



Marie McInerney @mariemcinerney

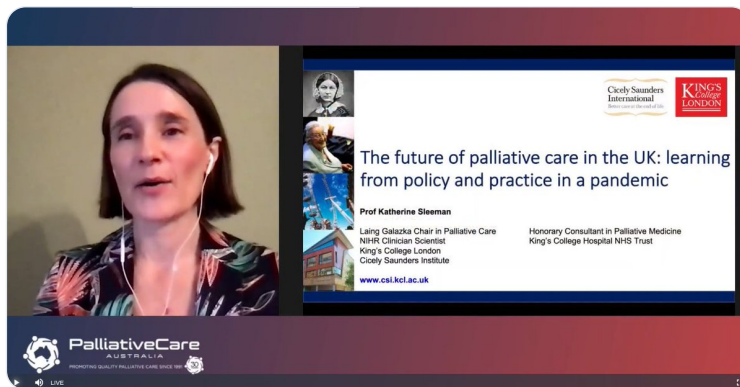
Sep 9, 2021 · 19 tweets · [mariemcinerney/status/1435851737244450819](https://twitter.com/mariemcinerney/status/1435851737244450819)



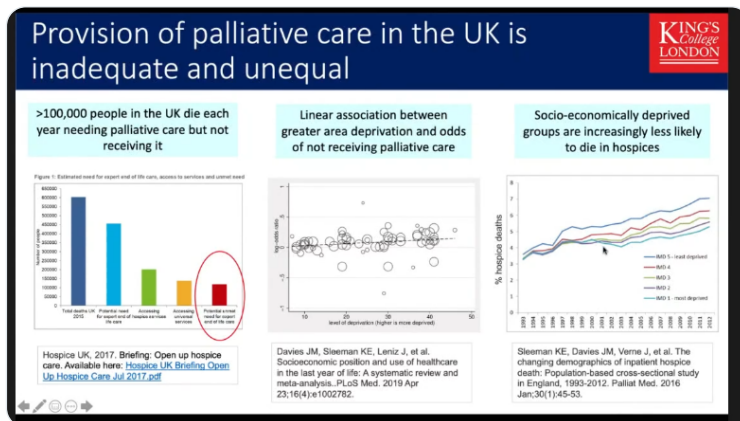
Set to hear [@kesleeman](https://twitter.com/kesleeman) at [#21OPCC](https://twitter.com/kesleeman) [#COVID19](https://twitter.com/kesleeman)



Coming up in [@kesleeman](https://twitter.com/kesleeman) presentation at [#21OPCC](https://twitter.com/kesleeman) - "Doctors desert the dying." Prompted Cicely Saunders to launch the modern hospice movement in the UK



About 100k people die each year in UK needing palliative care but not receiving it - guess what were some of the determining factors [@timsenior](https://twitter.com/timsenior) [#21OPCC](https://twitter.com/timsenior)



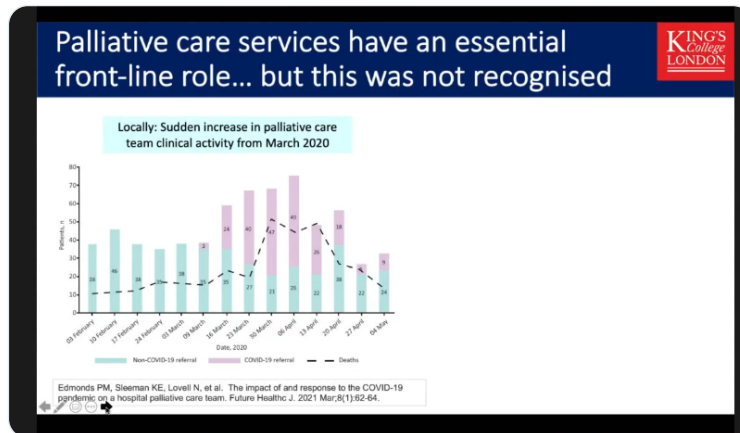
Need for palliative care globally is escalating - likely to double by 2060 - driven by dementia. [#21OPCC](https://twitter.com/kesleeman)

If we assume that average trends 2004-2014 continue, will see dramatic swings by 2040 in UK/Wales, aged care homes deaths (vs hospital/home) could become most common place to die: Sleeman [#21OPCC](#)

Before COVID, UK was a leader in palliative but were big gaps and inequalities in care, and a projected large increase in needs.

"And then COVID happened". And at first palliative care teams were being diverted....

[@kesleeman](#) [#21OPCC](#)



Palliative care experts did rapid systematic review, found was v little research on palliative care in pandemics but some that there was was rich.

Led to the COVpal study

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/cicelysaunders/research/evaluating/covpal-study/covpal-care-homes>

Palliative care and hospice services felt overwhelmed and overlooked in early days of pandemic [#21OPCC](#)



First 10 weeks of pandemic: Deaths in care homes increased by 220%, while home and hospital deaths increased by 77% and 90%, respectively. Hospice deaths fell by 20%.



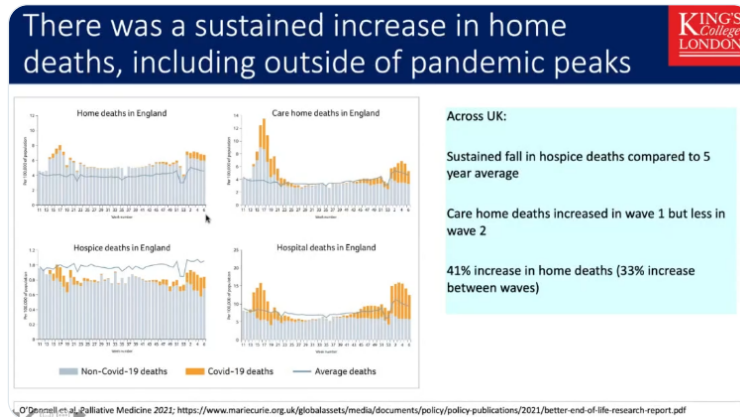
Changing patterns of mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic: Popula...

Background: COVID-19 has directly and indirectly caused high mortality worldwide.
 Aim: To explore patterns of mortality during the COVID-19 pandemic and implica...

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0269216320944810>

[#21OPCC](#)

But longer time, increasing numbers of people dying from home, which not yet explained - people exercising choice to die at home or dying suddenly and not being able to access help? Sleeman [#21OPCC](#)



This study suggested people were choosing to stay at home (GPs and community nurses were stepping in palliative care space).

Community end-of-life care during the COVID-19 pandemic: findings of...
 Background Thousands of people in the UK have required end-of-life care in the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Primary healthcare teams (general practice and community nursing services) have ...
<https://bjgpopen.org/content/5/4/BJGPO.2021.0095>

GPs and community nurses experienced higher volume and complexity of end-of-life care

GPs and community nurses took on more responsibility in most aspects of palliative care practice (n=559)

Patients chose to stay at home rather than be admitted to hospice or hospital

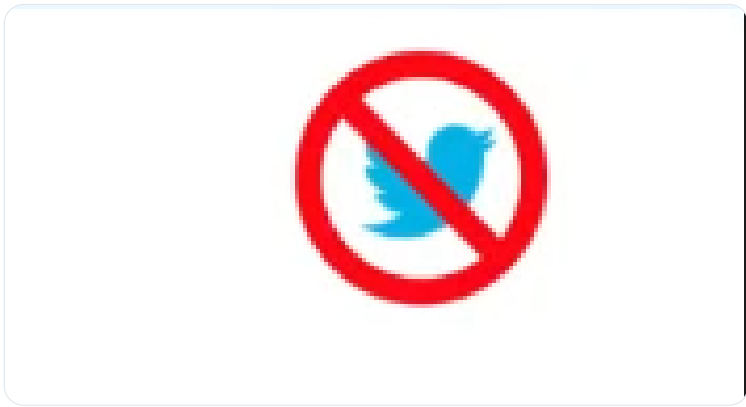
'We have had more complex patients being managed at home which has been a challenge, whereas if COVID-19 and visiting wasn't an issue they may have been hospice inpatients or even admitted to an acute hospital bed.' (GP, England)

Integration with palliative care services was variable

'District nurses have borne the bulk during COVID. They are, and continue to be, amazing. The "specialist" palliative care nurses occasionally raise their heads, but are distant and remote from general practice which is a shame.' (District nurse, England)

Mitchell et al. 2021. Community end-of-life care during COVID-19: Findings of a UK primary care survey. BJGP Open. <https://doi.org/10.3399/BJGPO.2021.0095>

(Excellent tip here for conference presenters who don't want their preliminary research tweeted - as well as saying so (thanks @kesleeman) put a little sign on the slide #21OPCC) @MelissaSweetDr @coopesdetat



Pandemic has shown how much we can achieve if clinical academics work together side by side on policy - was fast, innovative and highly successful during COVID but far fewer examples in end of life care than could have been: Sleeman #21OPCC

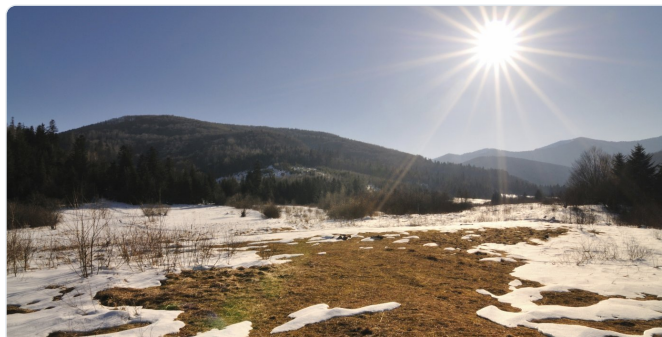
#21OPCC @kesleeman

Summary of part 2

What we learned about palliative care (and policy) during the pandemic

- Palliative care was an essential, front line pandemic service
- But services felt under-recognized and overlooked and this impacted on the care they could deliver
- Palliative care teams are agile and innovative, and made frugal innovations, shifting to the community
- GPs and district nurses provided more end-of-life care, but felt isolated and there was a lack of integration with palliative care
- Care home staff felt unsupported and had difficulty accessing help from other services
- Academic-policy collaboration was highly successful... in some cases

Sleeman assessing pandemic for palliative care through Lewin's Unfreeze Change Refreeze model [#21OPCC](#)



Lewin's Change Management Model: Understanding the Three Stages ...

Learn how to use Lewin's Change Management Model, a simple three-stage process to manage change more effectively, with this article and video.

https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newPPM_94.htm

What do we need:

1. Better integration across teams
2. Identify and tackle inequality (paper coming next wk) - COVID and [#BlackLivesMatter](#) movement has put it to the fore
3. Recognise/support aged care
4. Bereavement support
5. Collaboration (academic/policy/services) [#21OPCC](#)

Shoutout from [@kesleeman](#) for this [@bmj_latest](#) essay from [@Lucy_Selman](#)

"Covid grief has cracked us open: how clinicians respond could reshape attitudes to bereavement"

[bmj.com/content/374/bm](https://www.bmj.com/content/374/bm) [#21OPCC](#)

Finally [@kesleeman](#) recommends reading the Marie Curie The Better End of Life Report 2021 [#21OPCC](#)



Better End of Life Report 2021

We take a closer look at how Covid-19 has affected dying, death and bereavement and what we can learn for improving end of life care in the UK. Our key findings include that the place where people di...

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/policy/better-end-life-report>

plz unroll [@threadreaderapp](#)

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