

Agreeing a framework to guide the development of bereavement care in palliative care in Europe - A Delphi study

EAPC Bereavement Care Task Force

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Aims of Task Force

- Develop a baseline description of current bereavement care in palliative care services in Europe based in a survey within the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{EAPC}}$ membership countries. Guldin, M et al (2015) Bereavement care provision in Europe: survey by EAPC
- · Perform a Delphi study to formulate recommendations for bereavement care principles, structures, processes and delivery based on current practice and evidence.
- · Via the Delphi study establish a consensus on recommendations.



Method in Delphi Study

Round 1: Literature review; Drawing up concepts, dimensions and statements

Expert Advisory Group; Prof Henk Schut, Prof Samar Aoun, Mr John Birrell; Dr Susan Cadell; Dr Linda Machin

Round 2: Consensus rating by expert panel in EAPC membership countries

Round 3: Statements with moderate agreement revised. Consensus rating with revised statements by expert panel

Round 4: Statements divided into "essential" and "desirable". Review by Expert Advisory Group for external validation

Round 5: Final statements prepared



Delphi panel and criteria

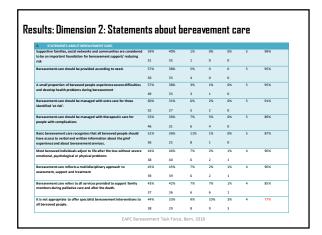
- Panel EAPC survey respondents, nominated experts
- Items with >/= 80% strongly agree/ agree consensus and a median of 5 = 'essential'
- Items with 75%-80% strongly agree/agree consensus and a median > 4 < 5 = 'desirable'
- Items with <75% agreement were discarded

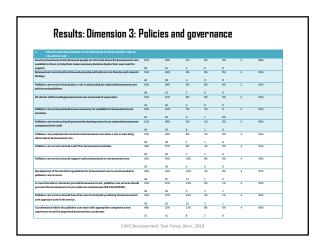


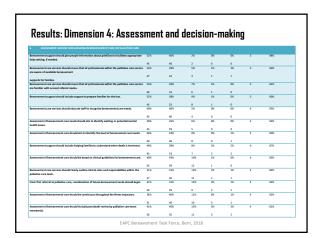
Results

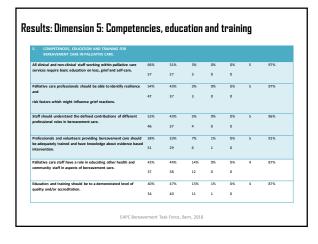
- In total, 411 emails were distributed by EAPC head office to the identified expert panel in EAPC membership countries.
- Response rates in Delphi Round 2 were 87 (23%)
- Response rates in Delphi Round 3 were 69 (79%)

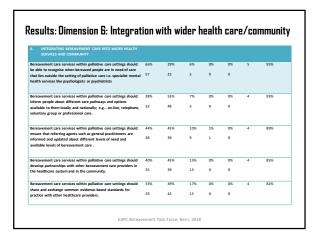
Results: Dimension 1: Definition statements about grief and bereavement













Conclusion

- A final EAPC bereavement care guidance in palliative care has been developed
- 78 statements within six dimensions
- 26 recommendations exceeded 80% agreement with a median of 5 = essential
- 52 recommendations exceeded 80% agreement with a median of 4 = desirable

EAPC Bereavement Task Force, Bern, 201

