SUPPORTED: A STUDY OF THE ROLE OF HOMECARE WORKERS IN DELIVERING END-OF-LIFE CARE











BACKGROUND

- Homecare workers (HCWs) provide essential care for people approaching the end of life.
- They often work closely with informal carers, healthcare professionals and social care staff.
- Despite this, they often do not receive the training or support they need.

Abrams R, Vandrevala T, Samsi K, et al. (2019) Flexibility when negotiating professional boundaries in the context of home care, dementia and end-of-life. Ageing & Society; 39:1976-1995.

Herber OR, Johnston BM (2013) The role of healthcare support workers in providing palliative and end-of-life care in the community: a systematic literature review. Health & Social Care in the Community; 21(3):225-235.

AIMS OF THE STUDY

- Understand the experiences of homecare workers, clients and carers (families and friends) and other health and social care staff.
- Identify what training would help homecare workers provide end of life care.
- Identify ways to include and support homecare workers in the wider care team.

METHODS

Three sites: Bromley, Bradford and Hull.

Qualitative interviews with homecare workers, clients/service users, carers (family etc), and other health and social care staff.

Analysis of existing training and policies.

Development and testing of training for homecare workers.

Development of recommendations regarding support and training.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

```
In Bromley, Hull or Bradford areas:

Support with recruiting:

30 clients / patients,

45 homecare workers

15 carers

30 community practitioners (GPs, therapists, DNs)

30 commissioners and homecare managers
```

Any area: share with us your current training materials/practices.

Cat Forward (Bromley contact):

Catherine.forward@kcl.ac.uk

SUPPORTED study:

hcw-supported@hull.ac.uk

CONTACTS

DISCLAIMER

This report was produced as part of a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funded project under the Health and Care Delivery Research programme: grant number: NIHR135128/HSDR.

The views expressed are those of the author[s] and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care