ANTICIPATORY CARE PLAN FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

The Children & Young Person’s Anticipatory Care Plan (ACP) is a family held document that allows us to capture and record the advanced ‘wishes’ and decisions of the child/young person and their family. It is an individualised tool which ensures a focus on the child/young person’s life, relationships, hopes and fears and although inclusive; it is not based on symptoms alone. (1,2) The core information is not captured in one sitting and remains a live document, updated to meet the changing needs of the individual. The ACP compliments the national ‘Children & Young People Acute deterioration Management Plan’ (CYPADM).

There are 3 main components to the Child/Young Person’s ACP (1)

‘Plans For When Child/Young Person Becomes More Unwell’
- Signs & symptoms to expect
- Agreed management plan
- Preferred place of care in event of acute deterioration

‘Wishes Around End Of Life’
- Preferred place for end of life care
- Wishes around Organ & Tissue donation
- Preferred place for Child/Young person after death
- Spiritual/Cultural wishes
- Funeral preferences

‘Wishes For During Life’
- Preferred place of care
- Child/Young person’s wishes
- Family Wishes
- Other e.g. siblings & friends

References:
• West Midlands Children & Young People Palliative Care Toolkit http://www.act.org.uk/page.asp?section=417&search=west+midland+tool+kit

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