

Quality indicators for the organisation of palliative care – part 2

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17. There is a weekly multidisciplinary meeting with at least the physician and nurse in charge of the person in need of palliative care to review treatment and care plans.

4b. Sharing information

18. The file of the person in need of palliative care contains documentation of a discussion with the person or representative (if the person lacks capacity e.g. is unable to communicate) about:

- a) medical condition;
- b) goals for treatment;
- c) the physical, psychosocial and spiritual needs of the person and family caregiver;
- d) an advance directive or advanced care plan;
- e) end-of-life decisions;
- f) the intention to return home or to another facility from the place where the person is currently staying.

5. Documentation of clinical data

5a. Clinical records

19. The file of the person in need of palliative care contains a medication list that is accessible to the professionals caring for the person.

5b. Timely documentation

20. Within 48 hours of admission to the service, the file of the person in need of palliative care contains documentation of the initial assessment of:

- a) pain and other symptoms, using a validated instrument;
- b) psychosocial and spiritual needs;
- c) persons preferences, wishes and needs;
- d) capacity to be involved in the decision making process.

6. Quality

21. Family and caregiver experiences of the palliative care service are assessed / evaluated / recorded.

22. An end-of-life care pathway (such as the Liverpool Care Pathway) was used for the last 3 days of life of a person in need of palliative care.

7. Education

23. All professionals that deliver palliative care services receive accredited training in palliative care, appropriate to their discipline.

More information

van Riet Paap J, Vernooij-Dassen M, Dröes RM, Radbruch L, Vissers K, Engels Y. **Consensus on quality indicators to assess the organisation of palliative cancer and dementia care applicable across national healthcare systems and selected by international experts.** BMC Health Services Research 2014 14:396.

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