NURSES & HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Perspectives Regarding a Palliative Approach

(iPANEL Survey* results)

iPANEL
INITIATIVE FOR A PALLIATIVE APPROACH IN NURSING: EVIDENCE & LEADERSHIP

A palliative approach takes principles of palliative care and

ADOPTS them EARLY in the course of a person's life-limiting condition

ADAPTS strategies to meet patient and family needs

EMBEDS practices into usual care in settings that do not specialize in palliative care

A palliative approach depends on:

Identifying people with chronic life-limiting conditions

+

Understanding the benefits of a palliative approach

+

Feeling confident to deliver a palliative approach

Applying a palliative approach
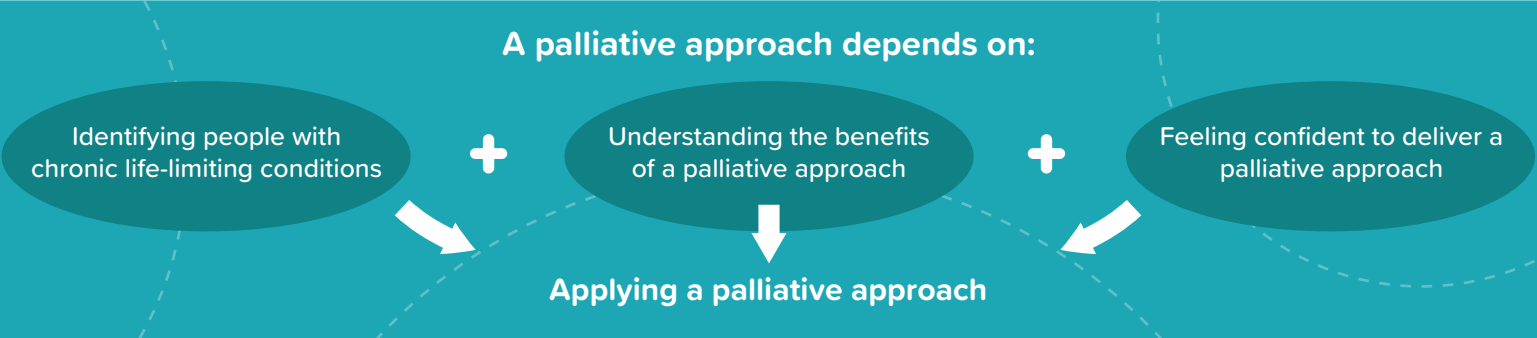
Different uses of the term "palliative" may miss many people who would benefit from a palliative approach.

Home & community care
People are often viewed as 'palliative' when they're registered for BC palliative benefits

Long term care
People are often viewed as 'palliative' when they are in their last days of life

Acute care
Care is viewed as 'palliative' when the goal changes from cure to comfort

Better recognition of chronic conditions as they progress towards death is needed

When asked to identify the proportion of people in care settings with a chronic life-limiting illness...

■ Has life-limiting condition   ■ Does not have life-limiting condition

Home & community care
Average proportion of clients identified (out of 10)

5 | 5
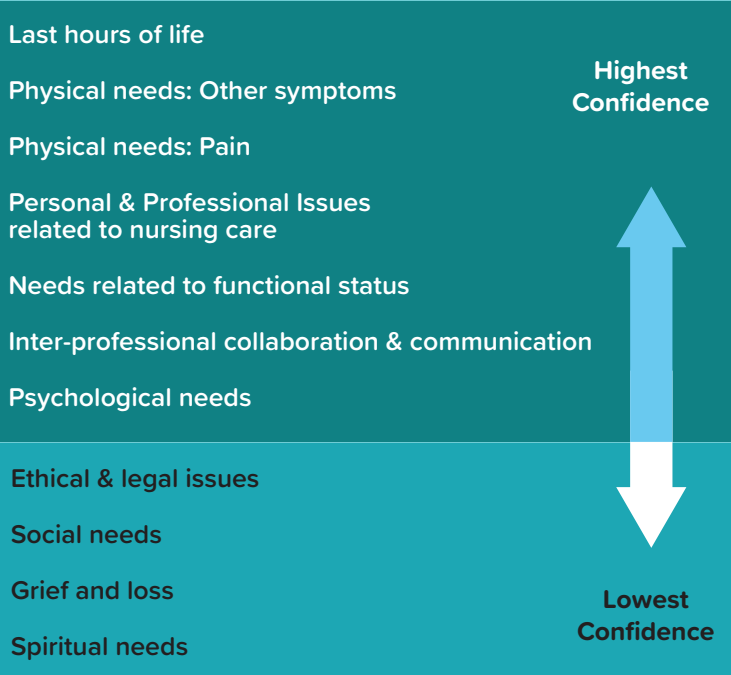
Lower than expected.
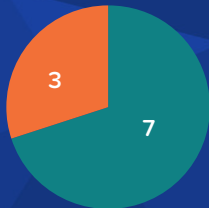
Long term care
Average proportion of residents identified (out of 10)

3 | 7

Lower than expected. Most residents have progressive life-limiting conditions when they move into care.

Acute medical units
Average proportion of patients identified (out of 10)

5 | 5

Lower than expected. Also, a palliative approach was only used with half of the patients identified.

How confident are nurses and homecare workers?

There is work to do in improving self-competence and knowledge

Last hours of life

Physical needs: Other symptoms

Physical needs: Pain

Personal & Professional Issues related to nursing care

Needs related to functional status

Inter-professional collaboration & communication

Psychological needs

Highest Confidence

Ethical & legal issues

Social needs

Grief and loss

Spiritual needs

Lowest Confidence

Knowledge most in need of improvement

Percentage of nurses and home care workers who see their knowledge as less than adequate in noted areas below:

Ethical and legal issues — 37%

Spiritual needs — 27%

Grief and loss — 17%

Social needs — 17%
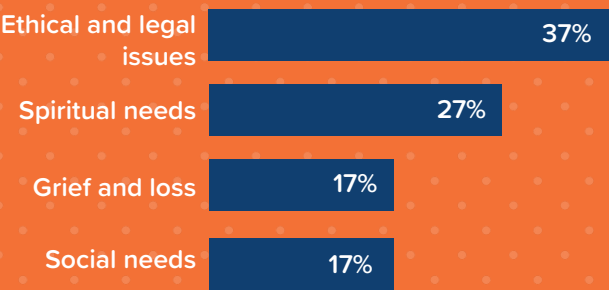
Learning builds skills and confidence - Interactional learning is preferred:

Face-to-face learning draws on the expertise of colleagues, including "just in time" learning from huddles, care rounds, and mentorship

Online supported learning and self-study are used, but not preferred

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