

# The 'Hospice in Your Care Home' Project: A Responsive Evaluation

Katherine Froggatt<sup>1</sup>, Nancy Preston<sup>1</sup>, Rachael Eastham<sup>1</sup>, Garuth Chalfont<sup>1</sup>, Debbie Dempsey<sup>2</sup>

1. International Observatory on End of Life Care, Lancaster University, UK; 2. Wigan & Leigh Hospice, Wigan, UK

## Background

There is limited evidence of the impact of multi-faceted approaches used to support the delivery of palliative care in care homes.

In 2015 Wigan & Leigh hospice established a 'Hospice in Your Care Home' team using: role modelling, working alongside staff, responses to urgent referrals, advance care planning and training courses.

## Aim

- To evaluate the process and outcomes of the initiative;
- To ascertain the costs of delivering the project;
- To identify facilitators and barriers to implementation.

## Methods

A responsive evaluation was undertaken in 10 participating care homes (Figure 1).

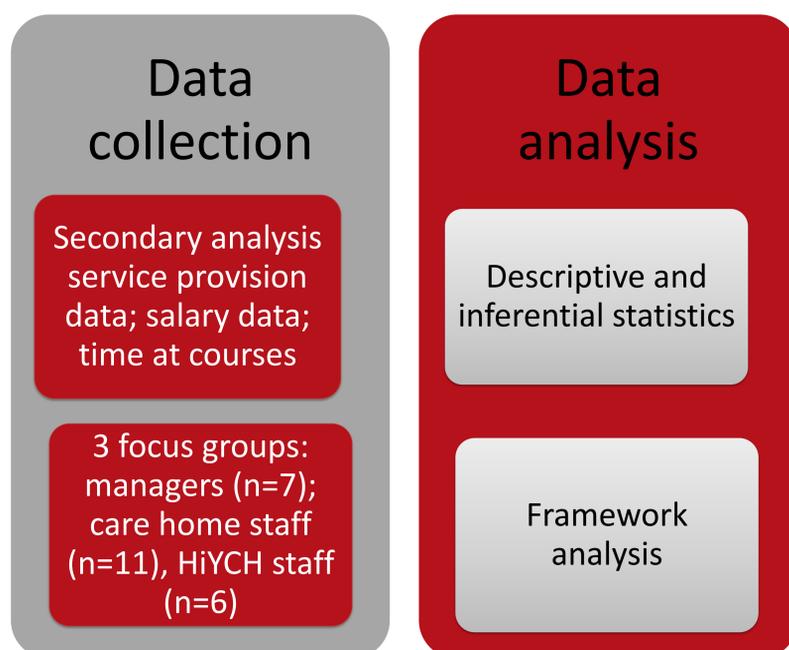


Figure 1: Evaluation methods

## Key Findings

- Hospital admissions significantly reduced by 25% (p=0.01), 2015 -2016.
- Resident status meetings conducted in each facility: 4479 residents discussed at 217 meetings.
- Education delivery cost high in terms of care home staff time: equated to about £30,000 in total.
- Staff reported increased confidence in ability to care for residents with palliative care needs
- Project implementation comprised 3 stages: initiation, assimilation & 'everyday' running.
- Barriers and facilitators of the implementation were identified (Figure 2).

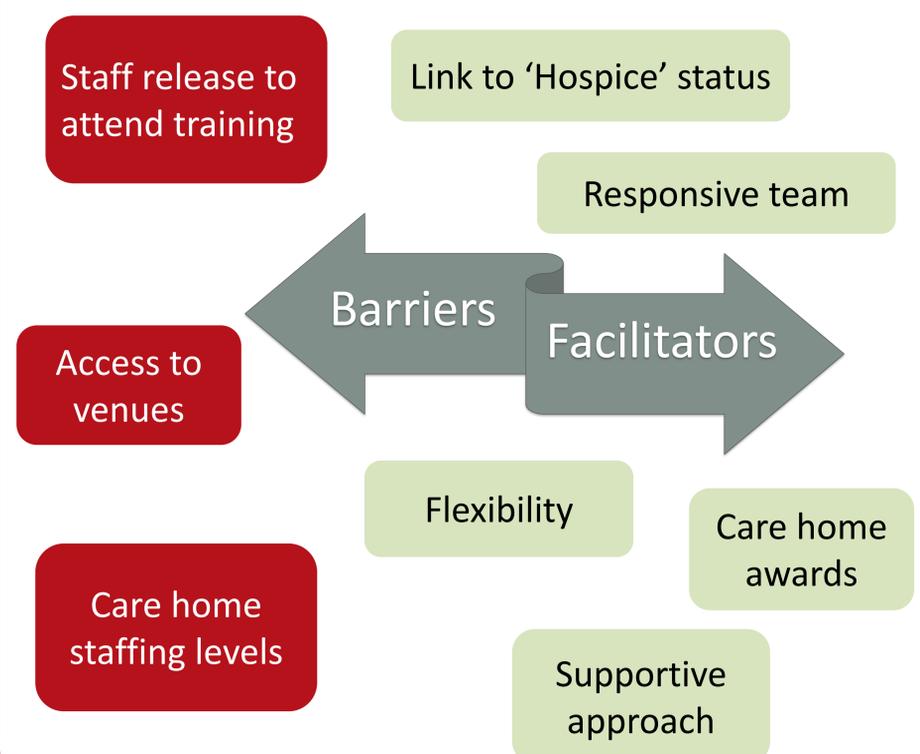


Figure 2: Facilitators and barriers of implementation

## Conclusions

This model to support palliative care delivery in care homes has shown a significant reductions in hospital admissions and increased confidence of care home staff in end of life practices. There is potential to use this in other localities.



For more information contact Katherine Froggatt: [k.froggatt@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:k.froggatt@lancaster.ac.uk)

This project was funded by Wigan Borough CCG and Wigan Council, Wigan UK.