**Notes from LAS End of Life Steering Group**

 **20 May 2019 – 9.30 - 11.00 am**

1. The review of milestones since the last meeting showed: the advanced assessment course in palliative care has been done; MIDOS mapping completed; advance care planning guidance completed; a pan London incentive for GPs to complete CMC under way and quality assured by the CMC team. Work being explored to get SW care homes through the CMC toolkit to enable ready access. PSPs being phased out in favour of CMC. CMC management team mapping work already under way and will determine any gaps. Schwarz rounds being organised with view to involving stakeholders in the process.
2. New milestones being created to replace those achieved. Funding from the Marsden has been secured to run specific courses for different levels in the LAS on difficult conversations. Five courses being run – one in each LAS sector. Some free courses from Cruse on death and dying and bereavement as part of wellbeing of staff courses for staff and managers.
3. There is to be a Clinical Coordinator to oversee a network of local leads to raise EoLC understanding and practice, to promote CMC, signposting, district nursing and hospice links. The appointment of a Clinical Coordinator to be made later in the week. CMC access and records completion training for paramedics (run jointly by CMC and the LAS) has been very well received by paramedics. It was based on a ‘mock’ CMC record presented as a case study. Part of the mandatory core skills refresher training.
4. The Pan London EoLC event was discussed. Feedback states it was well attended. Good practice was shared. The London Hospice Charter group aims to work closely with the LAS. Support for paramedics from hospices was well received. Close working with the police continues at looking at appropriate resources, common language, etc. Police were invited to the pan London conference on EoLC but none could attend.
5. Somewhat like ‘Make a Wish’ for children with life-threatening or limiting diseases, there is a move afoot to use an LAS ambulance to take dying people out of their homes for short excursions, particularly if they are otherwise housebound. The intention is for a smaller event than making a wish, e.g. out to the seaside for a day. The idea is to use an ambulance at the weekend with volunteer paramedics. For use only within residence inside the M25. Funding, etc, being explored and reports that paramedics are keen to help.
6. Diversity and different cultures regarding practices for those dying were included in ‘Dying Matters Week’. There has been some in-house training, and those paramedics present reported learning of Imams’ roles when those of the Muslim faith are dying, and others’ cultural aspects. Members of the group pointed out the many videos and helpful documents highlighting practices, needs and wishes of various cultures. Chair to explore.
7. All training courses for paramedics in EoLC are evaluated primarily via specific questionnaires or other means comparing what paramedics wanted prior to the training event and whether their needs were met at the end.
8. A new advance care guidance document has been prepared by the LAS in association with Macmillan Cancer Support, which has received very positive feedback.
9. Some discussion about confusion surrounding transporting EoLC patients from hospital to home and when there are delays or other shortfalls the LAS is blamed. Made clear that LAS does not transport EoLC patients to their homes – only to hospices. The LAS does, of course, transport patients from home to hospital.

1. A business development bid has to be made for sustainability of the specific EoLC work once the Macmillan funding ceases. Must be in by August/September 2019.
2. Date of next meeting: September – tba (Decision had been taken not to meet in August because of annual leave.)

**Angela Cross-Durrant**

**Vice Chair of the Forum**

**3.6.19**