



Association for
Palliative Medicine

Article of the Month

September 2017

End-of-life care for homeless people: A qualitative analysis exploring the challenges to access and provision of palliative care.

Shulman C, Hudson B, Low J, et al.

Palliative Medicine (2017): 0269216317717101.

This paper uses interviews with current and formerly homeless people, homelessness staff, and health and social care professionals to explore end of life care delivery for homeless people.

The findings highlight that homeless people often remain in hostels as health deteriorates, and sometimes for end of life care, due to a lack of alternatives. The authors conclude that person centred care is often lacking for this vulnerable group, and that improved training and in-reach into hostels may be beneficial.

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The costs, resource use and cost-effectiveness of Clinical Nurse Specialist-led interventions for patients with palliative care needs: A systematic review of international evidence.

Salamanca-Balen N, Seymour J, Caswell G, et al.

Palliative Medicine (2017): 0269216317711570.

There is evidence that clinical nurse specialists can improve quality of care and potentially improve costs, but this systematic review points out the great variation in the quality of evidence, and how the impact of nurse specialists is measured. More high-quality studies are needed to pinpoint the settings and models of care in which nurse specialists may have the greatest impact.

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Prepared by Simon Etkind, on behalf of the APM Science Committee