

**Derek - a case study with cancer**

Derek is 62 and has been in your care home for three months now. He was admitted following a diagnosis of malignant brain tumour; he has previously had surgery and radiotherapy and chemotherapy was offered but Derek declined. Derek appears to be deteriorating as he is occasionally confused and suffering with frequent headaches. His wife Betty has visited every day but has looked increasingly tired recently.

Derek and Betty have two sons. Derek had his own business but this has been taken over by his sons since Derek was diagnosed. Both sons run the business which is situated many miles from the care home preventing them from visiting.

One day whilst you are attending to Derek, Betty starts to cry and she begins to tell you about her concerns. She asks that should Derek become poorly he stays with you and doesn’t go to hospital. Betty says she feels that after being married to Derek for so long she knows him best and that previously when in good health he had talked of not wanting to end his days, like his father had, in hospital. She adds that he would hate for his sons to witness his demise.

**1** Identify where this resident would be on your end of life care register and state your rationale.

**2** How would you facilitate an advance care planning discussion?

**3** Who would you involve in this discussion?

**4** Who would be the most appropriate person(s) to undertake and lead on this discussion?

**5** How would you communicate the outcome of this discussion?