

Research Strategy 2017 – 2022

As an organisation, Oakhaven Hospice recognises the importance of research and the involvement of Hospices in palliative and end of life research specifically. Currently, there is a strong basis of research awareness within Oakhaven from which we can continue to develop. This strategy will outline the aims of research activity for the next five years, as well as how we will achieve them.

Aims

The strategic aims identified for the next five years are based upon the ‘Research Ready and Active Hospices Model’ (See Appendix One). This model describes four distinct areas of Hospice research activity and readiness; Research aware, research engaged, research generating and research leading. It is the first three categories that will be the main focus for Oakhaven. Research leading is indeed aspirational, however, currently is not identified as a strategic aim for Oakhaven. Over the next five years, concentrating effort and resource into the first three categories is considered appropriate, necessary and realistic. Reconsidering our strategy in 2022 may be the time to address leading research more directly.

Research Aware

Oakhaven Hospice could currently be considered a research aware hospice (see Appendix one for definition). This is evident through the use of evidenced based practice within our policies and procedures, the culture of audit we have within the organisation, our library, journal subscriptions and access to electronic databases. Our In House education programme with regular journal club and sharing practice slots also contribute to this status. Further enhancements within this category can certainly be made though.

The following table lists the measurable aims for improvement over the next five years and how these will be achieved;

Measurable Aims	How they will be achieved
1. Development of our audit and survey reporting culture – building a robust audit and survey annual plan (linked to Quality agenda) and supporting staff to actively engage with this through undertaking, analysing and reporting/sharing findings.	Identifying a clear process to follow from initial audit idea through to interpretation and dissemination of results. Identifying a Quality administrator to support this process Using results from audit and discussing implications for practice more widely on a regular basis to raise the profile/importance of audit and the link/influence on practice – key arenas

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To create a culture where staff more readily engage with data that is generated through audit, outcome measures, and surveys and value its worth. 3. To develop a 'showcase' event where audit/survey/outcome measure findings can be presented in poster form and shared. 4. To develop staff confidence, understanding and ability to effectively participate/contribute to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Journal club b. Oral presentations c. Poster development and presentation d. Use of electronic databases and literature searching 	<p>for this are Clinical Team Leader meetings, the weekly MDT and In house education sessions.</p> <p>Lead by example – Heads of Departments/Clinical Leads to be seen to use data generated more readily in discussions and decision making about practice.</p> <p>Head of Nursing and Education Lead to lead on the development of an annual event which will 'showcase' findings/data/impact on practice in order to raise awareness and value of the data that is collected.</p> <p>To gain insight into staff needs and concerns in this area through targeted survey monkey scoping exercise led by Head of Nursing and Education Lead. To shape In House education programme around the findings of this scoping (Education Lead) To utilise available expertise In House and through links with University of Southampton to develop better access to on line literature (Head of Nursing)</p>
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Research Engaged

Again, on face value, Oakhaven could be considered a research engaged hospice. This is evidenced by our collaborative working relationship with the University of Southampton and the Wessex Research Forum. Also by the fact we have a newly established Research Governance Group and a culture of supporting others in their research. Further enhancements within this category can again be made.

The following table lists the measurable aims for improvement over the next five years and how they will be achieved;

Measurable Aims	How they will be achieved
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop a clear portfolio of evidence of how we support others in research and the research activity we generate ourselves. 	<p>Specific information regarding what has already been achieved and future research activity will be collected and stored (electronically and hard copy) through the use of a proforma.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To identify and develop research champions within Oakhaven to 	<p>Head of Nursing to lead a call for those interested and committed in</p>

contribute to the work of this strategy.	developing research skills and 'championing' research
3. To scope/identify the research education needs of Oakhaven clinical staff and address these needs.	As previously mentioned – through targeted survey monkey scoping exercise
4. To work collaboratively with other organisations to support the above.	To continue to develop the relationship with the Wessex Research Active development Group (WRAdG) through attending meetings and contributing to actions/work associated with this
5. To support the identified research champions (and other staff where necessary) to complete the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) online training.	Head of Nursing to support champions by providing guidance and electronic links to complete this.
6. To develop a culture of sharing practice, confidence in interpretation and presentation of data and findings and contribution to regional and national conferences (Hospice UK conference in particular).	To lead by example and support research champions in particular to contribute and develop confidence in this area.

Research Generating

Oakhaven Hospice could not currently be considered a research generating hospice; however, it is an identified strategic aim to further develop within this area.

The following table lists the measurable aims for improvement over the next five years and how they will be achieved;

Measurable Aims	How they will be achieved
1. Contribution to generating research through identifying the puzzles, questions, queries of Oakhaven staff. Identification of the topics from the coal face that matter in clinical practice, in turn could contribute to the generation of research through providing questions for evidence based practice, MSc and/or PhD students work.	Placement of flip charts in key places (staff room) inviting clinical staff to document their puzzles, questions and queries about clinical practice. Supported by discussion at CTL meetings, MDT and email invitation to document. Also supported by feedback and discussion as ongoing

<p>2. Continuing to foster and develop our working relationships with the University of Southampton and the Wessex Research Forum.</p>	<p>Continued attendance and contribution to WRAdG meetings</p>
<p>3. To continue to contribute and support research in other Hospices.</p>	<p>Continue to consider in a timely fashion research approaches and support where we can.</p>
<p>4. To develop our regional reputation and credibility within research.</p>	<p>By addressing the elements of this strategy and being visible and contributing to discussions, activity and research based events/conferences.</p>
<p>5. To begin to develop a portfolio of research questions Oakhaven would wish to address themselves; research champions may wish to undertake such research projects with support from external organisations (University/Wessex Research forum). With such a portfolio funding streams to support research activity could be sought.</p>	<p>Questions to develop from curiosities/questions/queries work and with support from Oakhaven Research governance Group and WRAdG. Funding opportunities from Wessex Clinical Academic Career Programme Transitional Awards opportunities could link with development of these questions and support Oakhaven staff and organisation developing questions into research projects and outcomes.</p>
<p>6. To explore the potential for a clinical academic career path within Oakhaven to support research activity and Oakhaven's further development as a research generating and possibly leading hospice in future years.</p>	<p>To consider this career pathway in line with organisational changes and staff recruitment and retention opportunities as they arise. This element may naturally evolve.</p>

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