



Care and support
through terminal illness



Searching GP records using SPICt-derived clinical indicators.

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Background

- GP computer systems contain a database of Read codes and notes from consultations.
- Software that can interrogate these databases can identify indicators of palliative care or anticipatory care needs.

Two projects

- Developing an algorithm to search UK GP databases
- 1: 2013-14. Test the concept with a search template informed by Supportive and Palliative care Indicator Tool (SPICT).¹
- 2: 2015-17. Testing a “data extract module” over an extended period in eight GP surgeries.
 - Plug-in to current software
 - Run on demand: “app” model.
 - Disseminate to NHS Lothian practices as part of a Redesign Programme

AnticiPal – three types of search

Malignancy codes

Within last 18 months

- E.g. Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lung (B22z)

Other single Read codes

Entered at any time

- E.g. Frailty (2Jd)

Combination codes

Entered any time

- E.g. Heart Failure AND (CKD 4 OR CKD 5) AND COPD.
- *G58% AND (1Z13 or K054 or 1Z14 or K055) AND (H3; or H31% excl H3101 or H31y0 or H3122; or H32%; or H36-H3z (excl H3y0 or H3y1); or H5832*

Results – patients identified

search results	IP1	IP2	IP3	IP4	IP5	IP6	IP7	IP8	Total
Patients matched	55	29	63	69	78	41	106	71	512
List size	4459	3086	9971	10832	9367	6766	10847	7380	62706
Percentage ID'd	1.23%	0.94%	0.63%	0.64%	0.83%	0.61%	0.98%	0.96%	0.82%

Search results – single read codes

Read code	Description	IP1	IP2	IP3	IP4	IP5	IP6	IP7	IP8	Total
877..	Oxygen therapy	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
1688	Exhaustion	27	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	29
6639	Oxygen at home	4	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	9
6991	Geriatric home admission exam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8776	Long term oxygen therapy	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
13CD.	Mobility very poor	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
1D18	Pain from metastases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2Jd..	Frailty	4	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	12
66Yj	Home oxygen supply cylinder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66Yk.	Home oxygen supply - concentrator	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	7
8BAN	Community specialist palliative care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8CAX.	Recommended thickened fluids	0	1	0	0	2	9	5	0	17
C19..	Multiple organ failure	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
H39..	Very severe COPD	0	0	0	8	0	3	0	0	11
K055.	Chronic kidney disease stage 5	0	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	7
R095.	[D]Ascites	4	0	5	0	11	2	2	3	26
Z172.	Palliative Care	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5

Search results – cancer codes within 18 months

Read code	Description	IP1	IP2	IP3	IP4	IP5	IP6	IP7	IP8	Total
7M371	Radiotherapy NEC	6	0	3	0	2	6	3	12	32
8BAD.	Chemotherapy	23	0	8	0	2	1	2	15	51
B11 %	Malignant neoplasm of stomach	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B17 %	Malignant neoplasm of pancreas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B22z.	Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lung NOS	0	1	4	0	0	1	5	0	11
B56..	Lymph node metastases	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
B57..	Metastases of respiratory and/or digestive systems	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
B58..	Secondary malignant neoplasm of other	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
BB03 %	Neoplasm, metastatic	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
BB13.	[M]Carcinoma, metastatic, NOS	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
BB14.	[M]Carcinomatosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Combination search results

Combination search	IP1	IP2	IP3	IP4	IP5	IP6	IP7	IP8	Total
Liver Disease & Spirinolactone	1	4	3	9	7	11	0	14	49
Fractured Neck of Femur	4	1	1	8	5	3	19	1	42
Heart Failure/COPD/CKD	8	12	16	54	23	15	45	18	191
PVD + CKD (4 or 5)	2	0	0	4	4	0	3	0	13
Difficulty swallowing + dementia	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Housebound + dementia	14	5	26	24	28	14	58	18	187
Housebound + multimorbidity	14	119	28	77	64	50	171	109	630

Search results - Discussion

Type of search	Total identified
Cancer code within last 18 months	104
Single “general” Read code	137
Combinations of Read codes	1113

- Multimorbidity, broadly defined, is most common
- Frailty is common through various combinations with housebound

Results Qualitative observations

GP categories of patients identified

1. “Definitely not palliative”
2. “Not palliative yet”
3. “Would benefit from palliative care but I can’t intervene”
4. “Definitely palliative”

Categories 2 & 3 are candidates for *anticipatory care*.

Discussion - Anticipatory care as early palliative care

- In actual use, GPs focused on using the search to start or review a *Key Information Summary (KIS)* record.
- Practice teams largely worked reactively but a KIS also provides future, anticipated patient benefits.

Conclusions

- Algorithm succeeds at identifying patients likely to have early palliative care (anticipatory) care needs.
- GPs will complete a KIS to share anticipatory care plans with OOH services more readily than “starting palliative care.”
- GPs have an informal category of “pre-palliative” patients that seems to accord with AnticPal results.



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