron Hospice

Format: in-person (see dates and locations above)

[Book Course](#)



General Medicine for Palliative Care Physicians

Date: January 30 2025

Format: Virtual

[Book Course](#)



Advanced Communication Skills 'Plus'

For those who wish to refresh skills, a 3 part course.

Date: 6 February 2025 - 13 March 2025

Format: Virtual

Cost: £400

[Book Course](#)



Deaf Awareness and Overcoming Barriers in Healthcare

An innovative new study day focusing on those with hearing difficulties.

Date: 28 March 2025

Format: In Person, Oxford

[Book Course](#)



Advanced Communication Skills for staff in Critical Care

Date: 12 - 13 May 2025

Format: Online

Cost: £725

[Book Course](#)



[Register now](#) for the Marie Curie Research into Practice Conference 2025

The conference, running from Tuesday 11 to Friday 14 February 2025, is once again **online and free for all** to attend.

Prominent presenters from across palliative and end of life care will be joining us for four days of thematic and spotlight sessions, and abstract presentations. Our priority is to bring you the latest research evidence to inform practice and policy, with the aim of improving support for everyone affected by dying, death or bereavement. This is in line with Marie Curie's mission to close the gap in end of life care.

And there's no pressure to join every session. [Register now](#) and in the run up to the event, bookmark the sessions you wish to attend. If registered, you can watch sessions back at a time that suits you.

Are you aware of research that has had impressive impact or public and patient involvement? Our [Clair Fisher Research Impact Award](#) and [Tammy Prescott Patient and Public Involvement Award](#) are open for nominations! Click on each to find out more.

To keep up with the latest Marie Curie research and conference news, please follow @MarieCurieEOLC on X and [sign up to our Research Newsletter](#).



Training the Teachers 2025

Palliative Care Unit, University of Liverpool

A 3 day course on modern and effective ways of teaching in Palliative and End-of-Life Care, exploring a range of teaching methods and delivery skills and looking at how the KOLB model can be adapted to enhance Palliative Care teaching. Suitable for healthcare professionals with more than two years experience of working in palliative and end of life care who are expected to provide education as part of their role. [More information here.](#)

DATE: 23-25 June 2025

VENUE: Leonardo Hotel Liverpool

COST: £760

BOOKING: Please [click here](#) for further information and to book.

Or contact course administrator Alison Holcroft Alison.Holcroft@liverpool.ac.uk for enquiries and to arrange booking via invoice.

International Collaborative for Best Care for the Dying Person

Tenth Annual International Conference

19 - 20 November 2025

Royal College of Physicians North (The Spine), Liverpool

Save the date for this two-day international conference, endorsed by the APM and with discounted fees for members. The programme will be of interest to consultants, trainees of all grades, specialist nurses and allied health professionals, and will feature presentations and workshops from world-leading clinicians and researchers. For further information including full programme and abstract submission details, subscribe to the International Collaborative mailing list at www.bestcareforthedying.org or contact admin@bestcareforthedying.org

**International
Collaborative
for Best Care
for the Dying Person**



EAPC Congress 2025

Registration for the 19th World Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care is now open. APM Members are eligible for the EAPC members congress rate. If you wish to register for the congress at the lower EAPC member rate, then you will need to enter this code during the registration process:

Discount code: 55APMGBBC

For further information about the Congress and to register, please [click here](#).



ABC of e-ELCA 5. – Do You Know??

...that e-ELCA can be used for CPD points with the RCP?

Don't forget to record CPD using e-ELCA!

There is a Learning Path (groups of useful sessions) tailored for Internal Medical Trainees:

[Find out more here](#)

Contact me for more information (and we are always looking for volunteers to review sessions for us!) – sarah.hanrott@nhs.net

[e-ELCA](#) is an e-learning library which provides resources to enhance the training and education of all health and social care workforce so that high-quality care can be delivered by confident and competent staff and volunteers to support people wherever they happen to be. It is freely available to anyone in the UK.

There are over 180 sessions in 8 topic areas.

- Advance care planning

- Assessment
- Communications skills
- Symptom management
- Social care
- Bereavement care
- Spiritual care
- Specific conditions and contexts

Access e-ELCA at

<https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/end-of-life-care/>

e-ELCA is also available via OpenAthens, ESR and eIntegrity.

APM Testimonials



Can you help us?

What do you love about being an APM member? We would be very grateful if you could send your written testimonials to the [Secretariat office](#).

You may like to tell us why you decided to join the APM, how long you've been a member or what it's like to be part of the APM community!

Thank you!



Thanks for Subscribing!



Did you know as an APM full member you have free access to *Palliative Medicine* - the world's highest ranked journal on palliative care, as part of your APM member benefits?

To get access, login to your account on the [APM website](#) and go to our new 'Learning and Information' area.

There are three ways to keep up to date with the latest research in *Palliative Medicine*

1. [Follow them on X](#) for daily updates on the latest papers, news and discussion.
2. Listen to their [podcast series](#) for introductions to research papers from the authors themselves.
3. Visit their [special collections page](#) for themed collections on dementia, end of life care, sedation, bereavement and much more!

Got a paper to submit? See their [submission guidelines](#) for information from the Editor on the types of papers we are looking for.





Reminder



It has come to our attention that some communication emails from the APM being sent via Dotmailer are not reaching APM members. One reason may be that they are being blocked by IT Departments.

Please ensure that you inform your IT Department to "Safelist" the following email address:

Association for Palliative Medicine communications@apmonline.org.uk

[Click here](#) for "how to white list emails"

Please ensure that the APM are notified of any changes to your email address.

[Advertise via the APM](#)

[Click here](#) for more information and a price list

*Please quote your APM membership number for a **20% discount***

[view in browser](#)