

Palliative care review feedback sought

The Ministry of Health is seeking feedback from the Primary Care sector during the initial phase of the Review of Adult Palliative Care Services. As a member of the recently established Palliative Care Advisory Panel which is providing guidance to the Ministry on the Review, Debbie Barham (Waikato GP, Hospice Waikato Medical Officer, Palliative Medicine Advanced Trainee) has offered to coordinate a survey of the primary care sector. Robust feedback from those on the frontline is essential if the review is to be accurate in guiding future strategy, so you are invited to have your say.

With respect to any or all of the emerging themes listed below, please consider

a) what is working well and what isn't

b) whose responsibility is it to make things happens

c) ideas for the future that relate to the last three objectives of the Review:

- what do you see the gaps and barriers are to achieving high quality and equitable provision of care, including workforce issues, funding settings, and standards of care?*
- what actions do you think are needed to improve integrated services across all providers and care setting over the next 3 to 5 years?*
- what actions do you think are need to improve access to, and quality and standards of care, and ensure equitable provision of care over the next 3 to 5 years?*

Emerging themes:

- 1. The invisibility of death, dying, and palliative care within the health system*
- 2. We need to pay more attention to the needs and role of (family) carers*
- 3. We need consistent patient-centred care for all those who need it*
- 4. We need to ensure timely, high quality palliative care from primary care services for everyone who needs it*
- 5. We need patients' and families' voices to drive service improvement*
- 6. We need to build the capability of all health workers in palliative care and care of the dying*
- 7. We need a strong, well-supported specialist workforce*
- 8. We need to improve cooperation and coordination between providers*
- 9. At a system level, we need to make better use of data and focus on outcomes*
- 10. Funding arrangements - do they support equity? are they fair? transparent? do they provide the right incentives?*
- 11. Are there any other/new/different themes we should be thinking about?*

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