CareSearch Project Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma	0158

Study Title: Upfront Family Meetings for in-patient Palliative Care Services

Brief description of the study: The aim of this study is to improve our communication with patients and their families specifically to determine if holding routine family meetings soon after the patient is admitted to palliative care improves communication, decision-making and discharge planning and allows patients and families to "take ownership" of these processes. 2. Study Objectives To improve communication with patients and their families, and specifically to determine if holding routine family meetings soon after a patient is admitted to the palliative care unit : • improves communication, decision-making, and discharge planning • reduces patient and family distress during the transition to palliative care • increases family participation in planning future care The study will explore the experience of routine early family meetings for patients and families, and also for the multidisciplinary team

Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)

	Epidemiology
X	Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement
X	Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive
	Mixed Method
	Systematic Review
	Intervention: RCT
	Intervention: Comparative or cohort study
	Intervention: Case series

Project details:

Funding source (Optional): Cancer Institute NSW

Has the study received ethics approval?	**X**	Yes		No		Not applicable
Project starting date: 2013						
Project completion date: 2014						
Multi site:		Yes	**X**	No		Not applicable

Researchers

Principal Investigator (name) **Dr. Christine Sanderson**

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Investigator B (Name) Professor Liz Lobb
Investigator C (Name) Ms. Anne Johnson
Investigator D (Name)
Investigator E (Name)
Associated publications / reports:
Topics (Admin only) Communication, Families

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