Bolton NHS
Primary Care Trust

End of Life Strategy

2006 - 2011

Background

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- Tendency to equate end of life and palliative care only with cancer.
- Bolton already has a good infrastructure with innovative developments.
- Strategy will build on existing good practice
- Care in all settings where people are dying will be strengthened.
- Jointly developed five-year strategy
- Aimed at people with long term conditions in their last 6 to 12 months of life.
- Builds on the work carried out in specialist palliative care.
- Involves review of provision of services across health and care.
- It acknowledges that this service should apply to persons of ***all*** ages and abilities dying from ***any*** cause and not just cancer.

Vision

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- "To provide services in Bolton that are built around the individual, and that deliver high quality and effective, care of the dying and bereaved irrespective of age and the cause of death."

KEY DELIVERABLES

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- Reduced admissions to acute hospital for End of life care unless necessary on clinical grounds.
- Reduced admissions from residential and nursing homes in the last days of life.
- Reduced length of stay in hospital through better discharge planning.
- Increase in the number of people, in agreement with their carers, who wish to be supported at home at end of life.
- Coordinated care and development of shared individual care plans.
- Increase in the number of services provided to carers and the number of carer assessments.

Causes and place of death

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NATIONAL CONTEXT

In 2004, 513,000 people died of natural causes.

The major recorded primary causes of death amongst all ages were:

Circulatory disease (37.2%)

Cancer (27%)

Respiratory disease (13.5%)

Neurological Conditions (2.8%)

Renal failure (1.2%)

Others (18.9%)

(ONS 2005)

Nationally among people of all ages:

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56% of deaths occur in hospital,

19% at home,

18% in a care home

4% in a hospice.

(National Statistics 2003).

About half of all deaths do not take place in the setting that the dying person prefers, which for more than half is at home (Higginson 2003).

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2004

Deaths due to Natural Causes (ICD- 10 Code A00 - R99) in 2004	2659*

Underlying Cause of Death	Hospital	Home	Hospice	Care Home
Diseases of the circulatory system	679	204	1	138
Cancer	312	129	115	51
Diseases of the respiratory system	338	60	0	68
Mental and Behavioural disorders, including vascular dementia	35	3	0	38
Diseases of the digestive system	157	12	1	1
Alzheimer's disease and Senility without mention of psychosis (old age)	23	7	0	43
Genito-urinary diseases	29	2	0	7
Diseases of the musculo-skeletal system and connective tissues	26	3	0	3

Excludes Neonatal (those at age under 28 days) Deaths

Data source: ONS 2004 Annual Death Occurrence File

*excludes 1 death (ICD-10 C19) code with an invalid place of death code

How we will achieve vision

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- Coordinated care
- Training and education
- 24 hour access
- Dignity
- Choice