



Strategic developments in end-of-life care

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The context of delivering Palliative and end-of-life Care?

- Global Economic recession
- Inequity of service
- Fundraising malaise
- Clinical competence?
- Demands for outcomes

Question?

- Wither progress?
- Can we demonstrate palliative care as an example of cohesion in an otherwise fragmented and disjointed healthcare system?.
- Where are the beacons to give us hope for the future?

Promoting healthier attitudes to death and dying – whose responsibility?



Nigel Hartley
Director of Supportive Care
St. Christopher's Hospice, London
15th July 2008

Public Health

- A public health approach aims to protect and improve the health and quality of life of a community by translating new knowledge and skills into evidence-based, cost-effective interventions for all

WHO Model of Public Health

Policy

- Palliative care part of national health plan, policies, related regulations
 - Funding / service delivery models support palliative care delivery
 - Essential medicines
- (Policy makers, regulators, WHO, NGOs)

Drug Availability

- Opioids, essential medicines
 - Importation quota
 - Cost
 - Prescribing
 - Distribution
 - Dispensing
 - Administration
- (Pharmacists, drug regulators, law enforcement agents)



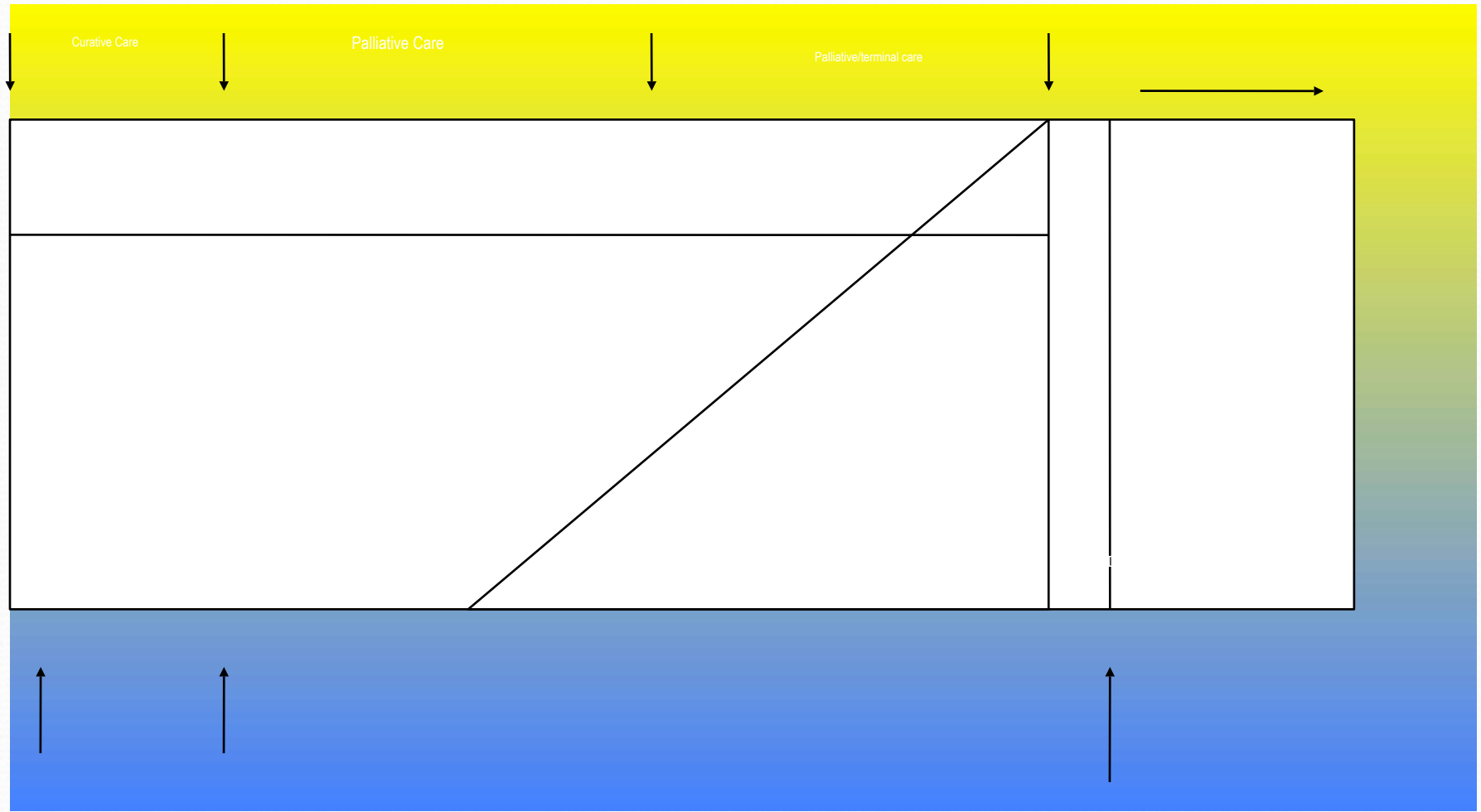
Implementation

- Opinion leaders
 - Trained manpower
 - Strategic & business plans – resources, infrastructure
 - Standards, guidelines measures
- (Community & clinical leaders, administrators)

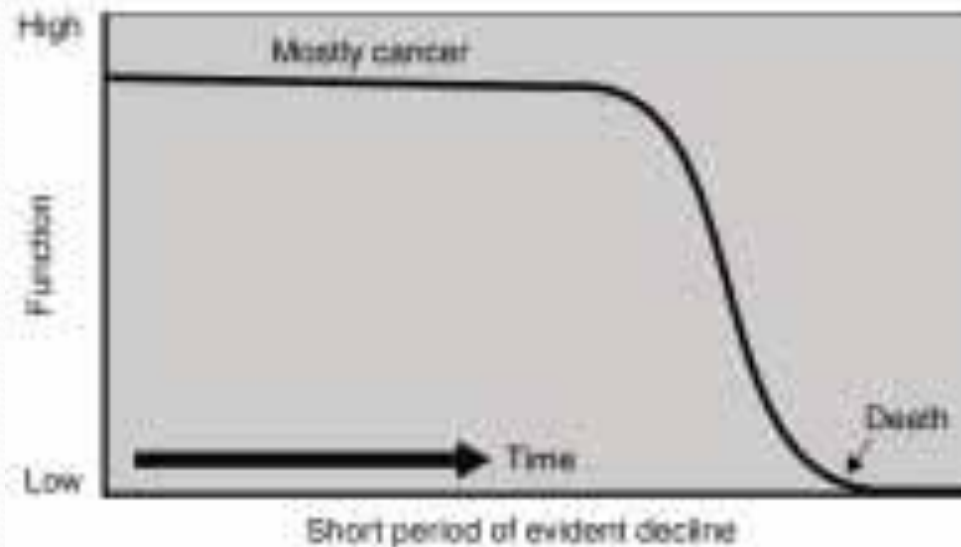
Education

- Media & public advocacy
 - Curricula, courses – professionals, trainees
 - Expert training
 - Family caregiver training & support
- (Media & public, healthcare providers & trainees, palliative care experts, family caregivers)

Transition towards palliative care (Krakowski *et al.* 2004)



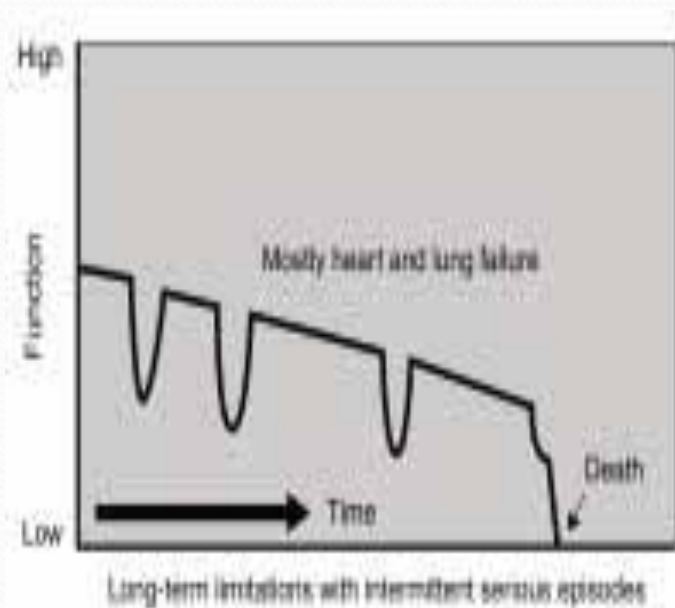
The cancer trajectory



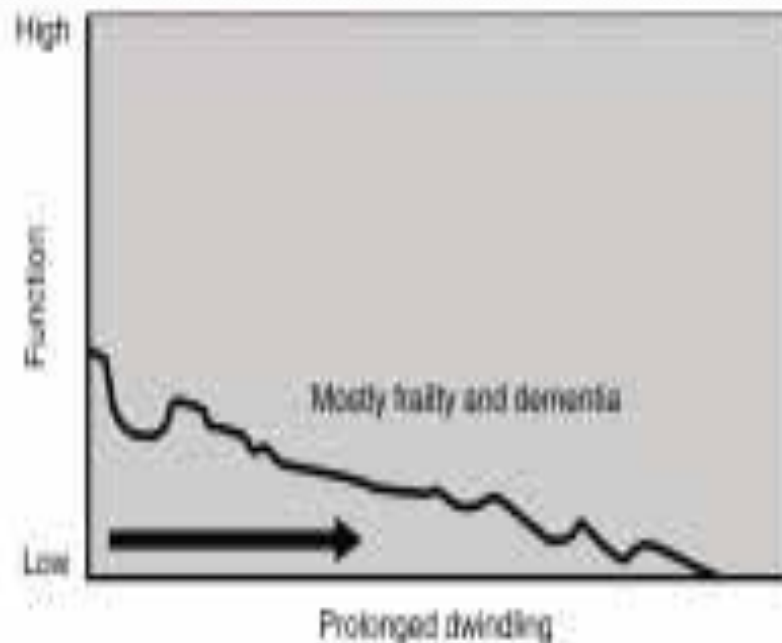
Lynn J, Adamson DM, Living well at the end of life: adapting health care to serious chronic illness in old age. Arlington, VA, Rand Health 2003.

Frailty

Long term illness



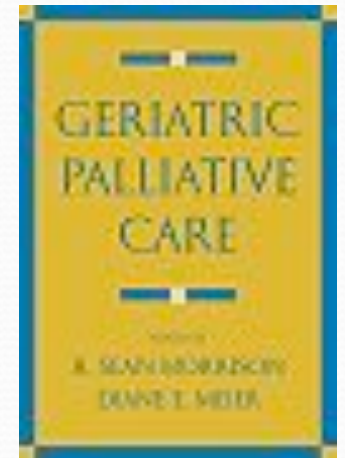
Frailty and Dementia



Lynn J, Adamson DM, Living well at the end of life: adapting health care to serious chronic illness in old age. Arlington, VA, Rand Health 2003

Remember man as you pass

- “What seemed impossible comes to seem possible. What only seemed possible becomes likely and what seemed likely is finally revealed as inevitable”




- Callahan D, Topinkova E. Age, rationing and palliative care in Morrison RS,


Better Palliative Care for Older

WHO, Floriani Foundation Aims and Objectives.

- “ To incorporate palliative care for serious chronic progressive illnesses with ageing policies and to promote better care towards the end of life”

(Davies & Higginson 2004)

- 
- A voluntary process of discussion over time
 - Decisions about current and future treatments
 - Values, aspirations and understandings
 - Statements of preferences or wishes
 - Advanced decisions about refusal of treatment which may be legally binding

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- Seen in the wider context of healthcare
 - Does not affect existing law
 - ‘Pro-Choice’
 - Defines parameters of liability
 - Mental Capacity Bill 2008.

Clarity of purpose

- *Clarity of mind means clarity of passion, too; this is why a great and clear mind loves ardently and sees distinctly what it loves.*

Blaise Pascal

*French mathematician,
physicist (1623 - 1662)*



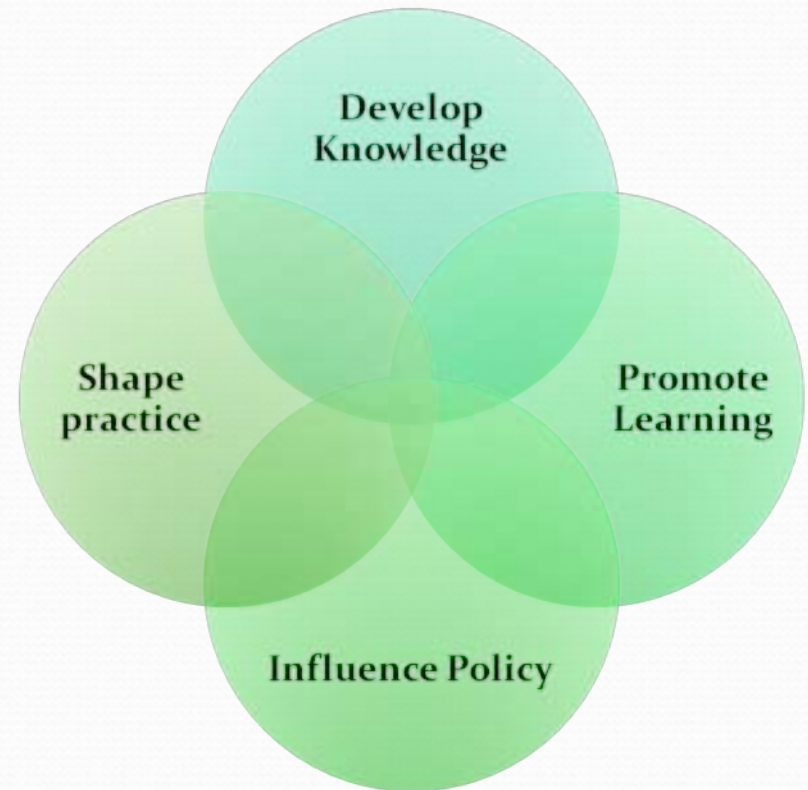
New Horizons

How can palliative
care across the
island of Ireland
shape their future
together?

Background to the All Ireland Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHPC)

The establishment of an All-Ireland Institute for Hospice & Palliative Care represents a major opportunity to improve patient care, to deliver an integrated All Ireland Model of Care, Education, Research and Policy development.

- A collaborative, facilitative body, bringing together service providers, educators and researchers from the North and South.
- Engage in a range of activities to complement the work of existing associated organisations
- Advance the provision of services, education, training and research across the island of Ireland.



Stability

For too long, many nations, including my own, tolerated, even excused, oppression in the Middle East in the name of stability.

Oppression became common, but stability never arrived.

George W. Bush,

Speech to UN General Assembly,

September 21, 2004

43rd President of US (1946 -)

Marketability



© MapBox
by LocationAgent

What can we achieve together both within and across jurisdictions?

Potential for Collaboration



An International Dimension

*“Importance is not
about size. It is
about contribution”*

Prof. Patrick Cunningham,
Chief Scientific Advisor to the
Government on Dublin’s
recognition as European City
of Science 2012

RTE *Morning Ireland* 24th
November 2008



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

Framework Programme 7th End of life care results

24 projects negotiated for funding
2 projects on end of life care

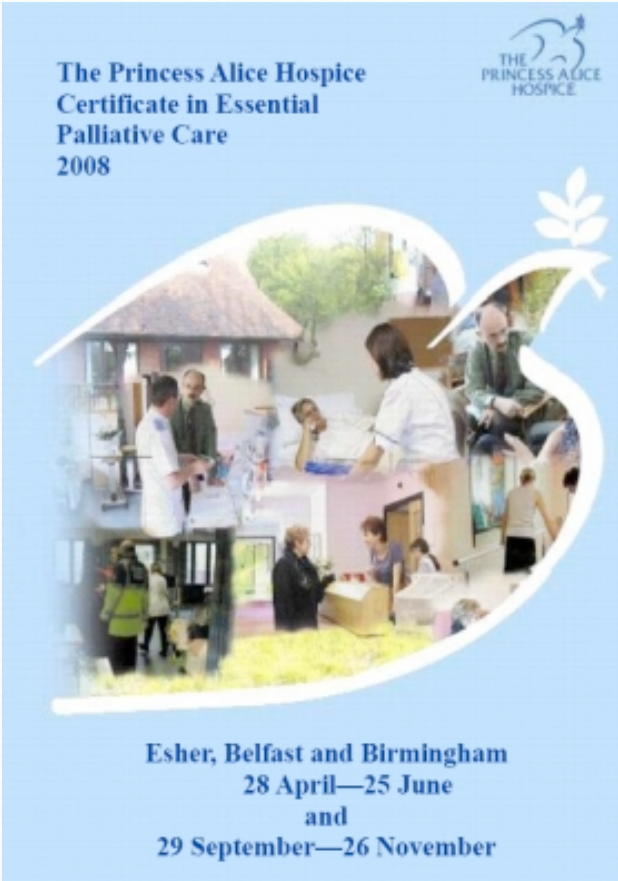
- **OPCARE 9** : A European Collaboration to optimize research for the care of cancer patients in the last days of life
- **PRISMA**: reflecting the positive diversities of European priorities for research and measurement in the end of life care



Our future messages


From preparing the ground work....

..to academic excellence



The Princess Alice Hospice
Certificate in Essential
Palliative Care
2008

THE PRINCESS ALICE
HOSPICE



Esher, Belfast and Birmingham
28 April—25 June
and
29 September—26 November

What Grandad told me....

...I am old and wrinkly
I wonder if I could have had kids.
I hear voices of an owl.
I want another life.
I am old and wrinkly.
I pretend to be in heaven.
I feel cold inside.
I touch the fur of my cat
I worry about the time I die.
I cry when things die
I am old and wrinkly.
I understand that people have to die sometimes.
I say that I care for animals
I dream that I will get to do different things
I try to keep my cat healthy
I hope my plants will grow
I am old and wrinkly
I want to thank everyone who helps me
I am old and wrinkly...

(written by 9/10 year olds during a St. Christopher's 'Schools Project')



Keeping it real!



Listening to the still small voice

Question?

- Wither progress?
- We are on the way....together
- Can we demonstrate palliative care as an example of cohesion in an otherwise fragmented and disjointed healthcare system?.
- Yes, if we are prepared to reach out and work together for the common good...together



Thank you!