A collaborative model of palliative care

Ballarat Hospice Care Inc. and Ballarat District Nursing and Healthcare

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1. Objectives

- Complete project plan for Integrated Palliative Care Service Model (IPCSM) project
  - Structured project profiles of Palliative Care (BHCI) and Ballarat District Nursing and Healthcare (BDNH) - first interim report
  - Conduct literature search and review of shared models of palliative care service delivery
  - Develop a communication and co-ordination system to support needs based priorities
  - Survey perceptions of competency in palliative care and training needs held by primary care, specialist palliative care, and district nurses at BDNH
  - Complete a project report, including memorandum of understanding

2. Method

- Project plan used Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBoK® methodology)
  - Analysis and documentation of multiple priorities - first interim report
  - Literature search and review undertaken
  - Draft communication and co-ordination system and results of education needs survey
  - Conduct ‘future’ focus group workshops with BHCI and BDNH, to identify a model of care and how to facilitate systems integration and care coordination
  - Develop resource utilisation group of palliative care professionals and patients around patients’ needs
  - Survey nurse perception of competency in palliative care used survey instrument
  - Complete final report with memorandum of understanding

3. Results

3.1 Results

A collaborative model of palliative care

- A collaborative model of palliative care
  - Participatory and coordinated decision making by professionals and patients around patients’ health care needs
  - How things are done in different settings

3.2 Results

Initial needs assessment

Referral triggers for holistic palliative care assessment

Statement of choices

End of life care pathway

3.3 Results

Communication and coordination

4.1 Discussion

Referral triggers for holistic palliative care assessment

4.2.1 Detailed phase of care

PHASE OF CARE (stage of patient illness)

- Phases of palliative care defined
  - Patient may move back and forth between phases

PHASE 1 (onset)

- Established management plan adequately controls patient’s symptoms
- Further interventions in place to modify patient’s condition and quality of life
- Situation of family/caregiver is relatively stable and no new issues apparent

PHASE 2 (progress)

- Patient experiences development of new unexpected problems or rapid increase in severity of existing problems, either of which would require management or emergency treatment
- Results may require reassessment

PHASE 3 (deterioration)

- Family/caregiver experiences growing worstness of existing symptoms or development of new but expected problems
- These require application of established care plans and regular review, but not urgent or emergency treatment

PHASE 4 (terminal)

- Death is likely in a matter of days and no acute intervention is planned or required
- Patient may move to different phase

PHASE 5 (bereavement)

- Death has occurred and family/caregiver are grieving
- A planned bereavement support program is available including referral for counselling as necessary

5.1 Implications for practice

Collaborative model of palliative care and nurse education implementation plans

5.2 Implications for practice

Principles for BHCI and BDNH

Memorandum of Understanding

- Independence of the memorandum of understanding
- Continuation of a collaborative model of palliative care
- Extension to Palliative Care Service Framework for Victoria at http://www.supportcancer.org.au

6. Deliverables

- Literature search and review
- First interim report
- Second interim report including
  - Project plan for collaborative model of palliative care
  - Coordinated implementation plan for palliative care nurse education
  - Final draft memorandum of understanding and project evaluation to date: 31 May 2012
- Resources manual with tools, protocols and templates to support implementation of the collaborative model of palliative care
- Final project report including memorandum of understanding between BHCI and BDNH