

Collaboration with Primary Care to improve Advance Care Planning (ReSPECT) in Care Homes

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BACKGROUND

In 2022, we launched a Care Home service aimed at reducing avoidable hospital admissions by reviewing and updating ReSPECT forms for residents with life limiting conditions who were at risk of being inappropriately conveyed to hospital.

Despite our continued efforts, we were unable to secure ongoing statutory funding for the service, which had been supported by the charity during the pandemic. In the absence of sustainable financial backing, the charity was no longer in a position to continue delivering the service.

We informed Commissioners and GP partners of its planned closure and subsequently engaged with each Primary Care Network (PCN) to explore opportunities for direct commissioning.



AIM

- Increase the number of residents discussing and documenting their wishes
- Improve the quality of documentation to support emergency clinical decision making
- Increase the number of residents achieving their preferred place of care (PPC) / preferred place of death (PPD).



This service is invaluable to our home and residents. We get a fast and reliable service to help meet the residents' needs



ReSPECT forms are completed in a very professional manner, all families are informed



METHOD

The service launched in two Primary Care Networks (PCNs) in June 2024, followed by a third shortly after.

Each PCN commissions a Specialist Palliative Care Nurse at varying capacities to undertake conversations and document residents' wishes concerning end of life.

We established key performance indicators (KPIs) and monthly reporting to assess the impact, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

A custom template was developed in our patient record system, EMIS, to share information across systems, ensuring a complete patient record in Primary Care.

RESULTS

	Hours/week	New ACPs	Reviews/updates	MDTs attended	PPC/PPD registered
PCN 1 (10 months data)	18.75	116	100	35	216
PCN 2 (10 months data)	7.5	67	67	0 <small>(Written reports submitted)</small>	134
PCN 3 (7 months data)	15	59	17	6	76

- One PCN has since extended the service to include housebound patients.
- A fourth PCN is commissioning the service to commence in June 2025.

CONCLUSION

A 12-month evaluation will be conducted, with findings presented to the remaining PCNs to expand the service.

