

Improving palliative care services for adolescents and young adults with cancer

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Improving palliative care services for adolescents and young adults with cancer.

- Develop an understanding of the barriers to palliative care in the adolescent and young adult with cancer population

WHAT IS A FOCUS GROUP?

- A facilitated discussion among a group of people in which a moderator uses open-ended questions to encourage discussion of a particular topic or issue

WHY ?

- To gather a wide range of information in a short amount of time
- Group discussion can reveal areas of agreement and disagreement as well as different perspectives and unexpected ideas

KEY STEPS

- **Consider who should be involved**
- **Develop questions**
- Select a moderator
- Recruit participants
- Arrange venue and times
- Undertake and record sessions
- Analyse and interpret data

ONCOLOGY TEAM

- Could you outline some broad principles guiding – ceasing chemo, life prolonging treatments?
- Could you comment upon how these principles apply/differ/are modified in the care of a young person?
- What do you perceive are the barriers to a death at home?

CBPC QUESTIONS

- Many young patients receive life prolonging treatment late into the disease trajectory. What challenges does this present when delivering palliative care at home?
- What do you perceive to be a barrier to death at home in this age group?

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- **SELECT A MODERATOR**
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THE MODERATOR

- Stimulates discussion about the topic without restricting spontaneity and richness of discussion
- Creates a permissive and nurturing environment
- Encourages different perceptions and points from all members of the group

KEY STEPS

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- Develop questions
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- **Undertake and record sessions**
- **Analyse and interpret data**

REFERENCE

National Institute of Clinical Studies
Identifying Barriers to Evidence Uptake,
February 2006