

Public Notice – Does living by the sea impact palliative and end-of-life care outcomes?

This research study, sponsored by Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, aims to identify if there are differences in palliative and end of life care (PEOLC), for patients who live in coastal regions compared to patients that live further in land.

Over the last few years, it has become apparent that people who live in coastal communities are more disadvantaged. This is in terms of social deprivation, job opportunities, and access to healthcare. People that live in deprived areas are more likely to have health problems, including terminal illnesses. There is no current research looking at whether coastal communities are disadvantaged when it comes to palliative and end of life care, and this study hopes to fill that gap.

All relevant approvals such as Caldecott guardian of the hospital, National Research Ethics Committee, Health Research Authority (HRA) and Confidentiality Advisory Group (CAG) approval has been obtained prior to commencement of the study.

'Section 251 support' was requested to allow the disclosure of confidential patient information (name, NHS number) from James Paget University Hospital (JPUH) and East Coast Community Healthcare (ECCH) to Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (NNUH), in order for the Chief Investigator Dr Abigail Hensley to carry out this research. Support was further requested for Dr Hensley (who is not considered part of the direct care team) to access electronic health records of the deceased patients at East Coast Community Healthcare (ECCH), in order to extract an anonymous dataset for analysis, however this is not required from the James Paget University Hospital, as the research is part of the direct care team at that Trust.

A recommendation for class 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 support was requested to cover access to the relevant unconsented activities as described in the application.

If you have any objection to your data being used in the above manner please do get in touch with us using any of the below mentioned contact portals.

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