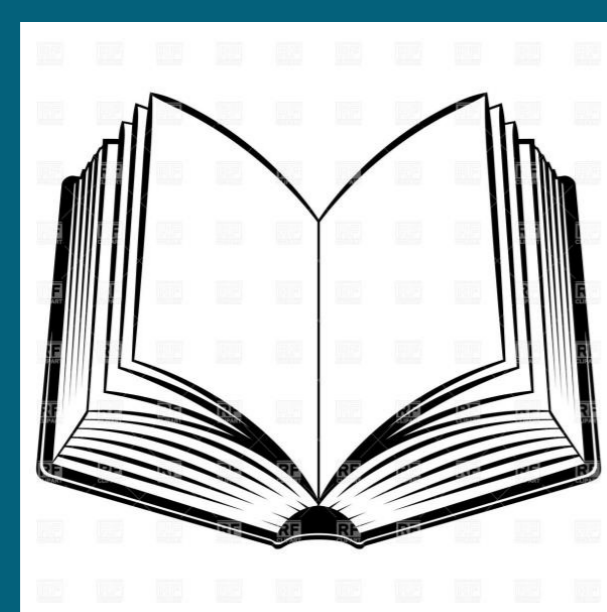


# Palliative care for older people: A public health perspective

A book



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## BACKGROUND

- ❖ A growing number of people will live to older ages, will experience multiple and complex chronic conditions and will need some form of care towards the end of their lives
- ❖ The **ageing** of society is becoming a major **public health issue**, posing challenges to social and health care structures in many countries



## THIS BOOK

- ❖ demonstrates the **added value of palliative care** which, although traditionally focused on cancer and the very end of life, can play a role in **strengthening and complementing the care of older people**
- ❖ outlines the **current state of worldwide policy work, research and innovations** in the field of public health and palliative care for older people
- ❖ concludes with **advice for policy- and decision-makers** at international and national level to support integrating palliative care widely into the healthcare systems in order to **improve access to and quality of palliative care for older people**

## POLICY ADVICE

1. **Integrating palliative care for older people: multiple approaches at multiple levels**
  - a) Integrating access to palliative care services into national and international healthcare policies
  - b) Promoting a paradigm shift in medicine towards basic palliative care knowledge and skills for all healthcare professionals
  - c) Supporting inter-professional collaboration
  - d) Including palliative care in national and international policies on ageing and dementia
  - e) Promoting community level approaches
2. **Ensuring education in palliative care at multiple levels**
3. **Clarifying the concept of palliative care for older people**
4. **Evaluating and monitoring the quality of and access to palliative care**
5. **Promoting research towards evidence-based palliative care for older people**

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