The Acute Intervention Team:

Supporting both palliative and critical care

County Durham and Darlington

NHS Foundation Trust

'Q is for Quality' Conference June 12th 2019



Richard Hixson, Consultant Critical Care Lucy Nicholson, Consultant Palliative Care Lisa Ward, Early Detection and Resuscitation Lead Nurse





Tipping points



- 58 year old man 9-1-2004:
 - 98% burns, discussion with patient in ED (with capacity).
 - Decision to palliate and give him time with wife and 2 daughters.
 - Agreed (eventually) this was a success for communication.

Intervening 15 years....?

- 62 year old man 3-2-2019:
 - Severe MS, chest sepsis, ACP and DNACPR in situ prior to admission.
 - IP cardiac arrest 5-2-2019, CPR, ventilated, bilateral chest drains.
 - Withdrawal on ICU, safeguard, meeting, inappropriate escalation.



Do not make life easy for ourselves



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Tipping points

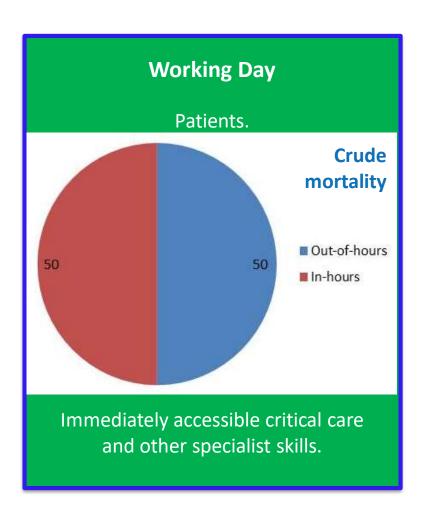


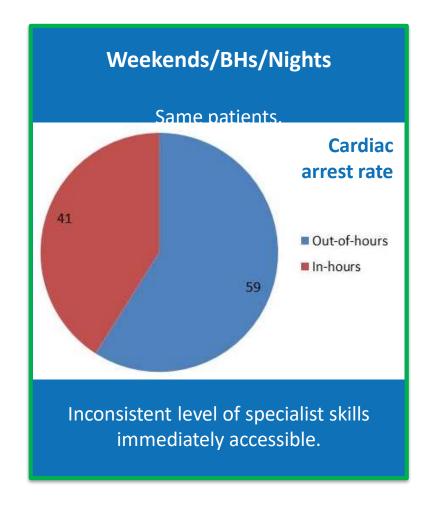
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 - Withdrawal on ICU, safeguard, meeting, inappropriate escalation.
- 71 year old man 1-12-2015:
 - Elective hemicolectomy, CPET, ward post-op.
 - Hypotensive, all medical staff busy with other patients.
 - Delay to 'simple' treatment (fluid), died, failure to rescue.



Day and night

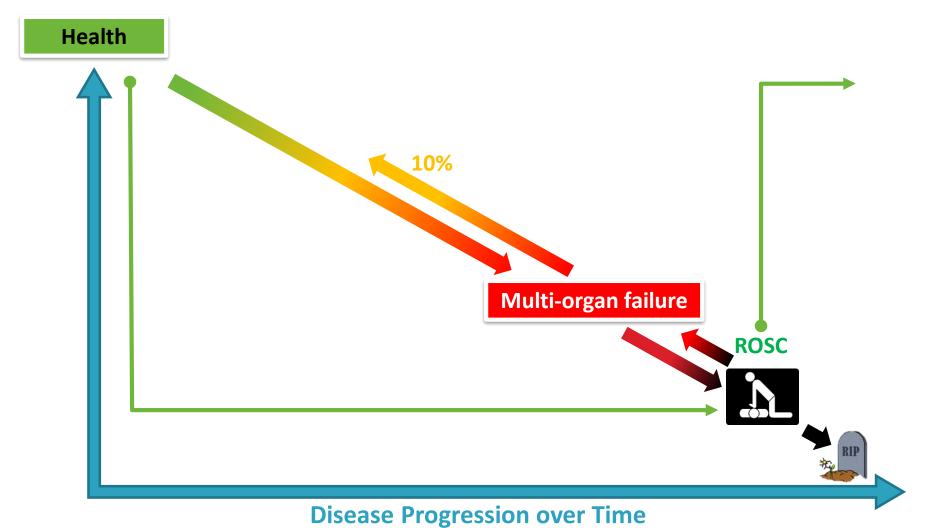


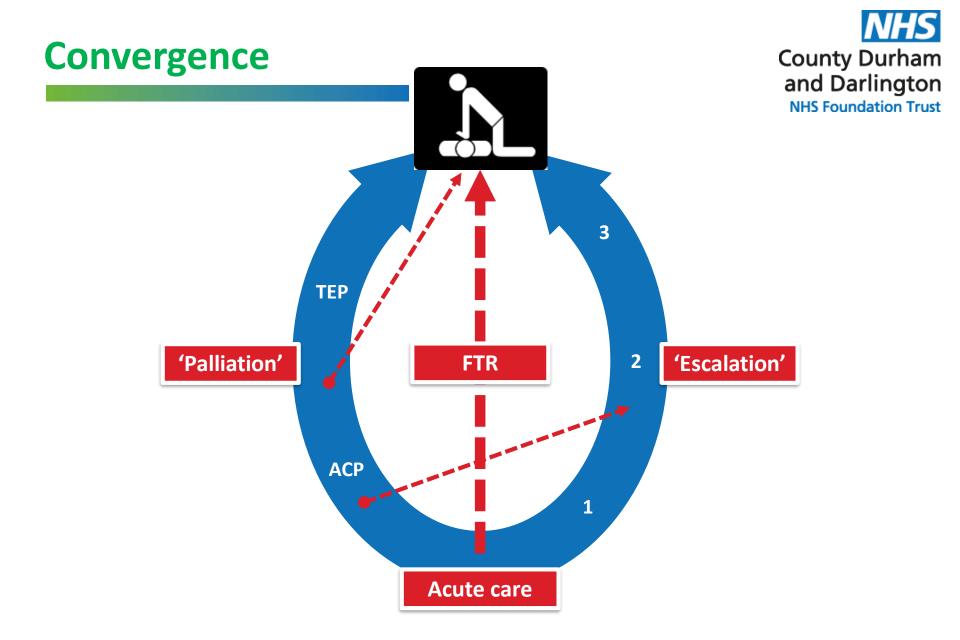




The reality of ROSC







Poor decision making







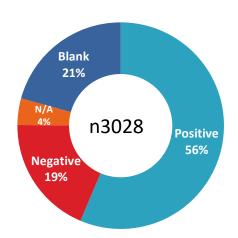


Data from 2222 MET Calls



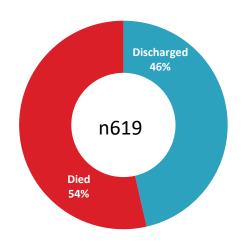
2018-19:

56% (n1707) of patients had unmet palliative care needs*



Four Months Analysis:

- 619 patients 'positive' on the tool*
- 54% (n330) died on that admission

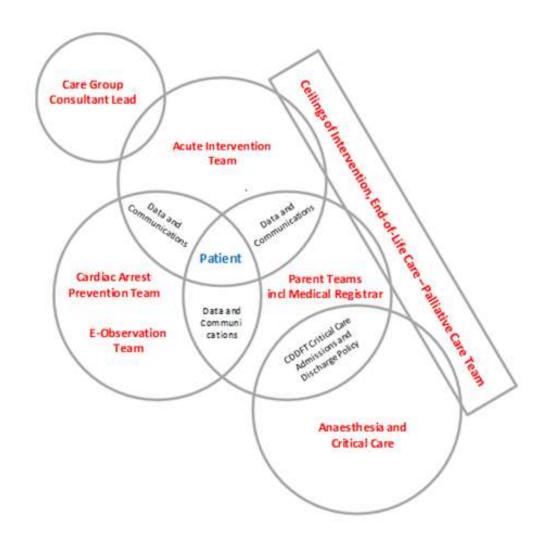




^{*}Supportive and Palliative Care Indicator Tool (2017) www.spict.org.uk

Our Model.....







www.cddft.nhs.net

Referrals via



- 2222 Medical Emergency NEWS ≥9 or significant clinical concern
- NEWS ≥6 or single parameter score 3
- 'Sepsis Suspected'
- Clinical Concern
- Specialist Palliative Care Team Referrals
- ITU Discharges
- Post-op Referrals
- Al Follow up list
- H@N 'Tasks'







www.cddft.nhs.net

Benefits of the Model





Improved Decision Making

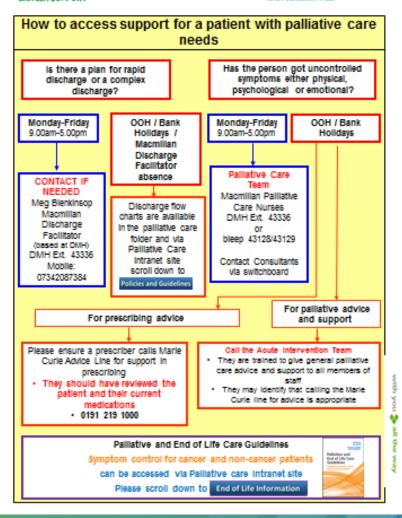


Palliative care flow chart



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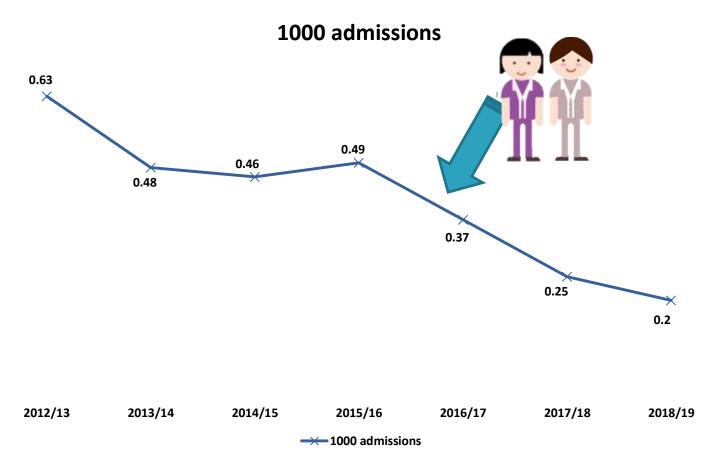






Cardiac Arrests where DNACPR would be appropriate









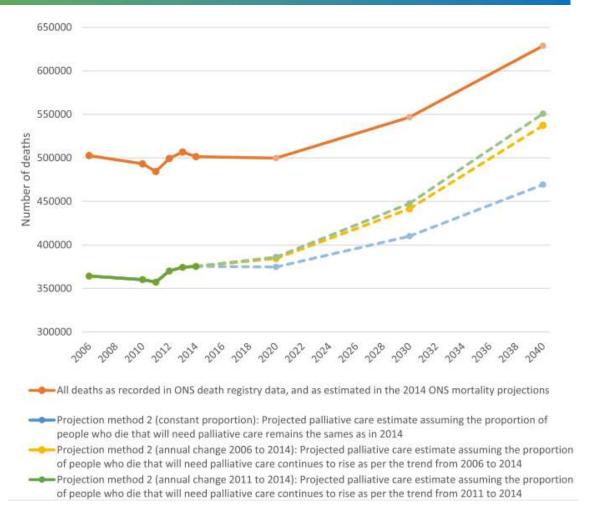
www.cddft.nhs.net

Increased palliative care capacity at no extra cost



Predicted rise in palliative care needs





Etkind et al. BMC Medicine DOI 10.1186/s12916-017-0860-2



Increased palliative care capacity



Before the AIT:



9-5 service

2 WTE band 7 specialist palliative care nurses

1 WTE band 6 discharge facilitator

0.6 WTE palliative care consultant

Out of hours – telephone advice only

With the AIT:

Specialist service 9-5 with telephone advice OOH

1WTE band 6 face to face, 24/7

1 WTE band 3 face to face, 24/7

Increased capacity for education for ward teams





Palliative care training



Palliative care induction for band 6 practitioners:

- Recognising dying and potential reversibility
- Palliative care emergencies
- MCA/Best interests process
- Management of common end of life symptoms
- Opioid conversions and CSCI
- End of life care priorities and anticipatory medications

All team members shadow the palliative care team for a week

SPC consultants attend the AI team education events to provide Q&A sessions for ongoing support.





Al Review in notes

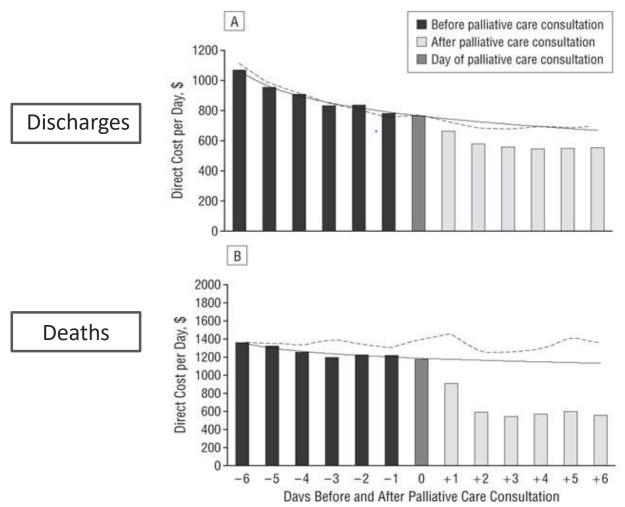


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Palliative care input reduces costs





Morrison et al, Arch Intern Med. 2008;168(16):1783-1790. doi:10.1001/archinte.168.16.1783







Our model improves the quality of patient care



County Durham and Darlington





Thank You for Listening



From: Grateful Relative

Sent:

To: Patient Experience

Subject: Compliments and gratitude for some extraordinary members of your team

Hello

I'm writing this email sitting by the bedside of my relative, the difficult decision has been taken to help them be comfortable as they reach the end of her life but not to prolong their treatment.......

.....In this last visit, however, my relative and all of us received a level of care and support from two individuals in particular that I wanted to write to you about. Al Nurse Practitioner and a Ward Nurse......

'..... I can't thank you enough, without the team I think my mam would have been one of those people who has a cardiac arrest but shouldn't as they were dying.....'

'..... I just wanted to say thank you for everything you did last week to get my Gran home, you gave us some very precious time with her that we are all so grateful for.....'

