

Appendix 1

Statistical feedback of consensus results of phase 1 Delphi survey (n = 39)

Below are the quality indicators which received the highest degree of agreement by the Delphi panel (minimum of 70% consistency in the rating) in the phase 1 survey.

1. PAIN

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Pain assessment: refers to asking patients about their pain level		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	0	94.9
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Pain management: refers to using effective painkillers to control pain	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.6	7.7	87.2
		Total	0			2.6			97.5		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Opioids: refers to using opioids (e.g. Tramadol, Morphine, Oxycodone, Fentanyl patch etc) to treat moderate to severe pain	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	0	94.9
		Total	0			0			100		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Prophylaxis of opioid-induced constipation: refers to prescribing a stool softener to prevent constipation in patients taking opioids	%	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	7.7	5.1	84.6
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Neuropathic medication: refers to prescribing medications to relieve nerve pain caused by chemotherapy or tumours	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	5.1	7.7	84.6
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		

2. DYSPNOEA

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Dyspnoea assessment: refers to assessing patients for difficulty in breathing		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.6	94.9
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Dyspnoea diagnostics: refers to using medical tests or procedures (e.g. chest x-ray, blood oxygen level test, CT scan and etc) to find out the cause of patient's difficulty in breathing	%	0	2.6	0	10.3	10.3	2.6	15.4	17.9	41.0
		Total	2.6			23.2			74.3		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Dyspnoea management: refers to improving patient's breathlessness with symptomatic treatment (e.g. oxygen, steroids, pain medications)	%	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	7.7	2.6	87.2
		Total	0			2.6			97.5		

3. OTHER PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Nausea & vomiting: refers to assessing patients for nausea and vomiting		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	7.7	5.1	84.6
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Oral care: refers to providing basic mouth care to improve oral hygiene or ease mouth pain or keep mouth moist and comfortable	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	5.1	5.1	87.2
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Delirium and agitation assessment: refers to assessing patients for their state of confusion, anxiousness and restlessness	%	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	2.6	5.1	87.2
		Total	0			5.1			94.9		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Delirium and agitation management: refers to managing a patient's state of confusion, anxiousness and restlessness with medications	%	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	5.1	12.8	76.9
		Total	0			5.1			94.8		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Anticipatory or rescue medications for distressing symptoms: refers to medications that can be prescribed in advance for anticipated symptoms at the end of life so it is available for use whenever the patient needs it. These symptoms may be new or a worsening of existing symptoms such as pain, agitation, noisy chest secretions, seizures, massive bleeding etc	%	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	0	5.1	92.3
		Total	0			5.1			97.4		

4. PSYCHOLOGICAL & SOCIAL ASPECTS OF CARE

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Psychological assessment: <i>refers to assessing a patient's mental and behavioural state</i>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	12.8	82.1
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Depression assessment: <i>refers to assessing patient for depression</i>	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.8	12.8	74.4
		Total	0			0			100		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Depression management: <i>refers to managing the patient's depression with medication</i>	%	2.6	0	0	2.6	7.7	10.3	25.6	5.1	46.2
		Total	2.6			20.6			76.9		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Social needs assessment: <i>refers to assessing a patient's social needs such as family support, transportations, conditions related to living arrangement</i>	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.7	2.6	89.7
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Social support: refers to <i>Offering assistance to patients (e.g. monetary, ripple mattress, hospital bed, walking frame, oxygen tank etc.)</i>	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	7.7	15.4	74.4
		Total	0			2.6			97.5		

5. TREATMENT MODALITIES

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Antiemetics for chemotherapy: <i>refers to patients receiving medication to prevent and treat nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy</i>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	5.1	0	0	0	0	2.6	7.7	12.8	71.8
		Total	5.1			2.6			92.3		

6. HOSPITAL & COMMUNITY PALLIATIVE CARE SERVICES

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Community palliative care services referral: refers to patients receiving first referral to community palliative care services (e.g. klinik kesihatan domiciliary service, HOSPIS and etc) at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	7.7	89.7
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Hospital palliative care unit referral: refers to patients receiving first referral to specialised palliative care unit in the hospital at the end of life	%	2.6	2.6	0	0	2.6	2.6	5.1	10.3	74.4
		Total	5.2			5.2			89.8		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Home care visits (scheduled): refers to patients receiving home care visits from doctors, nurses, support workers	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.6	94.9
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Doctor house calls (unscheduled): refers to patients receiving doctor visits for urgent care at the end of life	%	0	0	2.6	0	5.1	2.6	10.3	17.9	61.5
		Total	2.6			7.7			89.7		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Home visits following patient's death: refers to family members receiving home visits from support groups after a patient's death	%	0	0	2.6	0	12.8	5.1	25.6	10.3	43.6
		Total	2.6			17.9			79.5		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Palliative training for doctors: refers to providing palliative care training to doctors in palliative care and oncology departments	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	5.1	92.3
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Palliative training for nurses: refers to providing palliative care training to nurses	%	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	0	5.1	92.3
		Total	0			2.6			97.4		

7. ADVANCED CARE PLANNING (ACP)

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Surrogate decision making: refers to patients having a person who can make decisions regarding medical care on behalf of them at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	2.6	0	0	7.7	0	2.6	15.4	71.8
		Total	2.6			7.7			89.8		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Resuscitation preference of patients: refers to obtaining patient's preference regarding resuscitation, which is the process of reviving someone from unconsciousness or apparent death	%	10.3	10.3	2.6	0	2.6	0	2.6	17.9	53.8
		Total	23.3			2.6			74.3		

8. CONTINUITY & COORDINATION OF CARE

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Multi-disciplinary team: refers to having a group of healthcare professionals who specialise in different fields and work together to provide optimum care to the patients (e.g. oncologist, palliative care doctors, surgeons, radiologist, nurses, pharmacists and etc.)		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	2.6	0	0	2.6	0	2.6	2.6	10.3	79.5
		Total	2.6			5.2			92.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Patients' understanding (medical condition): refers to explaining their medical conditions to the patient at the end of life	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	12.8	84.6
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Patients' understanding (death): refers to explaining to patients that they are dying	%	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.6	7.7	20.5	66.7
		Total	0			5.2			94.9		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Families' understanding (medical condition): refers to explaining the patient's medical condition to family members at end of life	%	0	0	0	0	2.6	2.6	0	10.3	84.6
		Total	0			5.2			94.9		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Families' understanding (death): refers to explaining to family members that the patient is dying	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.3	89.7
		Total	0			0			100		

9. PLACE OF CARE / DEATH

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Discharge planning: refers to having a care plan for discharge at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	7.7	87.2
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Patient's preferred place of care: refers to identifying a patient's preference for location of care at the end of life	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.6	10.3	87.2
		Total	0			0			100		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Families' preferred place of care: refers to identifying family member's preference for location of care at the end of life	%	0	2.6	2.6	0	5.1	0	10.3	15.4	64.1
		Total	5.2			5.1			89.8		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Patient's preferred place of death: refers to identifying a patient's preference for location of death	%	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.1	10.3	84.6
		Total	0			0			100		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Place of death (hospital): refers to patients dying in the hospital	%	5.1	5.1	7.7	2.6	0	2.6	10.3	15.4	51.3
		Total	17.9			5.2			77.0		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Place of death (home): refers to patients dying at home	%	0	0	2.6	0	0	2.6	12.8	15.4	66.7
		Total	2.6			2.6			94.9		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Place of death (nursing home): refers to patients dying in the nursing home	%	0	5.1	2.6	0	7.7	5.1	10.3	20.5	48.7
		Total	7.7			12.8			79.5		

10. MEDICATION

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Medication for respiratory secretion: refers to prescribing medication to manage terminal secretions or noisy gurgling breathing sounds due to the patient's inability to cough and clear secretions at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	0	5.1	5.1	0	7.7	2.6	2.6	17.9	59.0
		Total	10.2			10.3			79.5		

Appendix 2

Statistical feedback of **non-consensus** (<70% consistency in the rating) results of phase 1 Delphi survey (n=39)

1. OTHER PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Parenteral/enteral nutrition: <i>refers to delivering nutrition through veins or feeding tubes for patients with swallowing difficulties</i>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	10.3	10.3	5.1	5.1	15.4	7.7	5.1	10.3	30.8
		Total	25.7			28.2			46.2		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Blood transfusion: <i>refers to appropriately giving blood transfusion to relieve symptoms such as shortness of breath, giddiness or irregular heartbeat etc at the end of life</i>	%	7.7	7.7	0	0	28.2	5.1	10.3	5.1	35.9
		Total	15.4			33.3			51.3		

2. TREATMENT MODALITIES

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	New chemotherapy regimen: <i>refers to patients receiving a new line of chemotherapy at the end of life</i>		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	28.2	10.3	17.9	0	12.8	7.7	5.1	7.7	10.3
		Total	56.4			20.5			23.1		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Chemotherapy: refers to patients still receiving chemotherapy at the end of life	%	23.1	12.8	12.8	5.1	7.7	12.8	10.3	5.1	10.3
		Total	48.7			25.6			25.7		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Chemo port insertion: refers to patients getting chemo port at the end of life	%	30.8	10.3	15.4	5.1	5.1	12.8	5.1	5.1	10.3
		Total	56.5			23			20.5		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Radiotherapy: refers to providing radiotherapy to patients who have cancer that has spread to the bones at the end of life	%	10.3	2.6	5.1	7.7	5.1	12.8	25.6	10.3	20.5
		Total	18			25.6			56.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Surgery: refers to patients undergoing surgery at the end of life	%	30.8	7.7	10.3	2.6	10.3	17.9	10.3	0	10.3
		Total	48.8			30.8			20.6		

3. HOSPITALISATION

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Hospital admission: refers to patients being hospitalised at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	2.6	5.1	2.6	2.6	20.5	10.3	20.5	10.3	25.6
		Total	10.3			33.4			56.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admission: refers to patients being admitted to ICU at the end of life	%	33.3	12.8	12.8	0	10.3	7.7	5.1	0	17.9
		Total	58.9			18.0			23.0		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Emergency department (ED) visit: refers to patients having ED visit at the end of life	%	10.3	7.7	10.3	5.1	15.4	7.7	10.3	7.7	25.6
		Total	28.3			28.2			43.6		

4. ADVANCED CARE PLANNING (ACP)

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Resuscitation preference of family members: refers to obtaining family members' preference regarding resuscitation, which is the process of reviving someone from unconsciousness or apparent death		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	15.4	5.1	10.3	2.6	7.7	0	12.8	10.3	35.9
		Total	30.8			10.3			59.0		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Mechanical ventilation preference of patients: refers to obtaining patient's preference regarding the use of breathing machines if they are unable to breathe on their own	%	10.3	7.7	5.1	2.6	5.1	0	7.7	12.8	48.7
		Total	23.1			7.7			69.2		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Mechanical ventilation preference of family members: refers to obtaining family members' preference regarding the use of breathing machines if patients are unable to breathe on their own	%	23.1	7.7	0	2.6	7.7	0	12.8	7.7	38.5
		Total	30.8			10.3			59.0		

5. MEDICATION

		Response in %									
			Not at all relevant			Somewhat relevant			Highly relevant		
1.	Supplements: refers to prescribing vitamin or mineral supplements (e.g. Iron, Vitamin C, B-complex etc) at the end of life		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		%	38.5	10.3	10.3	2.6	15.4	2.6	7.7	2.6	10.3
		Total	59.1			20.6			20.6		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Hormone replacement drugs: refers to prescribing hormone therapy to help slow or stop the growth of those hormone-dependent cancers (e.g. breast, ovarian, prostate cancer and etc.) at the end of life	%	20.1	2.6	7.7	2.6	10.3	12.8	12.5	7.7	20.5
		Total	33.4			25.7			40.7		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Bisphosphonates: refers to prescribing medications which helps to protect bones against some effects of the cancer such as pain, cancer cells spreading to bones & fracture at the end of life	%	12.8	2.6	10.3	5.1	12.8	7.7	15.4	7.7	25.6
		Total	25.7			25.6			48.7		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Dopamine: refers to prescribing medication to improve pumping strength of heart and improve blood flow at the end of life	%	30.8	20.5	7.7	5.1	10.3	7.7	0	7.7	10.3
		Total	59.0			23.1			18.0		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5.	Antibiotics: refers to prescribing antibiotics to treat bacterial infections at the end of life	%	10.3	10.3	7.7	2.6	17.9	5.1	17.9	7.7	20.5
		Total	28.3			25.6			46.1		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Anticoagulants: refers to prescribing blood thinners to help prevent blood clots at the end of life	%	17.9	7.7	15.4	0	20.5	5.1	12.8	5.1	15.4
		Total	41.0			25.6			33.3		

		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Antihypertensives: refers to prescribing blood pressure medication to control high blood pressure at the end of life	%	28.2	7.7	15.4	0	10.3	10.3	5.1	7.7	15.4
		Total	51.3			20.6			28.2		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Antiarrhythmics: refers to prescribing medication to regulate heart rate and rhythm at the end of life	%	20.5	2.6	12.8	0	23.1	10.3	7.7	5.1	17.9
		Total	35.9			33.4			30.7		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9.	Anti-ulcer drugs: refers to prescribing medication to manage stomach ulcers at the end of life	%	15.4	5.1	10.3	0	20.5	10.3	5.1	12.8	20.5
		Total	30.8			30.8			38.4		
		Response in %									
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10.	Steroids: refers to prescribing steroids to promote a sense of well-being (e.g. improve appetite or pain) and reduce fatigue at the end of life	%	7.7	5.1	17.9	5.1	10.3	2.6	17.9	17.9	15.4
		Total	30.7			18.0			51.2		