***“Hospital Discharge and Terminal Illness in Wales”***

**Marie Curie Commissioned Research Project Application Form**

Everyone will be affected by dying, death and bereavement and deserves the best possible experience, reflecting what’s most important to them. Marie Curie will lead in end of life experience to make this happen.

The 2026 Senedd election provides an opportunity to engage policy-makers in our campaign to transform end of life care in Wales. The aim of this commissioned project is, therefore, to improve our understanding of the scale and reasons for delayed hospital discharge for people living with a terminal illness in Wales with a view to informing potential policy solutions. In doing so, this research should:

* *Provide an up to date estimate of how many people experiencing delayed transfer of care (hospital discharge) in Wales are living with a terminal illness - and an estimate of this as a proportion of all delayed transfers of care.* ***(Necessary)***
* *Provide a methodology to calculate the above that can be repeated in the future.* ***(Necessary)***
* *Explore whether the reasons for delayed transfer of care differ for people who are living with a terminal illness in Wales compared to others who experience delayed transfer of care in Wales.* ***(Necessary)***
* *Include analysis of how the scale and reasons for delayed transfer of care have changed over time.* ***(Desirable)***
* *Include analysis from an equity lens to further understand who is being impacted by delayed transfer of care while living with a terminal illness in Wales. For example, variations by demographic characteristics (such as age, gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background), geographical location or type of illness. If data do not allow for such analysis, it would be helpful to outline the data limitations/ challenges encountered.* ***(Desirable)***

The details of the methodology used will be up to the applicant/s and will be reviewed by experts who will comment on the feasibility of a particular approach in achieving the aims of the project. Applicant/s should allow for regular (i.e. monthly meetings) with Marie Curie as the research is on a live issue and may need to adapt to changes.

Outputs should include data tables and a short write up of methodology and key findings. The researchers should also include time to be involved in communicating findings to key audiences. Marie Curie intends to use the findings of the research to drive change in policy and practice, influence decision makers and for campaigning – and applicants are encouraged to consider how their proposed approach could assist with this.

Applications will be assessed by experts based on the necessary/desirable requirements above, the quality and feasibility of the proposed approach, the suitability of the team, justification of cost/value for money, and the proposed outputs and pathways to impact.[[1]](#footnote-2) Shortlisted applicants may be invited to interview (July).

Up to £40,000 (inclusive of VAT, if applicable) is available for this work, depending upon the scope and scale of the plans to be delivered. We would encourage interested applicants to get in touch with the commissioning team (via research.grants@mariecurie.org.uk) for an early, informal conversation about their proposal prior to applying.

**Key dates**

Application deadline: Monday 30th June at 10am

Peer review: July 2025

Commissioning decision: July 2025

Project start: September 2025

Duration: 6 months

Please complete in Arial, font size 11, and forward the completed application form (saved as a Word document under your full name) to research.grants@mariecurie.org.uk

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| 1. **Lead Applicant**
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| Title |  |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Organisation name  |  |
| Work address |  |
| Email address |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Current job title |  |

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| **2. Project** |
| Project title |  |
| Project duration |  |
| Proposed start date | Click or tap to enter a date. |

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| **3. Abstracts** |
| Lay abstract: Please write a lay abstract understandable to the general public. It is vitally important to describe the work you plan to do in clear language (250 words) |
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| **Word count** |  |
| Scientific abstract: Please write a scientific abstract (400 words) |
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| **Word count** |  |

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| **4. Ethical approval** |
| Will this study require research ethics approval? (*delete as appropriate)*  | Yes/No |
| If yes, have you applied for ethics approval and where? |  |
| If you have not yet applied, please confirm when you will apply and to where? |  |
| If ethics is not required please specify why |  |

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| **5. Research sponsor (if relevant)***Please provide details of the organisation that has agreed to be the Research Sponsor of this project in accordance with the terms of the UK’s research governance framework. Please refer to Marie Curie Research Governance Policy for information relating to the role and responsibilities of Research Sponsors* |
| Name of organisation acting as research sponsor |  |
| Name of contact within organisation  |  |
| Address |  |
| Telephone or mobile |  |
| Email |  |

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| **6. Finance summary** *(Please see brief at the top of this document for the maximum amount available for this work).* |
| **List of costs:** |
| Item  | Amount |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
|  | £ |
| **Justification of costs** (please provide a justification for all costs listed above): |

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| **What is the total project cost?** |
| £0.00 |

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| **7. Research Team**  |
| Lead applicant Name |  |
| Position and organisation |  |
| Role in this project  |  |
| Address |  |
| Email |  |
| Joint lead applicant (if applicable) |
| Joint lead applicant Name |  |
| Position and organisation |  |
| Role in this project  |  |
| Address |  |
| Email |  |
| For additional team members please list on a separate sheet and attach this when submitting your application. |

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| **8. Acceptance of regulations and conditions**  |
| * I/We have read the guidance provided and the [Marie Curie Research Grant Terms and Conditions](https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/globalassets/media/documents/research/grants/marie-curie-research-grants-terms-and-conditions-5-feb-21-final.pdf)
* I/We shall be actively engaged in, and in day-to-day control of, the project.
* I/we agree to work with representatives from the Marie Curie policy and research teams in the development,

undertaking and dissemination of the project.  |
| Signature of **Lead** **Applicant** (electronic signatures are accepted) |  |
| Name |  |
| Date |  |
| Signature of **joint Lead Applicant** if applicable(electronic signatures are accepted) |  |
| Name |  |
| Date |  |

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| **9. Research Proposal (no more than 8 pages)** |
| Background and rationale (please refer to previous systematic reviews where appropriate and include relevant information on the policy and practice landscape and if/how that may impact the research)  |  |
| Research aims and objectives |  |
| Methodology and analysis plan(including recruitment and eligibility criteria if applicable) |  |
| Anticipated outputs and pathways to impact (this section can be completed in consultation with Marie Curie) |  |
| Project management approach How will you ensure that all milestones are met and outputs delivered? Please include a table of the key risks for the project, their likelihood and impact, and how you plan to mitigate them (this can be included in an appendix). |  |
| Marie Curie is committed to being a diverse and inclusive charity that is accessible to all. We want the research we fund to reflect this commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. Please explain in this section how your proposed research could help to understand and address inequities related to any of the characteristics that the Equality Act 2010 protects. Please also consider other characteristics beyond those protected through the Equality Act, such as socioeconomic status, low literacy, impaired capacity to consent, diagnosis, etc, which could drive inequities in palliative and end of life care. |  |
| The active engagement of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) principles and processes in all stages of research is a requirement for funding from Marie Curie. It is vitally important that applicants consider from the outset how to most effectively and meaningfully involve people with lived experience of the issues that are the focus of the project in the development and delivery of the proposed research. Ensuring that this involvement includes a diversity of voices is a key component of that; inclusive PPI can help inform an inclusive research study. Please use this section to describe how your project addresses this requirement.  |  |
| Project timetable | Please include as an appendix. |
| References  |  |

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| **9.** **Curriculum Vitae – applicant**  |
| Curriculum Vitae to be completed by the Lead Applicant |
| Title: | Forename/Initials: | Surname:  |
| Qualifications: |
| Professional registration (if appropriate): |
| Present appointment(s): |
| Start date for present appointment(s): |
| Address:  |
| Telephone number:  | Email address:  |
| Previous and other appointments: |
| Recent relevant publications: |
| **10. Other members of the research team Curriculum Vitae – if applicable**  |
| Curriculum Vitae of the Joint Lead Applicant and other members of the research team (please copy and paste this template below as needed)  |
| Title: | Forename/Initials: | Surname:  |
| Qualifications: |
| Professional registration (if appropriate) |
| Present appointment(s): |
| Start date for present appointment(s): |
| Address:  |
| Telephone number:  | Email address:  |
| Previous and other appointments: |
| Recent relevant publications: |

1. If a high volume of applications is received, an initial sift may be undertaken by the Marie Curie team based on the extent to which applications address the commissioning brief. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)