

## **The Research Strategy Extract**

### **[The Learning and Research Strategy 2023-2025]**

#### **Oakhaven Hospice**

##### **1.0 Introduction**

Oakhaven Hospice recognises the importance of research and the involvement of Hospices in palliative and end of life research specifically. Oakhaven has a goal to build capacity and work with others to develop greater training and education for General Practitioners (GP's), community nurses, nursing and residential homes and other allied health professionals. A shared learning approach drives both relevant palliative and End of Life (EOL) care including ambitions for research programmes which enhance EOL care.

##### **2.0 Strategic aims**

This Research Strategy Extract has been created as a sub document and aligned with the overall Learning and Research Strategy document for Oakhaven Hospice, which sets out clearly defined objectives between 2022 and 2025 reflecting the ambition for the overall organisation, Oakhaven, in 'Fit for the Future' 2019-2025.

Strategic aims specific to research at Oakhaven Hospice are taken from the Research Framework for Hospices, (Payne and Turner, 2012), a commissioned report specific to Research in Palliative Care (2013). The framework gives guidance on three levels of research activity:

**Level 1: Research awareness in all professional staff.**

**Level 2: Engagement in research generated by others.**

**Level 3: Engagement in research activities and leadership in developing and undertaking research.**

##### **3.0 Level 1: Research awareness in all professional staff.**

Oakhaven Hospice is research aware and is evidenced by using audit, evidence for policy and procedures, clinical governance learning events and the active Journal Club, including the internal and external Learning Programme. The Oakhaven Learning Hub programme which delivers End of Life learning and resources is framed by learning outcomes researched and identified by Health Education England (2019) as appropriate for End of Life and Palliative Care learning.

Table 1 and 2 sets out objectives to meet the Research Framework for Hospices.

**Table 1.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2023</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2024</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2025</b>
Gain a Volunteer as a Research Assistant to support with research & research projects getting started	A volunteer will just be starting to identify research opportunities, working closely with Research Lead 1-2 days per week. Helping with documentation and guiding staff with applications or proposal writing.			
Create a culture where staff engage with data that is generated through audit, outcomes measures and surveys.	Regular audit meetings which feed into the wider learning programme for clinical governance with attendance of staff from all areas of the clinical setting. Generation of data from surveys which have engaged with Oakhaven employees.			
Create and foster an academic link with a university to improve research awareness and credibility, improve research opportunities and develop partnerships.	Partnership workings with Southampton University and WRAhdG research involvement.			
Develop staff confidence and ability in participating and contributing to research activities	Participation in the Journal Club. Attendance at the Research meetings. Use of a 'Tool Kit' which provides key guidance on research activities.			

**4. Level 2. Engagement in research generated by others.**

Oakhaven works collaboratively with University of Southampton and the Wessex Research Forum and participates in the WRAhdG meetings. We also have members of staff who are actively studying at Post Graduate level which requires an element of research engagement. This group of staff have received funding towards their studies by the organisation and Oakhaven would anticipate some level of engagement in research with these individuals.

**Table 2.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2023</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2024</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2025</b>
Maintain the Research Portfolio online. To have a Poster/Presentation submitted as an abstract at Hospice UK each year.	Ensure Oakhaven adds new activity to the Portfolio at least twice a year and updated by the Research Assistant Volunteer.			
Develop a culture where audit activity and outcomes measurements are seen to be identified as shared learning opportunities and potential research curiosities	Heads of departments will use data generated to make service improvements, noted in Management, Audit and Quality Meetings. This will also be reflected in Clinical Governance Learning Events once a quarter.			
Oakhaven to be actively involved/support appropriate research bids driven by University of Southampton, WRAhdG and or other partners.	Oakhaven will be involved in the support of a research project and the ongoing project work of research working collaboratively with a research team and others external to Oakhaven as an organisation.			
Staff who are receiving financial/study leave support from Oakhaven to share and disseminate their learning. These individuals will be engaged in small research projects associated with patient care and or service development. Staff will be supported by the Research Lead and Research Assistant Volunteer.	Staff undertaking UG/PG studies supported by Oakhaven will be active in leading on the Research Journal Club, Afternoon Seminars, and participation in the Research meeting. Staff undertaking UG/PG studies will bring their research proposals to the Research meeting, embed their individual research project within			

	Oakhaven and attend and participate in ongoing Research Meetings.			
Identify a medical doctor who will be part of the research group and actively involved in research generated by others.	A medical doctor will be research active, supportive of small research projects for our academic learners and involved in data generation and data collection working collaboratively with others.			

**5. Level 3. Engagement in research activities and leadership in developing and undertaking research.**

Oakhaven Hospice is not currently enabled to meet this level of leadership in Research, which involves innovative research with a high impact factor in publications and will not for the short foreseeable future. However, the first two strategic aims set out in the Research Framework for Hospices have been clearly addressed and aligned with the Oakhaven Learning and Research Strategy 2023-2025.

It is for this reason, one objective at level 3 has been entered with an aim at meeting the criteria by 2025. To reflect this the Research Strategy Extract document has been devised for the next three years only and requires to be reviewed along with the Learning and Research Strategy, together with the Organisational Oakhaven Strategy by the end of 2025. This timeline also recognises that Oakhaven as an organisation is expanding and experiencing development and growth and that the landscape for opportunities for Research and the Leadership in generating research, may well present as an evolutionary developmental stage in future times for which the research strategic objectives in Levels 1 & 2 have firmly set opportunities for growth.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Success Criteria</b>	<b>Success Achieved Dec 2025</b>
To undertake an original piece of primary research in P&EOL care with a team of people at Oakhaven leading to publication.	Multidisciplinary team undertaking a primary research project on P&EOL care at Oakhaven which is presented at a noted UK conference with publication in a notable journal.	

## 6. Conclusion.

This Research Strategy Extract is a supporting document to the larger piece of work incorporated in The Learning and Research Strategy 2023-2025 which has clearly set out a way forward for Oakhaven to continue to support and implement the five-year strategy plan (Fit for the Future 2019) meeting the aspirations of the organisation, with a vision to provide high quality learning and teaching, including research activity within the community of the New Forest and Totton and Waterside.

### References

Oakhaven Hospice (2019) *Fit for the Future*, Oakhaven Hospice Trust, Hampshire

Research in Palliative Care: can hospices afford not to be involved? (2013) Payne, S. Preston, N. Turner, M. Rolls, L. Help the Hospices, London.

Research Framework for Hospices, (2012) **IN** Research in Palliative Care: can hospices afford not to be involved? (2013) Payne, S. Preston, N. Turner, M. Rolls, L. Help the Hospices, London.