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Welcome to the May edition of E-News. As you can see we have a number of publications and conferences scheduled at the start of this subscriber year, and will be announcing even more in the coming months. If you subscribe to NCPC you will receive all our publications, plus a range of discounts on conferences and many other benefits. You can get more information and subscribe online at [www.ncpc.org.uk/subscribe](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/subscribe)

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### **Listening to the Experts**

*Listening to the Experts* is NCPC's latest publication. It aims to review the research, policy and practice literature to identify what is known about user involvement in palliative care; to identify methods of accessing user views which are suitable for use in palliative care; to elicit the views of key informants (users, advocacy groups, researchers, practitioners and policy makers) on user involvement in palliative care; and to offer examples of best practice and advise how these might be further developed and sustained. The scoping study on which the report is based is available to view online at [www.ncpc.org.uk/publications](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/publications)

Subscribers will receive *Listening to the Experts* shortly, and non-subscribers can order a copy for £15 from Anamica Khare: 020 7697 1520 or [a.khare@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:a.khare@ncpc.org.uk)

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### **Population-based Needs Assessment**

*Population-based Needs Assessment for End of Life Care: A Compendium of Data for SHAs and PCTs* was first published in September 2006 and attempted to demonstrate how population need varied between Primary Care Trust and Strategic Health Authority populations. The methodology is derived from 2004's *Population-based Needs Assessment for Palliative Care: A Manual for Cancer Networks*, which has been employed in nearly all cancer networks in England and Wales to inform strategic review and planning. This new edition has been revised and updated for 2008 and now includes new data on mortality and a set of new indices for circulatory disease, coronary heart disease, stroke and COPD.

Subscribers will receive *Population-based Needs Assessment* shortly, and non-subscribers can order a copy for £25 from Anamica Khare: 020 7697 1520 or [a.khare@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:a.khare@ncpc.org.uk)

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## Capacity to Care

*Capacity to Care* is another new NCPC publication; it is a data analysis and discussion of care homes with nursing and their capacity and function as providers of end of life care. While their function is clearly of vital importance, much less attention has been given to the question of whether the volume of current provision of care homes with nursing is sufficient to meet local needs and what the consequences may be of any inadequate levels of provision.

The purpose of this paper is to offer some insights into that question through analysis of publicly available data.

Subscribers will receive *Capacity to Care* shortly, and non-subscribers can order a copy for £15 from Anamica Khare: 020 7697 1520 or [a.khare@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:a.khare@ncpc.org.uk)

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## Specialist Palliative Care Workforce Survey 2007

The key national findings from the 2007 survey have been published on our website. These provide cancer network level information to networks and providers so they can draw comparisons between this and the national data. Along with the network level reports of the nursing and AHP workforce, geographical maps have been developed for consultants, SpRs, nurses and physiotherapists comparing these against the estimated differential needs. NCPC would like to thank all the specialist palliative care providers and cancer networks for completing the survey, which was carried out in partnership with the NHS Information Centre and the NHS Workforce Review Team and supported by the NHS Cancer Action Team. For further details visit [www.ncpc.org.uk/policy\\_unit/workforce](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/policy_unit/workforce)

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## Piecing it Together - 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008

*Piecing it Together: Partnership working to meet the palliative and end of life care needs of people with neurological conditions* takes place on 16<sup>th</sup> June at the Royal College of Nursing in London. Held in association with the RCN's Neuroscience Forum, the day will:

- Highlight the importance of palliative and end of life care for people with neurological conditions
- Explore current links and gaps between neurology and palliative care services
- Identify and address training needs
- Offer practical care guidance
- Showcase good clinical practice
- Set out practical steps to initiate change

Download a programme and booking form from [www.ncpc.org.uk/events/national](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/events/national) or contact Mridu Rana for more details: 020 7697 1520 or [m.rana@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:m.rana@ncpc.org.uk)

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## Ask the Experts - 14<sup>th</sup> July 2008

*Ask the Experts: Improving End of Life Care in Partnership with Patients and Carers* is a new conference from NCP's User Involvement project and takes place at the Regents Park Holiday Inn, London. The event aims to:

- Allow professionals and service users to discuss successes and challenges
- Highlight effective user involvement in palliative care and across healthcare
- Share the early findings from NCP's User Involvement project
- Provide resources for professionals to assist with effective involvement

Download a programme and booking form from [www.ncpc.org.uk/events/national](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/events/national) or contact Mridu Rana for more details: 020 7697 1520 or [m.rana@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:m.rana@ncpc.org.uk)

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## South East Area Conference - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2008

*Improving Quality of Life at the End of Life for All who Need it* is the latest in our series of regional conferences and takes place at Hadlow College in Tonbridge. The morning session looks at progress with the development of the first comprehensive End of Life Care Strategy, how it links with the Darzi NHS Review and the priorities and issues to address within the NHS South East Coast area. The afternoon session focuses on the Mental Capacity Act, the impact that it has on protecting and delivering patient choice and advance care planning, and how important this is to implementing the End of Life Care Strategy.

Download a programme and booking form from [www.ncpc.org.uk/events/local](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/events/local) or contact Phillipa Casbon for more details: 01235 512 384 or [p.casbon@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:p.casbon@ncpc.org.uk)

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## Ethics Committee Recruitment

NCP is recruiting new members to its Ethics Committee. The role of the committee is to advise and develop guidance and discussion papers on the range of ethical issues throughout palliative care for NCP's trustees and staff. The deadline for applications is 20<sup>th</sup> May. Visit [www.ncpc.org.uk/newsroom/ethics.html](http://www.ncpc.org.uk/newsroom/ethics.html) for more details and to download an application form.

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## The Cost of Dying: Strategies for End of Life Care

Counsel and Care's conference, *The Cost of Dying: Strategies for End of Life Care*, takes place on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at Jurys Great Russell Street Hotel, London. In an attempt to provide more long-term funding for palliative care, a £50 million capital investment programme for hospices was announced in 2006 along with a commitment to review long-term funding for children's hospices. To achieve better palliative care the national strategy for end of life care is due to be published in parallel with Lord Darzi's NHS Next Stage Review final report, scheduled for June 2008. PCTs are required to undertake a baseline review of end of life care services in preparation for the new national strategy. This major one-day conference will discuss what healthcare professionals can expect from the strategy and how palliative care can better meet the needs of the patient. The conference is supported by NCP and Help the Aged.

For further information please visit [www.neilstewartassociates.com/sh238](http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/sh238) or contact Andrew Almond on 020 7324 4363 or email [andrew.almond@neilstewartassociates.co.uk](mailto:andrew.almond@neilstewartassociates.co.uk)

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Produced by Matt Lloyd.

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*The National Council for Palliative Care (NCPC) is the umbrella organisation for all those who are involved in providing, commissioning and using palliative care and hospice services in England, Wales & Northern Ireland. NCPC promotes the extension and improvement of palliative care services for all people with life-threatening and life-limiting conditions. NCPC promotes palliative care in health and social care settings across all sectors to government, national and local policy makers.*

The National Council for Palliative Care is a registered charity in England and Wales Number 1005671

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