

Anticipatory care planning in primary care for people living at home or in a care home

Submission date 12/04/2022	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 13/04/2022	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 17/01/2025	Condition category Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

This research looks at improving care planning in the community for people living at home or in a care home. It will help more people talk with professionals and make a personal care plan.

'What matters to me' is central to planning care and shared decision-making with people and their families. Care planning aims to help people get the right treatment and care in line with how they would like looked after. People with long-term health problems or a serious illness can get ill suddenly and need urgent care. Some may die from these conditions, or other illnesses including coronavirus. They often lack an up to date plan for complications or changes in their health and care. While the NHS and social care continue to deal with COVID-19 and try to maintain other health and care services, people-centred care planning really matters. Better ways to do personal care planning will have longer-term benefits too.

Who can participate?

Patients, care home residents, families and primary care teams in up to 24 GP practices in four Scottish Health Boards

What does the study involve?

This study looks at four actions needed for good care planning:

1. GP practice records are searched regularly to help primary care teams find people who could benefit from care planning, extra support, and in some cases - palliative care.
2. GP practice teams prioritise people and families with the greatest needs.
3. GPs, nurses or senior care home staff have individual care planning discussions with people at home or in a care home and/or those close to them.
4. Care plans agreed with the person (or proxy) and shared with health and care professionals in the community and hospitals via a secure electronic record system.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

For the GP surgeries taking part, there is the benefit of additional tools and resources to assist them in conducting anticipatory care planning: a core part of their work. There are no discernible risks but there will be some administrative overhead. For patients, carers and professionals taking part in the interviews there are no direct, personal benefits or identifiable risks of taking part.

Where is the study run from?
The University of Edinburgh (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
November 2020 to November 2023

Who is funding the study?
Marie Curie (UK)

Who is the main contact?
Dr Kirsty Boyd
kirsty.boyd@ed.ac.uk

Study website
<https://www.ed.ac.uk/usher/primary-palliative-care/recent-grants/4acp-primary-care>

Contact information

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

Nil known

IRAS number

291779

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers

IRAS 291779

Study information

Scientific Title

Implementation of an integrated care planning and electronic care coordination intervention in primary care for people living at home or in a care home at risk of deteriorating or dying: a mixed-method study across Scotland (4-ACP)

Acronym

4-ACP

Study objectives

The aim is to implement anticipatory care planning in the community provided by primary care teams for people living at home or in a care home across Scotland using the 4ACP process in a sample of GP surgeries in four diverse regions of Scotland.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 18/02/2022, South East Scotland Research Ethics Committee 02 (2nd Floor, Waverley Gate, 2-4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG, UK; +44 (0)131 536 9000; sandra.wyllie@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk), ref 22/SS/0017

Study design

Multi-centre mixed-methods implementation study with qualitative evaluation

Primary study design

Interventional

Secondary study design

Non randomised study

Study setting(s)

GP practice

Study type(s)

Screening

Participant information sheet

https://www.ed.ac.uk/sites/default/files/atoms/files/4acp_participant_information_sheet_v2_2022_02_22_0.pdf

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Advance/anticipatory care planning for people at risk of serious illness or death due to a pre-existing long-term condition or frailty

Interventions

As an implementation study, the intervention treats GP surgeries as the "participants" in the intervention. A package of support materials (4-ACP) is made available to participating GP surgeries to use in assisting screening, identification and conduct of anticipatory care planning. Participating GP surgeries will be convenience-sampled based on expressions of interest and recommendations from the four GP leads. There is no randomisation involved in this process. Each GP surgery will make use of the 4-ACP toolkit, including running the screening tool AnticiPal for up to 12 weeks.

Intervention Type

Mixed

Primary outcome measure

Patient and/or linked informal carer attitude about the acceptability of anticipatory care planning (ACP), assessed using qualitative interviews at two timepoints within 6 and 12 weeks of having an ACP conversation. Inductive thematic analysis is used to determine qualitative content.

Secondary outcome measures

There are no secondary outcome measures

Overall study start date

01/11/2020

Completion date

30/11/2023

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

GP surgeries participating in the implementation:

1. Located in one of the four participating health boards
2. Currently delivers anticipatory care planning

Patients taking part in qualitative interviews to evaluate the impact of anticipatory care planning:

1. Registered with participating practices
2. Has had an ACP conversation at the participating practice within the last 6 months or is a proxy for someone who has
3. Adult (over the age of 16 years)
4. Has the capacity to consent

Healthcare professionals taking part in qualitative interviews:

1. Working at a participating GP surgery
2. Has the capacity to consent

Participant type(s)

Mixed

Age group

Mixed

Lower age limit

16 Years

Sex

Both

Target number of participants

Up to 24 GP surgeries, up to 30-40 patients/proxies plus any linked carers, up to 24 professionals

Total final enrolment

34

Key exclusion criteria

For participating practices there are no exclusion criteria

For individuals:

1. Lacking the ability to consent
2. Lacking the ability to communicate
3. Interview considered physically or emotional risky by a healthcare professional with knowledge of the patient
4. Interview considered potentially risky to the researcher by a healthcare professional with knowledge of the patient
5. Participant under the age of 16 years

Date of first enrolment

01/09/2022

Date of final enrolment

30/09/2023

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Scotland

United Kingdom

Study participating centre

NHS Lothian

Waverley Gate

2-4 Waterloo Place

Edinburgh

United Kingdom

EH1 3EG

Study participating centre

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

J B Russell House

Gartnavel Royal Hospital

1055 Great Western Road Glasgow

Glasgow

United Kingdom

G12 0XH

Study participating centre

NHS Highland

Reay House

17 Old Edinburgh Road

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Study participating centre

NHS Forth Valley

33 Spittal Street

Stirling

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Sponsor information

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University of Edinburgh

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Sponsor type

University/education

Website

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/home>

ROR

<https://ror.org/01nrxf90>

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Sponsor type

Hospital/treatment centre

Website

<http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

ROR

<https://ror.org/03q82t418>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Charity

Funder Name

Marie Curie

Alternative Name(s)

Marie Curie Cancer Care

Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Other non-profit organizations

Location

United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

Planned publications in high-impact journals in three areas:

- 1. Scoping review or anticipatory/advance care planning (ACP)
- 2. Content analysis of ACP information online hosted by national bodies
- 3. Evaluation of the 4-ACP Implementation

Intention to publish date

31/08/2024

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are/will be available upon request from the project's chief investigator Dr Kirsty Boyd for up to 7 years from conclusion of the study.

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Other publications	Online public information about advance care planning: An evaluation of UK and international websites		07/08/2024	Yes	No
Other publications	Scoping review		07/08/2024	Yes	No
Basic results		28/12/2024	17/01/2025	No	No