

Third Annual Research Symposium
“Advances in End of Life Care”
26th February 2021

Background

- **Anne Mills**, Director of the Scholl Academic Centre, Isle of Man and Chair Professor **John Ellershaw**, Palliative Care Institute University of Liverpool hosted the Symposium face to face and virtually via webinar.
- **Professor Sarah McGee**, Honorary Professor (previously Director of Research), Hospice Isle of Man, gave a brief overview of the achievements by the Research Academic Team within since 2017: ‘SACCessful’.
- **Cheryl Young**, Nurse Consultant, Hospice Isle of Man and **Lonan Challis**, Research Assistant, SAC, presented on ‘Using outcome measures in palliative care to improve patient care’.
- **Joanna Coast**, Professor in the Economics of Health and Care, University of Bristol, presented on ‘Assessing capability wellbeing at the end of life using the ICECAP measures’.
- **Alison Christian**, Physiotherapist, Hospice Isle of Man, gave an update on the ‘Fab follow on programme during COVID-19’ and how using Zoom enabled them to continue therapies with their clients.
- **Bruce Elliott**, CEO and Cofounder, Memory Lane Games, presents on ‘Improving lives of people living with Dementia and their families’ with the use of memory games.
- **Chris Hall**, Chairman, Hospice Isle of Man closed the Symposium, thanking all the speakers and organisers.

A total of 35 people joined the Symposium face to face with 19 registered from 8 countries



Hosts & Panellists



Take Home Messages

Palliative Care is holistic and delivered

Evidence base of information derived from local data & respondents

- ⇒ SAC research team has come a long way in 3 years having set up a research infrastructure within hospice towards a Research Active Hospice, a local and international network of collaborators and assembled a rich database of local data which can be examined to answer questions of relevance to Hospice Care.
- ⇒ Outcome measures in palliative care are well accepted and well used but not always suitable for all cases. Different measures may be useful
- ⇒ Wellbeing is an important outcome of health care but quality-adjusted life years, as used in decisions on resource allocation, focus mainly on health. Capability measures (measuring whether you are able to do or be what you want) have been designed for end of life, both for the individual and their carer or family. An important question is whether these capability measures can be adopted to assist resource allocation in palliative care and end of life services.
- ⇒ Forced innovation created the incentive to move some services to a digital platform during COVID-19 lockdown. The acceptability of this mode was so high that the service now operates in both digital and face-to-face modes with only a few people not engaging with the digital option.
- ⇒ Playing games on an app with personalised content can be a positive experience for people with mild to moderate dementia. Even care staff have reported benefits for themselves. A pilot study is underway, in collaboration with the SAC, to gather information on the types of outcomes which result.

Great opening presentations from our young researchers

Understanding not everyone with a palliative condition needs specialist Hospice care but Hospice influenced care

You will find the symposium recording, presentation slides [here](#).

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