



# The Loop

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NHS England and NHS Improvement

## Welcome!

We hope that you find **The Loop** useful. If you wish to opt out of receiving future newsletters, please email: [kathryn.davies16@nhs.net](mailto:kathryn.davies16@nhs.net) and ask to be removed from the distribution list.

Web Access: <http://eolp.co.uk/the-loop/>

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## News

The North West Coast Clinical Network's PEOLC COVID Response forum is an online community where we've been posting any recent NHS guidance in response to the current pandemic. If you have not joined our forum and wish to please email [Lucy.Lavelle2@nhs.net](mailto:Lucy.Lavelle2@nhs.net) or [Kathryn.Davies16@nhs.net](mailto:Kathryn.Davies16@nhs.net) and ask to be added.

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A **CANCER** nurse at the Countess of Chester Hospital has landed a coveted award after being described as an 'inspiration' by colleagues. Helen Thomas, a lead cancer nurse, has won a Cavell Star Award for outstanding leadership. Read more [here](#).

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## Education

**End of Life Care for All (e-ELCA)** - is an eLearning platform from the Department of Health and Social Care and eLearning for Healthcare (e-LfH). **There are 12 sessions which are freely available to everyone, including volunteers and clerical and administrative staff, on an open [access website](#).**

There are over 150 interactive sessions of e-learning within e-ELCA. This is an additional resource that could be useful if you wish to explore some areas in more detail. All sessions are freely available to NHS staff and social care staff who work in an organisation registered with Skills for Care's Adult Social Care Workforce Data Set (ASC-WDS), or staff who work in a hospice. You may need to check if your employer meets these criteria, so you can access the system.

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## Resources

**Advanced care planning** - Some provider organisations are concerned about pressure being exerted to ensure that all the people in their care have advanced care planning in place and blanket 'do not resuscitate' orders. A [joint statement](#) by the Care Provider Alliance, Care Quality Commission, the Royal College of General Practitioners and the British Medical Association makes it clear that advance care planning should be personalised and must not be applied to groups of people. It's very important that the wishes of people are respected, taking into account their capacity to make decisions, and unnecessary distress is avoided. [A Quick Guide for Social Care](#) is available from NICE.

**Guidance for safe handling of the deceased** - Some guidance has been designed to assist care staff who are required to manage the bodies of deceased persons who have had or been suspected of having COVID-19. This [guidance](#) has been developed to ensure that:

- the bodies of those people who have died as a result of COVID-19 and the bereaved family of the deceased are treated with sensitivity, dignity and respect
- people who work in these services and mourners are protected from infection.

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Cruse have launched an information hub on dealing with bereavement and grief due to the pandemic:  
<https://www.cruse.org.uk/get-help/coronavirus-dealing-bereavement-and-grief>

BGS have produced guidance <https://www.bgs.org.uk/resources/coronavirus-managing-delirium-in-confirmed-and-suspected-cases>

The National End of Life Care Intelligence Network (NEoLCIN) are pleased to announce the launch of a new report [Emergency admissions in the 3 months before death](#) and supporting indicators added to the [Palliative and end of life care profiles](#).

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## Survey

As you will be aware, the current COVID-19 crisis may seriously affect the experience of death and dying of patients and relatives and the subsequent grief and bereavement. An open online survey in which respondents are asked questions about their experiences with end-of-life care for a recently deceased relative has been developed. At the end of the questionnaire, respondents are invited to express their interest in filling in a follow-up questionnaire 3 months later (including questions about their grief) and participating in a complementary in-depth interview. This study is part of a larger international research project which is being led by Professor Agnes van der Heide in the Netherlands and will involve several other countries.

**Could we ask your help to cascade the [COVID-19 Online Survey: Experiences of End-of-Life-Care during the COVID-19 Crisis](#). Please circulate to anyone you feel would be appropriate, including patient groups. Many thanks.**



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## **Open Online Survey: Experiences of end-of-life-care during the COVID-19 crisis**

**[Click to enter the COVID-19 Online Survey](#)**

We are inviting you to consider taking part in a open, online survey. This survey will ask you to provide information on your experiences of end-of-life-care during the COVID-19 crisis. This study is being conducted by the Palliative Care Institute Liverpool at the University of Liverpool and in collaboration with the University of Sheffield.

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### **COVID-19: Experiences of End-of-Life Care: Study Information**

The COVID-19 crisis has affected many people in the UK. Social distancing restrictions have affected healthcare delivery, with significant changes to the way individuals are

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cared for, as inpatients and in the community. These include individuals being cared for at the end of their life.

We have developed an online questionnaire to enable people to share their experiences of end-of-life care provision during the COVID-19 crisis, to help plan for and manage situations like this in the future.

**Who can take part?**

We would like to hear from anyone who has experienced the death of a relative or friend, and any health and social care professionals who have cared for a patient who died during the COVID-19 crisis. The person who died may or may not have been infected with COVID-19.

***If you know of anyone else that you think would be interested in this study, please forward this email to them.***

If you wish to discuss the study further, or have any questions, please see the contact details included in the participant information sheet, which can be found by clicking the survey link above.

Kind regards,

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