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Implementing Palliative and End of Life Care Standards in Scottish Prisons

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Background

The Scottish Governments Strategic Framework for Action on Palliative and End of Life Care shares a vision where palliative and end of life care is available to all including those in Prison. With an ageing prison population, the Scottish Prison Service has to deal with more foreseeable deaths than ever before. This brings new challenges for both prison regimes and prison facilities in providing quality palliative and end of life care for those prisoners.

Initial aims of project:

- Introductory visits to meet with Prison service and NHS staff to discuss role and introduce them to the standards of care
- Identify prison establishments willing to participate in tests of change
- Work collaboratively with these prisons to identify their palliative population and areas for improvement





Early Results:

- Delivered sessions on 'What is Palliative and End of Life Care?'
- Developed Palliative and Supportive Care registers
- Support development of multidisciplinary prison palliative care meetings
- Delivery of Anticipatory Care Planning training to prison and NHS staff
- Process mapping of palliative and end of life service provision in key establishment to bench mark against standards of care and evaluate further areas of change

Next Steps:

- Evaluate first year of project
- Develop training for prisoners
- Develop an education and support platform for Palliative Care Prison champions
- Focused engagement with other stakeholders i.e. Specialist Palliative Care and third sector organisations

