

Common Questions

Who makes the decision?

The decision to complete a PEACE form may involve the individual, the family, and relevant members of the medical team. Care home staff and GPs will be notified as necessary.

What happens if I/ my relative become unwell?

Community teams (GPs or care home staff) will provide care to enhance their comfort.

What care will I/my relative receive in their last few days of life?

Community teams may prescribe 'just in case' medications for pain, agitation, breathlessness, and nausea or vomiting.

What about CPR?

As part of the PEACE process, resuscitation should also be discussed as having a 'do not attempt resuscitation' order in place allows a natural death with dignity in the care home without unnecessary medical intervention.

Useful Contacts

Dr James Casson
Consultant Geriatrician
Tel: 01553 613138

Dr Katie Honney
Consultant Geriatrician
Tel: 4984

Heike Schaefer
Palliative care specialist nurse
Ext 4726



The information in this leaflet is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

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Proactive Elderly Advanced CarE (PEACE)



Information leaflet for
families and carers



The Queen Elizabeth
Hospital King's Lynn
NHS Foundation Trust



Advanced Care Planning

Advanced care planning is a process of discussion between an individual, the family, and the care providers. It aims to make a person's wishes clear prior to their health deteriorating to a point where they are no longer able to make decisions.

Earlier recognition of decline leads to earlier anticipation of likely needs, better planning, fewer crisis hospital admissions and care tailored to a person's wishes.

This in turn results in more people living and dying in their preferred place of care.

What, Why, When

PEACE is a form of advance care plan that aims to reduce avoidable hospital admissions.

Frail, older patients with a life-limiting illness. Examples of these illnesses include end stage dementia, Parkinson's disease, and cancer.

It is appropriate when hospital readmission is judged not to be in the person's best interests where care can be managed effectively, and in accordance with their wishes, in their familiar environment by community services.

If they fail to improve with community care, the focus can then be on keeping them comfortable without the stresses of being admitted to hospital and changing the environment they know well. However, in certain circumstances, admission to hospital may be unavoidable.

PEACE also aims to ensure that if an individual passes away, it is in an environment which they and their family would be happier in.

Example

Meet Bob. He has a PEACE form.

Bob has a life-limiting illness. He has been in and out of hospital for the past 6 months. He has been in a care home for the last 10 years which both he and his family are very happy with.

On previous admissions to hospital, Bob has become agitated and disorientated due to the unfamiliar setting. When he became unwell this time, it was decided that he should receive treatment in his usual environment where he would be more comfortable rather than admitting him to hospital.

Had he not have had a PEACE form, he would have undergone unnecessary stress and investigations in an unfamiliar setting, potentially leading to poorer quality of life.

