

Access to palliative care in UK and elsewhere

v6



Every individual has the right to receive specialist palliative care



MISSED OPPORTUNITY

Unfortunately, many do not have access to the care they need

United Kingdom:

- Each day, over **320** patients fail to get the specialist palliative care they need¹
- Referrals to hospice are often very late in the illness²
- Current UK policies lack clear priorities on how to improve palliative or end of life care³



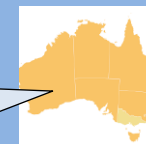
Internationally: In 23 countries, palliative care involvement was less than 19 days for cancer, and 6 days for non-cancer.⁴ This means most patients are failing to experience the benefit of early intervention with expert palliative care.

Oregon: In 2020, one third described inadequate pain control or fear of pain as a reason for requesting an assisted death.⁵ Only 13% of those who underwent an assisted death were referred for specialist palliative care input⁶



Canada: In one study, less than half of assisted death patients had seen a specialist palliative care team.⁷ Only 15% of Canadians have access to publicly funded palliative care⁸

Australia: 59% of dying hospital patients are not referred for specialist palliative care⁹ Doctors in Victoria are struggling to find time to get to know patients¹⁰



References

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