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# PRC

## Use of standardised care pathway in palliative care for cancer patients

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## Background

- Standardised care pathways (SCP) is a tool used to optimise care processes and implement evidence-based medicine
- We aimed to develop a SCP for palliative cancer patients in our region to improve quality of care within hospital and within community care and across the hospital- community continuum

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## Orkdal Hospital

- Local hospital located 42 km from Trondheim
- Part of Trondheim university hospital
- Serves 95 000 living in 19 municipalities
- 13 municipalities (56 000) take part in this project
- Hospital and primary health care have different electronic patient record systems

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## Outpatient cancer clinic Orkdal

- Established in Nov 2012
- Part of Cancer Clinic, Trondheim University Hospital
- Offers integrated oncology and palliative care
  - 2 oncologists
  - 3 cancer nurses and 1 study nurse
  - 1 secretary
  - Physiotherapist 20%
  - Clergyman 20%
  - Social worker 20 %
  - Dietitian 20 %
  - 3000 consultations a year

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## Start page

Standardised care pathway for palliative cancer patients in the Orkdal region

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graph LR; Referral --> Treatment[Treatment and follow-up]; Treatment --> EndOfLife[End of life care]; Education --- Community; Community --- Outcomes; Information --- NationalGuidelines[National guidelines];
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[http://data.stolav.no/ftp/stolav/eqspublic/pasientforlop/docs/doc\\_25343/index.html](http://data.stolav.no/ftp/stolav/eqspublic/pasientforlop/docs/doc_25343/index.html)

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## Aim of study

- Investigate to what extent the SCP developed for the palliative cancer patient in the Orkdal region was used the first year of implementation
- Data from hospital care

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## Study population

- Adult cancer patients
- Non-curative loco-regional or metastatic cancer
- Participants take part in a larger study "The Orkdal Model", ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier NCT02170168

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## Methods

- Patients included from Nov 2014 to Nov 2015
- Use of different items within the SCP was recorded:
  - every 4 weeks (regular form)
  - every time the patient was attending hospital (irregular form)
- Statistics: Use of SCP was summarized by descriptive statistics

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## Results

- 59 patients recruited
- Received hospital care in 702 occasions (regular form)
  - 623 outpatient
  - 79 inpatient
- Use of the SCP was recorded in 287 occasions (irregular form, 41 %)
  - 39 % of outpatient occasions
  - 37 % of inpatient occasions
- 423 4-weeks registrations of health care use in hospital (regular form)

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	Transition between levels	Transfer of medical information	Access to palliative care services	Symptom assessment
A follow-up appointment was made	88 %			
Nurse checklists used	94 %			
Use of patient's folder		20 %		
Patient's folder with updated medication list		46 %		
Hospital received updated medication list from community		11%		
Community received updated medication list from hospital		17 %		
Discharge summary sent to family doctor same day as discharge		92 %		
Patient received contact information at discharge			51 %	
Family meetings conducted			3,5 %	
Symptom assessment was done (EAPC basic data set)				66 %

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## Discussion/ conclusion

- Implementation of SCP is challenging
- From the first year of implementation there was positive tendency regarding use of SCP for some of the focus areas
- The results may be biased by lack of recording use of SCP (irregular form when the patient attended hospital) in 59 % of the occasions
- We need to continue the implementation work
- Use of SCP may be a tool to achieve high quality palliative care at different levels of health care

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## Thank you

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