

## The Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool



## The University of Liverpool



## The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust



## What our partners say



*" Liverpool has made very distinguished contributions to improving the care of the terminally ill patient. The University of Liverpool welcomes this important new initiative by Marie Curie Cancer Care, establishing the Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute here at Woolton. We are pleased to join in partnership with the charity and the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust in this important work, which will advance medical knowledge and enhance patient care on Merseyside and throughout the country "*

Professor John Caldwell Dean of the Faculty of Medicine

*" Marie Curie Cancer Care has long recognised Liverpool as a centre of excellence in palliative care research. I am confident the work of the new Institute, which is the first of its kind in the country, will make a significant difference to the lives of cancer patients in the future through the research and development of better ways of care "*

Tom Hughes-Hallett Chief Executive Marie Curie Cancer Care



*" As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the specialist Palliative Care team at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust, the Institute provides an exciting opportunity to sustain and develop the excellent partnership across the three organisations to promote best practice that will make a very real difference to patient care "*

Maggie Boyle Chief Executive The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust

## The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute

LIVERPOOL

## A new partnership

Continuously improving patient care through palliative care research, development and education



Marie Curie Cancer Care is one of the largest cancer charities in the UK. Dedicated to the care of people with cancer, it aims to enhance their quality of life and provide support for families and carers. There are 10 Marie Curie hospices providing the largest number of palliative care beds outside the NHS.

The Marie Curie Hospice in Liverpool is a 30-bedded specialist palliative care unit with inpatient and outpatient care, day therapy and bereavement services. It is a centre of excellence, attracting funding for a range of innovative projects including a New Opportunities Fund grant for community outreach palliative care services and a Millennium Grant for the development of bereavement care.

The Institute will act as a focus for ongoing research and development at the Liverpool hospice and will enhance collaboration in Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Multi-centre projects will have an emphasis on patient care.

The Hospital Palliative Care Team at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust is an innovative and dynamic team which has developed over the past ten years. It plays a leading role in the dissemination and evaluation of the Liverpool Care Pathway framework and takes an active role in the national development of hospital palliative care teams.

From 2000 – 2003 the Liverpool hospital palliative care team was the UK collaborator in a research programme funded by the European Commission Fifth Framework Programme 'Quality of life and management of living resources'.

The programme included collaboration with three other European countries investigating the sociological, psychological and ethical aspects of hospital palliative care teams. The final report of this research programme has recently been published with recommendations for hospital palliative care team development across the European Union. This research creates one of the first research evidence bases for hospital palliative care teams. The Institute plans to be involved in both research and education in this area.

The University of Liverpool Faculty of Medicine excels in the education of healthcare professionals in medicine, nursing and the allied health professions, and is at the cutting edge of medical research world-wide.

The Faculty is well placed to generate a wide range of high-quality research with over 500 academic and research staff, who work closely with their NHS colleagues. The future will see the Faculty of Medicine building on its defined strengths and focusing on areas, such as oncology and infectious disease, in which it excels and which bring most benefit to our wider community.

The University's Cancer Research Centre, opened earlier this year, reflects the Faculty's continued commitment to oncology research. The centre represents a £20 million investment in cancer research in Merseyside, a region which has twice the national average rates of many common cancers. The Faculty is already renowned for its contribution to the Liverpool Lung Project, in collaboration with the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation, and pioneering work in pharmacogenomics, the ability to personalise cancer drugs to each patient. The University's 8-year oncology strategy will build on this success and continue the fight against cancer in Liverpool and the rest of the UK.

## A selection of recent publications

1. Ellershaw J, Ward C (2003) Care of the Dying Patient: The last hours or days of life British Medical Journal Jan 4:326(7379): 30 – 4
2. Ellershaw J & Wilkinson S (eds) (2003) Care of the Dying: A pathway to excellence Oxford University Press, Oxford
3. Kass R & Ellershaw (2003) J Respiratory Tract Secretions in the Dying Patient: A retrospective study Journal of Pain and Symptom Management 26(4):897-902
4. Maaterstvedt L J, Clark D, Ellershaw J, Forde R, Boeck-Gravgaard A M, Muller-Busch H C et al (2003) Position paper Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide: A view from an EAPC Ethics Taskforce European Journal of Palliative Care 10(2): 63-68
5. Murdoch-Eaton D, Ellershaw J, Garden A, Newble D, Perry M, Robinson L, Smith J, Stark P, Whittle S (2004) Student-selected components in the undergraduate medical curriculum: a multi-institutional consensus on purpose Medical Teaching 26(1): 33-8
6. Dickman A & Ellershaw J (2004) NSAIDs: gastroprotection or selective COX-2 inhibitor? Palliative Medicine May; 18(4):275-86
7. European Commission 'Promoting the development and integration of palliative care mobile support teams in the hospital. The fifth framework programme 1989-2002 Quality of life and management of living resources' European Commission Office, Brussels, 2004

The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute

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# A partnership for research and education

## The NHS Modernisation Agenda

One of the key aims of the Institute is to promote effective collaboration and the spread of best practice between the voluntary and NHS sectors at local, cancer network and national levels. The Institute team will develop expertise to deliver education programmes in service improvement. This is based on experience gained in working with the Cancer Services Collaborative and the NHS Modernisation Agency.

The Institute aims to be inclusive and to potentiate academic links at local, national and international level. It will encourage clinicians from all professional backgrounds to contribute to research.

## What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is defined by the World Health Organisation as follows:

*Palliative care improves the quality of life of patients and families who face life-threatening illness, by providing pain and symptom relief, spiritual and psychosocial support from diagnosis to the end of life and bereavement.*



### The key aims of the Institute are:

- A. To promote best practice in care of the dying
- B. To be a leading Institute in palliative care research, development and education, with a programme directed to making a difference to patient care
- C. To promote effective collaboration and spread of best practice between the Voluntary and NHS sectors at local, cancer network and national levels

The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute is a partnership between the Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool and the University of Liverpool. It has been created in recognition of the close partnership working between the two organisations and the expansion of the educational portfolio and research programme that has been achieved in recent years.

The Institute will form part of the Division of Neurosciences which includes the Walton Pain Relief Foundation in the School of Clinical Science as part of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Liverpool.

The Institute is based at the Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool with a satellite unit at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust. The Institute is an exciting collaboration between the Voluntary sector, University and NHS and has a multi-professional profile.

## Research

The need to undertake high quality research in palliative care is crucial to improving patient care. However, there are complex demographic and ethical issues involved in research in this population. Research into the care of the dying patient and their families is a particular challenge because the identification and measurement of appropriate outcomes of care are very complex. The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute has a core commitment to improve the knowledge and understanding in this extremely sensitive area.

The key research themes of the Institute are:

- End of life care
- Ethics
- Educational research

A comprehensive audit and research programme including quantitative and qualitative approaches continues to develop around the national implementation programme for the Liverpool Care of the Dying Pathway (LCP). Areas of specific interest include: national benchmarking of the delivery of care in the hospital and hospice settings; the impact of the LCP on healthcare professionals in different care settings; and exploring the views of relatives and carers on death and dying. The LCP is also being studied as an audit tool for assessing symptom control at the end of life.

Specialities including Paediatrics, Cardiology and Intensive Care have recognised the potential of the LCP and this interest has led to the development of action research projects covering document adaptation, the implementation process and the evaluation of the impact of the LCP.

A formal collaboration with the Daniel Dan Hoed Cancer Centre in Rotterdam over the past three years has led to the establishment of a programme of implementation and evaluation of the LCP in the Dutch health care setting.

Other research initiatives have included: investigation of the relationship between palliative care education and attitudes to death and dying; the functioning of hospital specialist palliative care teams in Europe; the development of a Rapid Discharge Pathway to enable patients to die at home and contributing to a position paper on euthanasia for the European Association of Palliative Care.

The Institute aims to act as a focus for palliative care research in the Merseyside and Cheshire Cancer Network promoting collaboration with the National Cancer Research Institute.

## Education

The Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute is the main focus for palliative care education at the University of Liverpool.

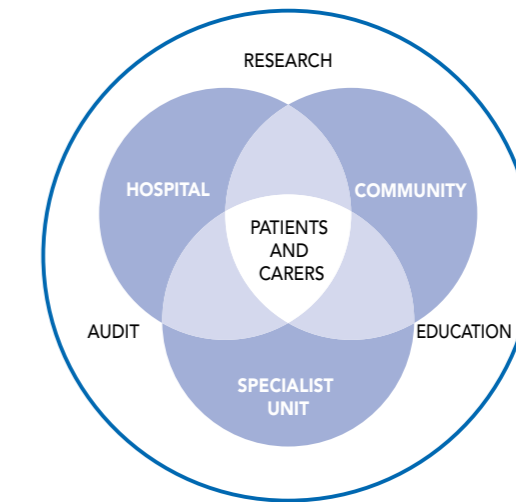
The programme includes:

- A four week palliative care compulsory module on the medical undergraduate programme in year four is co-ordinated by the Institute and is currently undergoing formal evaluation as part of a PhD thesis.
- Two palliative care modules are offered on the University of Liverpool's MSc in Medical Science

Close collaboration with the School of Medical Education in the University of Liverpool will lead to further developments enabling Liverpool to be at the forefront of palliative care education. Current work includes developing a curriculum for specialists in palliative medicine for the European Association of Palliative Care and a training programme in Palliative Medicine for Specialist Registrars from other disciplines is in development in conjunction with the Department of Postgraduate Medical Education in the Mersey Deanery.

The Institute will also lead on the Training the Teachers programme for palliative medicine. This European model has been successfully delivered in a number of countries across the world and has its UK base in Liverpool. The course attracts trainees and specialists in palliative medicine from the UK and abroad and further development of this training will be a key objective of the Institute.

## Model for Palliative Care



## Palliative care:

- Provides relief from pain and other distressing symptoms
- Affirms life and regards dying as a normal process
- Intends neither to hasten or postpone death
- Integrates the psychosocial and spiritual aspects of patient care
- Offers a support system to help patients live as actively as possible until death
- Offers a support system to help the family cope during the patients illness and in their own bereavement
- Uses a team approach to address the needs of patients and their families, including bereavement counselling, if indicated
- Will enhance quality of life, and may also positively influence the course of illness
- Is applicable early in the course of the illness, in conjunction with other therapies that are intended to prolong life, such as chemotherapy or radiation therapy, and includes those investigations needed to better understand and manage distressing clinical complications

WHO, Geneva, 2004 [www.who.int/cancer/palliative/definition/en](http://www.who.int/cancer/palliative/definition/en)

## Leadership

The Institute will be under the academic and clinical leadership of Dr John Ellershaw. Influential in the clinical and academic development of palliative care in Liverpool, he is currently Medical Director at the Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool and Clinical Director of Palliative Care at The Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust. He also holds the post of Visiting Professor in Palliative Medicine, Erasmus MC, in the Department of Medical Oncology, Daniel den Hoed Centre, Rotterdam. In 2003 he was made National Clinical Lead Palliative Care - Specialist within the National Cancer Services Collaborative 'Improvement Partnership' (CSIP).

An advisory board with representation from the Institute, the University of Liverpool, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust will influence the direction and activities of the Institute and contribute to strategic development.



## Liverpool Care of the Dying Pathway

The Liverpool Care of the Dying Pathway Framework was initiated seven years ago to transfer best practice for care of dying patients from the Marie Curie Hospice Liverpool to the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals Trust. This innovative framework has gained widespread national and international recognition and was awarded National Beacon Status for Palliative Care in 2000. In May 2003 it was incorporated into the Cancer Services Collaborative as a National Project. It is highlighted in the NICE guidance (National Institute for Clinical Excellence) for Supportive and Palliative Care under Key Recommendation 14.



## Key Recommendation 14

In all locations, the particular needs of patients who are dying of cancer should be identified and addressed.

The Liverpool Care Pathway for the Dying Patient provides one mechanism for achieving this

*National Institute for Clinical Excellence 'Guidance on Cancer Services: Improving Supportive and Palliative Care for Adults with Cancer. The Manual' NICE, March 2004 [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)*