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

BACKGROUND

- As the population ages, an increasing amount of individuals will die in long-term care (LTC) homes
- Despite this increasing rate, current palliative care models in LTC are not well suited to care for this population

RESEARCH TOPICS

- The goal of this study was to analyze component of current palliative model of care in LTC and refine them for use within a Canadian context

STUDY AIMS

- Develop a LTC model for use within a Canadian context by:
  - Conducting a scoping review of various palliative care models in LTC homes
  - Developing a palliative model of care in LTC for use in Canadian institutions
  - Gathering LTC staff perceptions to revise the model
  - Executing a stakeholder analysis of the model based on suitability, desirability and feasibility

HOW WAS THIS STUDY DONE?

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

RESULTS

- 46 articles related to palliative care 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 ACO discussions with family members and residents in a LTC environment

KEY MESSAGES

- 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