



# Audit of electronic Palliative Care Summary (ePCS) in Forth Valley

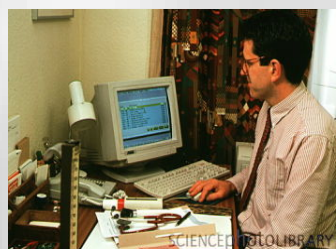


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## BACKGROUND



Historically GP's in Forth Valley shared information with Out of Hours Service through Taycare Special Notes. It was recognised that these had limitations such

as;

- Limited free text
- Only sent to GP Out of Hour Service

The ePCS builds on the Gold Standards Framework Scotland Project and the Emergency Care Summary (ECS). ePCS will, with patient/carer consent, allow automatic twice daily updates of information from GP records to a central store, from where the information is available to Out of Hours (OOH) Services, NHS24, Acute Receiving Units, A&E Department, Strathcarron Hospice and the Scottish Ambulance Service. This allows vital structured information to be available "In Hours" and Out of Hours to support these patients and their families.



## AIM

To examine a sample of live information to elicit the relevance and the quality of information to a clinician accessing ePCS in an unscheduled setting.

## METHODOLOGY

Strathcarron Hospice produced a list of 284 patients currently on the Forth Valley GP Palliative Care Register. To allow a 95% confidence interval 140 records were examined.

Data was collected by Margaret Ramsay and Samantha Robinson.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Audit results to be shared
- Awareness raising required to improve usage of ePCS
- More focus needed on quality of information
- Clinicians should engage with KIS (Key Information Summary) when available in Forth Valley
- Re-audit the quality of information when KIS is embedded in practice
- Encourage GPs to anticipate and highlight care plans through ePCS

## RESULTS

38% (n=53) of patients did have an ePCS

