

A rapid review of the literature on

palliative and end of life care in prisons: 2014-2018

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Older prisoners represent the fastest growing age group in UK prisons (1), and are twice as likely to have palliative and end of life care needs than someone of the same age and gender outside prison (2).



This review sought to explore current practice in relation to palliative and end of life care in prisons, and to make recommendations for it's future provision

Methods:

Rapid review

methodology was employed, streamlining the systematic review process to deliver timely results (3).

6 databases were

searched (ASSIA, CINAHL, Embase, Medline, National criminal justice research service, and Scopus 2014-2018 were included

Articles published between

(a 2016 systematic review by Wion & Loeb (4) collected data till mid 2014)

Articles were screened and quality appraised, data were extracted and

subject to a thematic

analysis (5)

The findings were presented in a **narrative synthesis**

Results:

411 articles retrieved, 192 duplicates removed, 189 title/abstracts excluded, 7 full-text excluded.

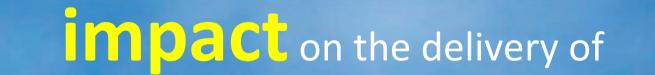
23 full-text articles appraised

Fostering relationshipsInmate hospice volunteersThe conflict betweenwith people both inside and outside of
prison is important tobuild and maintain close
relationships with the prisoners incare and custody
can have a negative

and included (16 qualitative, 6 quantitative and 1 mixed-methods) **prisoners** with palliative and end of

life care needs (key finding 1)

their care (key finding 2)



palliative and end of life care in prison (key finding 3)

Discussion:

Palliative and end of life care in prison presents a number of unique challenges. Novel solutions such as inmate hospice volunteers can help to meet these challenges, yet focus should also remain on well-established palliative care practices, such as facilitating visitation and maintaining relationships. However, there is always potential for conflict between the priorities of palliative care and the necessities of the prison environment and regime. Nurses who care for prisoners in prison, and those who encounter them outside must be mindful of these challenges when planning and delivering care.



(1) Sturge G. House of Commons Library Briefing Paper CBP-04334: UK Prison Population Statistics. London: House of Commons; 2018. (2) Pazart L, Godard-Marceau A, Chassagne A, Vivot-Pugin A, Cretin E, Amzallag E, et al. Prevalence and characteristics of prisoners requiring end-of-life care: A prospective national survey. Palliative Medicine. 2018;32(1):6-16. (3) Tricco AC, Zarin W, Antony J, Hutton B, Moher D, Sherifali D, et al. An international survey and modified Delphi approach revealed numerous rapid review methods. Journal of clinical epidemiology. 2016;70:61-7. (4) Wion RK, Loeb SJ. End-of-Life Care Behind Bars: A Systematic Review. AJN American Journal of Nursing. 2016;116(3):24-37. (5) Braun V, Clarke V. Using thematic analysis in psychology. Qualitative Research in Psychology. 2006;3(2):77-101.

PROSPERO Protocol

