Online public information about advance/anticipatory care planning (ACP): Mapping review of UK and international websites

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Abbreviated abstract: Healthcare information is increasingly internet-based. This review examined UK and international websites offering public information on ACP against recommended standards for health information websites. High quality websites met all readability/display criteria and gave clear information in accessible language. Poorer sites had limited functionality and content was more technical and/or potentially upsetting for lay people. Website providers have important roles and responsibilities in improving people's understanding and participation in decision making and planning for their health and care.





Background

- High quality, digital public health information is an essential aspect of universal health coverage. (World Health Organisation)
- Lack of research evidence on whether public-facing ACP information websites in the UK and internationally are accessible and meaningful to citizens.
- Review question based on UK Government Regulations (2018) and EAPC definition of ACP: 'What is the evidence to demonstrate public-facing ACP information websites are 'perceivable, operable and understandable and robust within a simple structure and language?'



Methods





Researchers + public develop search strategy and analytical framework.

Google

- 20 volunteer citizens review sample of ACP sites to make recommendations.
- International ACP search via 'google incognito' setting.

- Open access ACP website.
- ❖ ACP information for general public.
- Website focused on ACP (based on EAPC definition).
- From: health service provider, governmental or third sector organisation.
- Appraised against pre-set inclusion/exclusion criteria.

- 1158 individual searches (193 United Nations member states).
- ❖ 90 websites focused on ACP.
- Screened for traffic volume/relevance.
- 29 websites in final review.
- UK/Republic of Ireland websites (n=14).
- ❖ International websites (n=15).





Conclusions



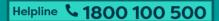
Anticipatory Care Planning (ACP): Thinking ahead



www.nhsinform.scot/acp



www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk/content/adva nce_care_planning/



www.dementia.org.au/about-dementia/i-have-dementia/advancecare-planning



www.cedars-sinai.org/patientsvisitors/resources/advance-directive.html



https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/more/health -features/planning-advanced-care



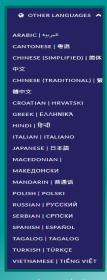
www.health.gov.au/health-topics/palliative-care/planningvour-palliative-care/advance-care-directive



hospicefoundation.ie/our-supportsservices/policy-advocacy/advance-careplanning-ahds/



www.aic.sg/care-services/advancecare-planning



www.advancecareplanning.org.au/

Some websites have many recommended functions/features to facilitate public understanding and support engagement in ACP. Sites focused on the public had more suitable content/language. All sites need to consider and maintain quality standards for display, functionality, accessibility and content/language.

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