

CareSearch Project Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma					0117	
Study Title: Can death from chronic life-limiting illnesses be predicted in Australian general practice? A study exploring the feasibility and acceptability of a case finding approach to patients nearing the end-of-life.						
Brief description of the study: It is postulated that systematically identifying and providing end-of-life care planning can improve the care of dying patients in general practice. This study aims to: (1) compare the accuracy of GP acumen versus clinical predictor tools in prospectively identifying patients at risk of dying in the next 6 months; and (2) explore the feasibility and acceptability of this approach to end-of-life care planning. The first aim will be addressed by recruiting 20 general practices, randomly allocating them to use their clinical acumen alone or clinical acumen plus a clinical prediction tool to predict patients at risk of dying over the next 6 months. Practice records will be analysed 6 months later to assess the accuracy of the different methods. The second aim will be addressed by conducting interviews and focus groups with GPs, practice nurses, other practice staff, palliative care physicians and palliative care nurses.						
Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)						
	Epidemiology					
	Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement					
	Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive					
x	Mixed Method					
	Systematic Review					
	Intervention: RCT					
	Intervention: Comparative or cohort study					
	Intervention: Case series					
Project details:						
Funding source (Optional): Primary Care Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Group (PC4) / Royal Australian College of General Practitioners						
Has the study received ethics approval?		x	Yes		No	Not applicable
Project starting date: December 2012						
Project completion date: December 2013						
Multi site:		x	Yes		No	Not applicable
RESEARCHERS						
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Investigator C (Name)	A/Prof Josephine Clayton
Investigator D (Name)	
Investigator E (Name)	
Associated publications / reports:	
Topics (Admin only)	Care planning, Doctors, Prognosis