Fighting the System: Integrating Hospital-Based Palliative Care Teams

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Overview

• Introduction & Background
• Methods
• Findings
• Discussion
• Conclusion
• Questions & Comments
Background

- Origins of Palliative Care
- Introduction into Medical Centers
- Nursing & Medical Specialties
- Development of Palliative Care Guidelines
- Quality Standards & Program Sustainability
Methods

- Interview team members
- *Improving Palliative Care* as a framework
- Observe team members at UWHC & VA
- Examine program quality measures & standards of care
- Compare to current standards & guidelines
Findings

- Separation of palliative care services & life-prolonging treatment
- Quality standards not utilized
- Track utilization not patient outcomes
- Lack of adequate staffing
- Lack of administrative support
Where do we go from here?
Examine the evidence & scope of services

**UWHC**
- Satisfaction
- Dyspnea

**VA**
- Instruments
- Templates
Future Work

Improving Palliative Care in Dane County

- Evaluate adherence to quality standards
- Family Evaluation of Care Survey
- Dane County End-of-Life Coalition
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