

Evaluation of a training programme

Research question	
What are the effects of a death literacy course on the quality of outpatient care for the dying?	
Project Title	
Case studies on death literacy courses – outcome quality from practice	
Background: (max. 300 words)	
As many people wish to die at home (SOURCES), there is a great demand for Palliative Care in the community. Knowledge about Palliative Care options and basic skills will increase the likelihood of dying at home with caring lay people, as people who have visited a death literacy course will have both information and basic skills and will feel more comfortable to care for a dying relative, friend or neighbor (SOURCES). The project thus helps to fulfill the wish to die at home for many people. However, only little is known about the effect of those courses on the quality of care (SOURCES). This project seeks to illuminate the question how and why death literacy courses effect the quality of outpatient care.	
Aims/Objectives: (max. 200 words)	
The aim of the study is to find out the effect of death literacy courses on the quality of outpatient care in CITY, COUNTRY, which we conduct at our center. Apart from that, the aim is to find mechanism that count as success or inhibiting factors for informal outpatient care to improve quality of life oriented on the WHOQOL-100 instrument. This project will carry out case studies of patients and their informal care givers (inclusion: 1 st and 2 nd degree kins, exclusion: non-kin-care) by 12/2022. Recruitment takes place via ORGANISATION XY of CITY, COUNTRY.	
Activities: (max. 500 words)	
Relevant outcome quality markers in palliative care are patient satisfaction, symptom control, etc. (SOURCES). The following evidence-based tools are used to measure the indicators: X,Y,Z. Care quality indicators will be obtained in surveys before, directly after and three month after the death literacy course with course participants. Additionally, patients and caregivers (N=X) will be interviewed qualitatively concerning their subjective outpatient care experience and concerning opportunities for improvement. A content analysis will be conducted. The derived frameworks will be used in a between-group comparison of the results, in order to obtain valid messages on the effects of death literacy courses on the quality of outpatient care.	
Timeframe	
09/2021 – 12/2021	Design of the survey Group 1
01/2021 – 02/2021	Recruitment phase
Start date – end date	...
12/2022 – 02/2023	Write project report
Opportunities and Limitations (max. 300 words)	
The opportunities are to spread knowledge about palliative care in the community and to enhance the public discussion about death and dying in general. Equally, the opportunity is to strengthen informal care networks and increasing the chance to die at home for patients. Recruitment could be challenging, as the interview situation could be viewed as intrusive. A major limitation will be the limited study pool size, due to the extensive nature of case studies, which only allow for a few participants.	
Stakeholders (max. 300 words)	
I work for an association aiming at the dissemination of those courses. At the moment, the course in CITY, COUNTRY is led by palliative care experts from different occupational backgrounds (psychologists, social workers, nurses, physicians). In my country the course is partially subsidized by the funding authority. My professional network nationally and locally will be supportive, I have very good contacts to main stakeholders.	
Resources (max. 500 words)	
At the moment the project is based mostly on voluntary engagement, which is a great resource of motivation for each other and the participants. With the course fee, the project expenses can partly be covered. As a part-time nurse practitioner, I enjoy a good reputation in the local community, which will make recruiting participants easier. Because of synergy effects with my work, my boss agreed on to do a lot of project work during working hours.	