

# A Retrospective Re-audit of the End of Life Care Plans at Severn Hospice

## Aim

To assess progress since the last end of life (EoL) care plan audit in February 2018 and identify areas for improvement

## Method

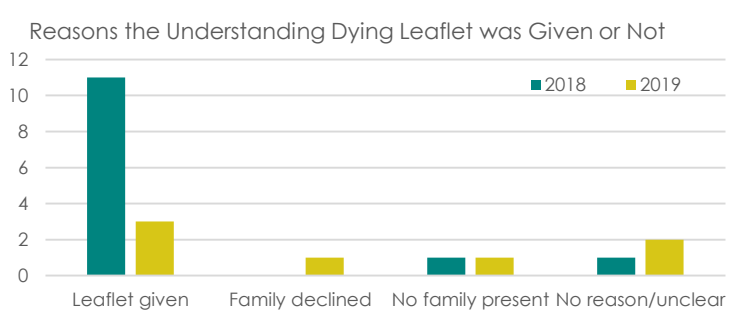
Eight patients died across all three wards at Severn Hospice between 11-23 February 2019, seven of whom had an end of life care plan. These plans were analysed against the proforma used for the audits conducted in 2017/2018.

## Results

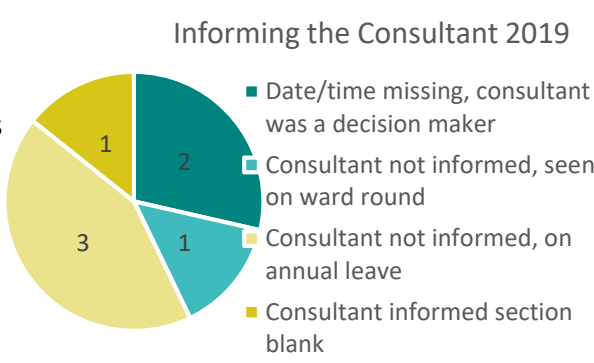
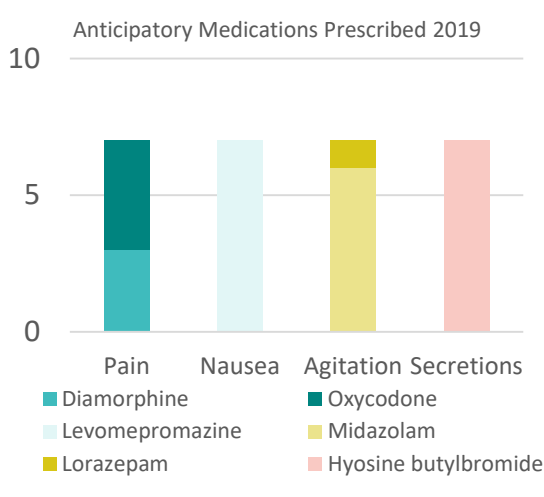
- How many plans considered an end of life conversation with the patient?  
7/7 (100%) considered EoL conversations  
In 2018, 8/15 (53%) patients had an EoL conversation
- How many plans considered an end of life conversation with the family/friends?  
7/7 (100%) considered the conversation  
In 2018, 15/17 (88%) families had an EoL conversation
- How many patients had the four anticipatory medications prescribed?  
7/7 (100%) patients had the medications prescribed  
In 2018 all patients (100%) had the medications prescribed
- Do all the plans have the patient's details on every page?  
In 2018, 9/13 (69%) plans had the patient's details on every page

- Is the decision makers section completed?  
4/7 (57%) had this section fully completed  
In 2018, 12/13 (92%) had this section completed
- Was the consultant named and informed?  
7/7 (100%) had consultant named but never 'informed'  
In 2018 all plans (100%) had the consultant named and the consultant was informed in 8/13 (62%)

13. Was the 'understanding dying' leaflet offered to the family and if not, why?  
4/7 (57%) documented the leaflet was offered  
In 2018 11/13 (85%) documented the leaflet was given



14. How many sections of the 'care after death' documentation were completed?  
4/7 (57%) had all sections completed  
In 2018 5/17 (29%) had all sections completed



8. How many plans have >1 member of staff documenting on the signature sheet?  
6/7 (86%) had > 1 staff member  
In 2018, 9/13 (70%) had >1 staff member

9. Is there documentation regarding potentially reversible causes?  
All plans (100%) had this documentation  
In 2018 all plans (100%) had this documentation

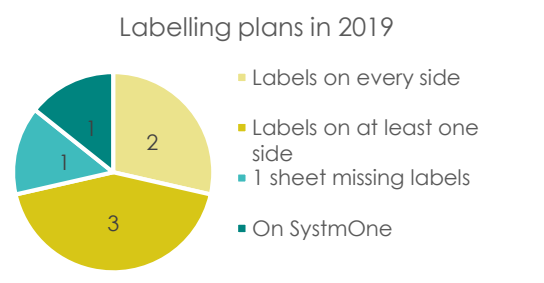
10. Has clinically assisted hydration been considered?  
6/7 (86%) had artificial hydration considered  
In 2018 all patients (100%) had this considered

11. Where was the patients' preferred place of death?  
7/7 (100%) had PPD considered  
In 2018, 100% had PPD documented

12. Was there potential for discharge home?  
3/7 (43%) had discharge home considered  
In 2018, all plans (100%) had home discharge considered

## Summary of Results

Question	2018 (%)	2019 (%)
1. EoL conversation with patient	53	100
2. EoL conversation with family	88	100
3. 4 anticipatory medications prescribed	100	100
4. Patient details on all pages	69	83
5. Date and time plan commenced	100	100
6. Decision makers section complete	92	57
7. Consultant named/informed	100/62	100/29
8. >1 staff member on signature sheet	70	86
9. Documentation regarding reversible causes	100	100
10. Assisted hydration considered	100	86
11. PPD considered	100	100
12. Potential for discharge home	100	43
13. Understanding dying leaflet offered	85	57
14. Care after death documents completed	29	57



5. Is the time and date the EoL plan was commenced documented on all plans?  
7/7 (100%) had the time and date documented  
In 2018 all plans (100%) had the time and date documented

## Suggestions Following the Audit

- Get the nurses to edit the care plan when they provide care or support to the family
- Ensure the decision makers document their full names and grades
- Improve awareness of which consultant is covering the ward each week
- Ward clerks to document in the care plan when they send the email informing staff the patient is EoL
- Make preferred place of care and death are separate questions- consider tick boxes
- Add a box on the care plan to tick if the patients family declines a leaflet and a free text box for any additional information about leaflets
- Add a box on the daily assessment asking whether the patient has changed
- Have notifications come up if any areas of the plan have not been filled in