



STRENGTHENING A PALLIATIVE APPROACH IN LONG-TERM CARE (SPA-LTC) PROJECT

RESEARCH BRIEF

A Stakeholder Analysis of the Strengthening a Palliative Approach in Long Term Care (SPA-LTC) Model

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Canadian Frailty Network | Réseau canadien des soins aux personnes fragilisées

Known previously as Technology Evaluation in the Elderly Network, TVR

BACKGROUND

- As the population ages, an increasing amount of individuals will die in long-term care (LTC) homes
- Despite this increasing statistic, current palliative approach models are not well suited for LTC settings and the frail, elderly population they aim to serve

RESEARCH TOPIC

- To analyze components of the current palliative model of care in LTC and refine them for use within a Canadian context

METHODOLOGY

- Using a sequential mixed methods design, this study completed a scoping review; this assisted in the development of the Strengthening a Palliative Approach in Long-Term Care (SPA-LTC) model
- A stakeholder analysis was completed with both quantitative (surveys) and qualitative (focus groups) components

KEY FINDINGS

- 46 articles related to palliative programs, training/capacity building, family support, advance care planning (ACP), and goals of care were included in the scoping review
- 21 LTC staff provided feedback about the model to guide revisions
- 35 key stakeholders endorsed the importance of all activities of the SPA-LTC model, but questioned its feasibility to introduce the palliative approach concept and begin ACP discussions with family members and residents in an LTC environment

CONCLUSION

- The SPA-LTC model was well-received and endorsed by a variety of LTC stakeholders, including staff, decision-makers, and researchers
- Future emphasis needs to be placed on the integration of ACP discussions in LTC