



Association for  
Palliative Medicine

# Article of the Month

July 2019

## **Enabling patients with advanced chronic obstructive pulmonary disease to identify and express their support needs to health care professionals: A qualitative study to develop a tool**

A Carole Gardener, Gail Ewing, Morag Farquhar.

This paper describes a two-stage qualitative study designed to develop a tool to allow patients with advanced chronic obstructive pulmonary disease describe areas where they need more support with their care. The authors highlight that there is currently a lack of an existing tool which focuses on patients' care needs to enable them to live with their COPD. The first stage of the study involved a systematic review, qualitative analysis of established dataset and finally patient and carer focus groups to identify domains of support need. The second stage encompassed the development of a draft tool, which utilised the domains of need identified in stage one, and then tested its suitability with patients, carers and health care professionals. The work resulted in the development of The Support Needs Approach for Patients (SNAP) tool which they feel has the potential to be used in clinical practice to allow patients with COPD to identify and express their care needs.

[Click here](#) to view the full article

---