

What the study will add

- Understanding of the end of life care decision-making for the patients with non-malignant as well as malignant diseases.
- Understanding of decision-making “in context” and around an actual critical event, rather than a hypothetical (improved ecological validity).
- Multiple perspectives on the same admission revealing issues relevant to the health care system, including views of informal carers and non-specialist palliative care clinicians.
- An empirically-derived model of actual decision-making about admission at the very end of life to inform policy and practice.
- An empirically-derived definition of “inappropriate” admissions.
- Applied, solution-focused approach designed to support policy and service development