

A beginner's guide to palliative care research

Cross-Party Group in the Scottish
Parliament on Palliative Care

29 June 2011



Palliative Care A new (ish) Speciality

- Officially recognised Training Programme
- Reference textbook
- Consultants who will refer to the speciality
- Research base (expanding)

Broad definition of Research

Gathering of

- Data
- Information
- Facts
- Advancement of knowledge.



<http://www.experiment-resources.com/definition-of-research.html#ixzz1QN5RXJfq>

THE SCIENTIFIC DEFINITION



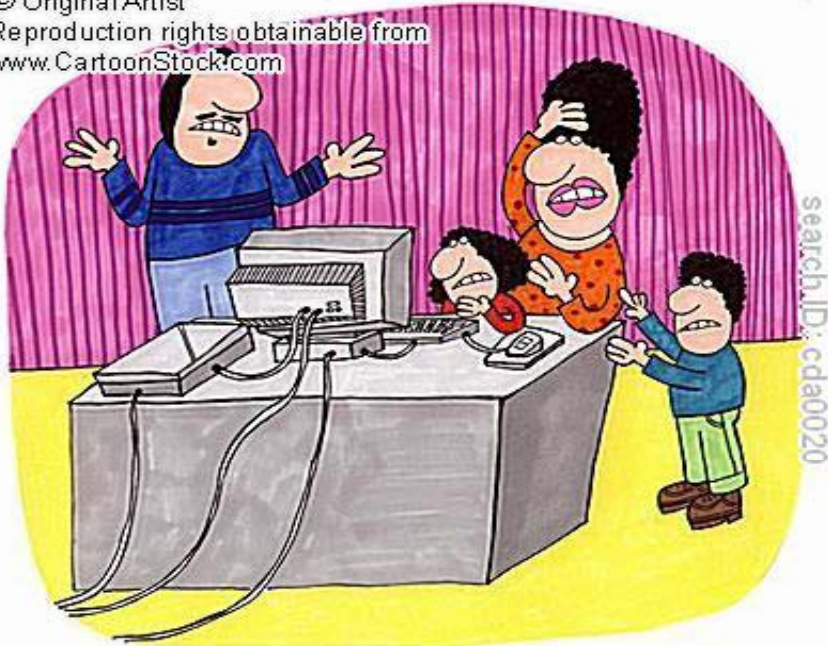
- Methodical study to prove a [hypothesis](#) or answer a specific [question](#).
- Find definitive answer - central goal of [experimental process](#).
- [Research](#) is systematic, follow series of [steps](#), rigid standard protocol.
- Process -organized and planned, [literature reviews](#) evaluating what [questions](#) to be answered.
- Requires interpretation and opinion from the researcher.
- This opinion is underlying principle, or question, that establishes nature and type of [experiment](#).
- The [scientific definition of research](#) generally a [variable](#) must be [manipulated](#)
- [Case studies](#), [observational science](#) do not comply with this norm.

Read more: <http://www.experiment-resources.com/definition-of-research.html#ixzz1QN3ZVIIT>

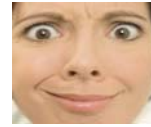


'So how do we start?'

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What do we need?!!



- Ideas
- Training
- Where to go for help
- Time
- Finance
- Ethics
- Patients- who, quantity, access
- Sponsors
- Steering committee
- Handling finance
- Collaboration

VALIDITY RELIABILITY

- Validity refers to what degree the research reflects the given research problem,
- Reliability refers to how consistent measurements are.

<http://www.experiment-resources.com/research-methodology.html#ixzz1QN6nzhk7>

- We have jumped a few hurdles what else to we need???

Skills and knowledge

- Idea
- Design
- Sample
- Protocol
- Recruitment
- Analysis
- Ethics
- Statistics
- Interpretation
- Report writing
- Papers
- Computer skills
- Presenting
- Publication
- Dissemination



A beginner's guide to successful palliative care research



- Feb 2011 **Published by:**
Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
- Basic guidance for health and social care professionals on how to begin to engage in palliative care research.

- Where observation is concerned chance favours only the prepared mind.

Louis Pasteur 1854

Hopeful Developments

- New funding streams. SuPAC.
- NCRI survey –palliative care research poorly funded.
- NCRI established two research collaboratives in UK 2006
- Similar initiatives in Canada, USA, Australia Europe.

European Union 6th Framework Programme 2006-2010

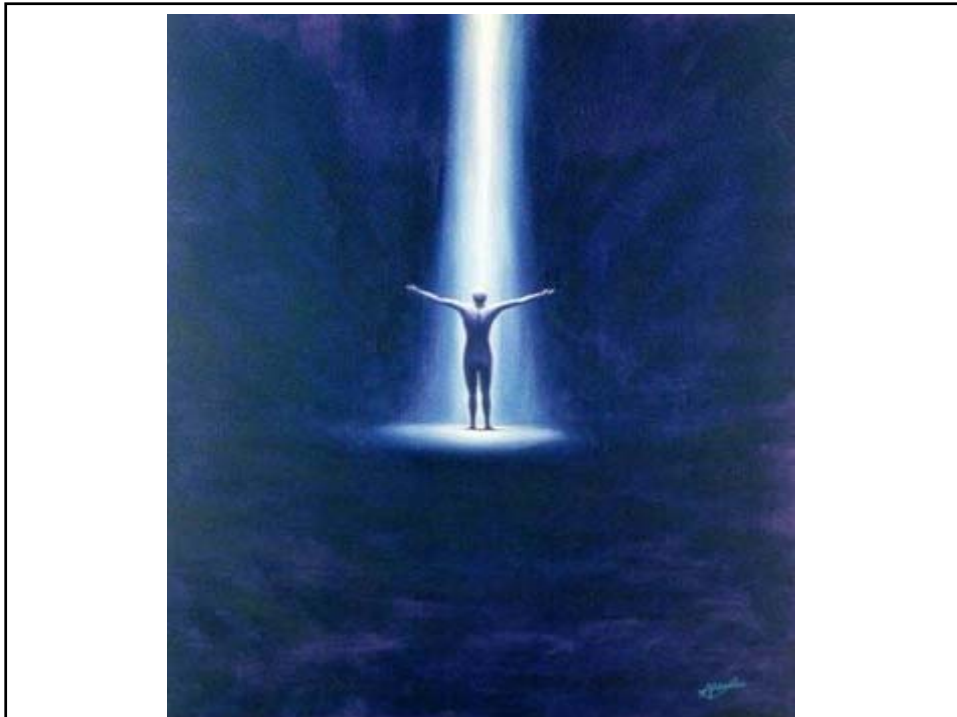
- EU-European palliative care research network
- EU- PHEA Health Information
- EU- Reflecting positive diversities of priorities for research in end of life care
- EU- Optimising cancer patient care
- USA_ National Palliative Care Research Centre

European Union 7th Framework Programme (2010 - 2014)—Marie Curie

- EURO IMPACT
- European Intersectorial and Multidisciplinary Palliative Care Research Training Framework
- Aimed at monitoring and improving the quality of palliative care in Europe.

EURO IMPACT will:

- Bridge gap between individual researcher institutes involved in palliative care research training in Europe
- Build the basis for further development of EU platform for palliative care PhD research training
- Increase the international mobility of palliative care researchers across Europe




Research Ideas

- Recognition of impending death
- Role of stimulant drugs
- Management of drugs for co-morbid conditions
- Clinical benefit of palliative care education
- Prevalence, cause and management of postural hypotension
- Steroids-side effects, extent, cause treatment
- Pharmacokinetic studies
- Service delivery

Future

- Cohort of trained researchers
- On-going training in palliative care research
- Laboratory based research integrated with clinical research
- Continuance of National and International funding
- On-going development of collaboratives across Europe and world -wide

Membership of working party

- Mark Hazelwood  Rebecca Patterson
 - Dr Bridget Johnston
 - Dr Barry Laird
 - Prof Scott Murray
 - Prof John Welsh
 - Dr Deirdra Sives
 - Elaine Stevens
 - Janet Trundle
 - Patricia Wallace
- Thanks to all who peer reviewed the report



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