



## 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/>

### News

**The Cheshire & Merseyside Clinical Practice Summary** for palliative care symptoms was published in June 2017 and has now passed its review date in part due to the pressures of the pandemic. We plan to undertake a review in 2021. In the meantime, colleagues may continue to use the current version. Professionals should continue to make their own clinical decisions regarding safe and appropriate patient care. Readers should continue to always check the product information and data sheets provided by the manufacturers and the most recent codes of conduct and safety regulations. COVID is not specifically mentioned in the Clinical Practice Summary at the present time and colleagues should check local

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guidance. Updated NICE Accredited guidelines are available at <http://www.pallaborative.org.uk> where you can enrol for email updates.

The Lancs & South Cumbria Clinical Summary Guidance is currently under review.



Dementia Together Wirral recently introduced their first employee, Ms. Heather Nielsen, to a newly created post of Administrator. Heather can be contacted on **07935 797 445** or [help.dtw@gmail.com](mailto:help.dtw@gmail.com). DTW is a charity founded by one of our own Network People's Voice members and has been successfully running various activities to support people living with dementia and their carers in the Wirral area.

### **Alzheimer's Society - Dementia Hero Awards 2021**

The awards will recognise the inspirational achievements of those who care for people with dementia, those finding innovative solutions in research, and the campaigners and media fighting for the rights of people with dementia.

#### Dementia Hero Awards Categories

There are eleven different categories for the Dementia Hero Awards 2021.

- Dementia Hero Award for Outstanding Achievement
- Dementia Hero Award for Care and Compassion
- Dementia Hero Award for Professional Excellence
- Dementia Hero Award for Campaigning
- Dementia Hero Award for Research
- Dementia Hero Award for Innovation
- Dementia Hero Award for Dementia Friendly Business
- Dementia Hero Award for Fundraising
- Dementia Hero Award for Print / Online Journalism
- Dementia Hero Award for Broadcast Journalism
- Dementia Hero Award for Dementia Voice

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The deadline for nominations is Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021. For more details please see:

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/dementia-professionals/conferences-and-events/dementia-hero-awards-categories>

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## Education

**Through November 2020 to April 2021** Greater Manchester Clinical Network are hosting a series of sessions around inequalities in accessing palliative care. You can find out more about the sessions and how to book here: <https://www.events.england.nhs.uk/>

Any queries, please email Events and Engagement Manager [michelle.davies9@nhs.net](mailto:michelle.davies9@nhs.net)

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021; 1 – 3 pm – Topics: Mental Health and Prisons

21<sup>st</sup> April 2021; 1 – 3 pm – Topics: Learning Disabilities and LGBTQ+

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## Resources

**Cicely Saunders International calls for urgent action after pandemic accelerates demand for palliative care by 20 years.** Leading researchers are urgently calling for major reforms to the UK's system of palliative care in response to a significant and persistent increase in demand caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Researchers at Cicely Saunders International – the leading charity supporting palliative care – have published [You Matter Because You Are You](#), a seven-point Palliative Care Action Plan that identifies the major challenges now facing the palliative care system, and outlines evidence-based solutions for each of them. During 2020, demand for palliative care has surged, reaching levels of need similar to those which had previously only been expected to be reached in 2040. The wide-ranging impact of the pandemic on NHS services – including delays to surgeries and consultations, an increase in long-term conditions and changes to how health and social care is delivered – is anticipated to result in a sustained increase in demand for palliative care, exceeding previous forecasts.

The researchers warn that patients currently do not have enough choice or control over decisions taken about their care. Too many people with life-limiting illnesses – as well as those approaching death – are spending long periods of time in hospital unnecessarily, without the option of an alternative care setting.

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Meanwhile, hospital admissions have been rising to unsustainable levels across the country – and risk overwhelming parts of the NHS during the Covid-19 pandemic. Read more at:

<https://cicelysaundersinternational.org/action-plan-for-palliative-care/>

**Enhanced Health in Care Homes: a guide for care homes** All residents in CQC registered care homes should be supported by the Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) service, delivered through a local Primary Care Network. EHCH provides a framework for delivering healthcare through the support of a multi-disciplinary team including primary care, specialists, community-based care services and care home staff. This new guide for care homes, developed by the Care Provider Alliance with NHSEI, explains what the EHCH programme is, how to make it work in the best way possible for people living in care homes and the people who care for them, and what everyone involved can expect from it.

⇒ [Read the guide.](#)

**Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI)** published updated advice which recommends that carers who are in receipt of Carer's Allowance, or who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer contracted COVID-19, should be included in Priority 6. Carers UK has been campaigning for unpaid carers to be included in the priority lists for the COVID-19 vaccine in the same way that they are for the flu jab. We warmly welcomed their inclusion and the alignment with the COVID-19 Green Book on vaccination information for health professionals. Carers UK have produced a briefing (England only) which sets out the position in more detail, and which explores our recommendations for deployment of the vaccine to unpaid carers in more detail. You can access the briefing [here](#). Carers UK are regularly updating [this page](#) on their website with FAQs about the vaccine.

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## Consultations

**Invitation - Alzheimer's Research** UK has recently launched a Brain Health policy report ([Brain Health: A new way to think about dementia risk reduction](#)), which underpins a broader new public awareness campaign called [Think Brain Health](#). The report details the findings of a joint investigation with the Royal Society for Public Health to look into the potential of reframing the risk reduction conversation around brain health. Through a national survey and a series of focus groups we found there is considerable public appetite to engage with the positive potential of looking after our brains. Notably, our research shows 69% of UK adults believe they can influence their brain health whereas only 34% believe they can reduce their

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risk of developing dementia. We also found that the term 'brain health' resonates with people of all ages and that it is a stronger driver of health-conscious behaviour than the concept of dementia risk reduction. [As part of our commitments, we're planning to host a roundtable to discuss brain health, the concept and how we can come together to create a shared understanding. If you would you be interested in attending this event or have any comments please get in touch with us at \[policy@alzheimersresearchuk.org\]\(mailto:policy@alzheimersresearchuk.org\)](#)

**Research Study - The 10/40 Model for Best Care for the Dying Person**, developed by the International Collaborative for Best Care for the Dying Person, represents an internationally agreed model of best practice in end of life care, which is transferable and applicable across national and international boundaries. To ensure that the 10/40 Model reflects up to date best available evidence and expert opinion, we are undertaking an international Delphi study to assess the importance of the model's core elements and establish an international consensus on what constitutes 'best care for the dying'.

Information about this study can be found on the International Collaborative website, along with links to complete the round 1 questionnaire. The link below takes you to the Delphi Study web page on the International website: <https://www.bestcareforthedying.org/care-of-the-dying-delphi>  
Round 1 of the Delphi Study is open until **31st January 2021**. Round 2 will open in February and will be followed by a consensus meeting to agree the content of the 10/40 Model going forward.

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