



A Patient Reported Outcome Measure (PROM) for Spiritual Care

European Conference
on Religion, Spirituality and Health
Malta 2014

Free Communications
Friday May 23rd, 16:00 – 17:30

Professor Austyn Snowden

Snowden & Snowden Ltd

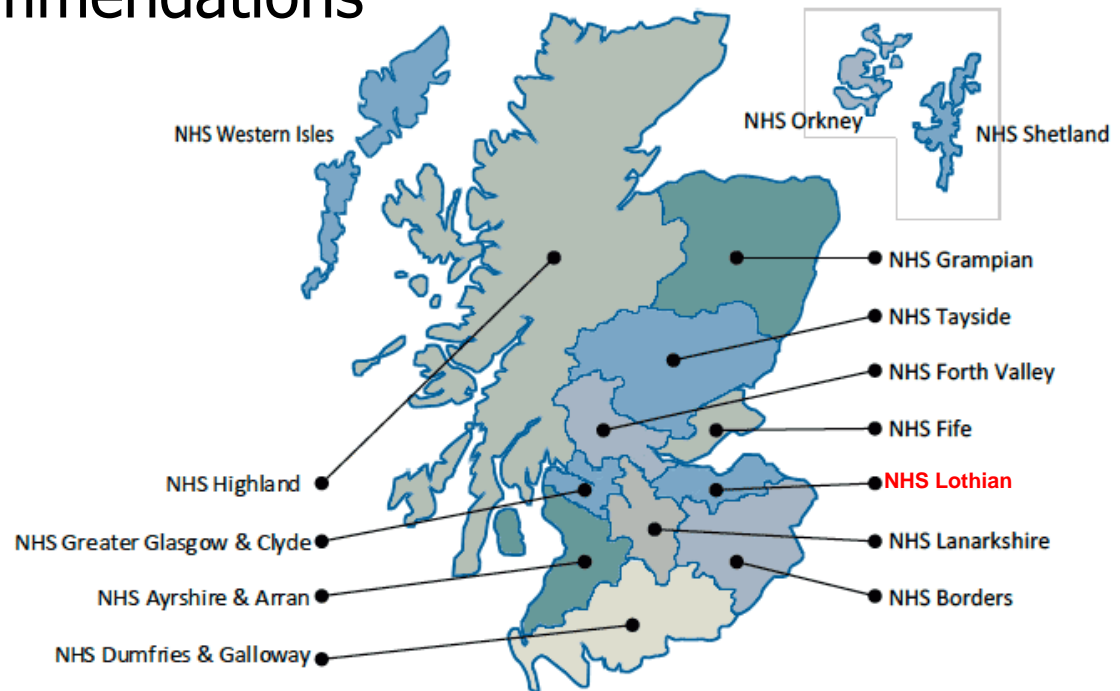
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Overview

- Who we are and what we did
- Purpose and results of initial study
- Conclusions and recommendations
- Scotland-wide study





What is a PROM?

Patient Reported Outcome Measure –

a series of structured questions that ask patients about their health **from their point of view** usually in the light of specific treatment or intervention





Context

In UK all NHS employees are required to provide economically sound, evidence-based care.

In Scotland this is articulated in

The Healthcare Quality Strategy for Scotland

(The Scottish Government, 2010)



What was our Goal?

The original
NHS Education for Scotland (NES)
Project Goal in 2010 was...





What was our Goal?

Develop a tool for use in a Scottish context to show **the impact of health care chaplaincy** on patient well-being





The Lothian PROM (2012)

Demographics:

- Age
- Gender
- Time in hospital

During the encounter:

- Listened to
- Able to talk
- Focused on decisions
- Faith/beliefs valued
- My situation was understood

After encounter I felt:

- Felt sense of peace
- A better perspective
- Things were under control
- I could be honest
- My anxiety had lessened

Statements that describe me now:

- Spiritual person
- Believe in God
- Need to be hopeful
- Feel in control
- Need to find meaning
- Experience love and belonging
- I am religious
- Have something to be hopeful about

The Process

- Chaplain completes referral record, including impression of encounter.
- Patient completes the Lothian PROM.
- We analysed the responses.





Out of 39 Respondents...

Service

Acute	32
Paediatric	5
Mental health	2

Age

Under 16	1
16-40	13
41-55	10
56-70	9
71-86	5
86+	1

Time in hospital

Under a week	12
1 week to a month	9
1-3 months	6
3-6 months	3
6 months to a year	3
Over a year	3
Not in hospital	3

Gender

Male	9
Female	30



What the responses showed

'Being able to talk about what was on my mind'
...was associated with all measured outcomes

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On the other hand...

'Traits of religion/spirituality'

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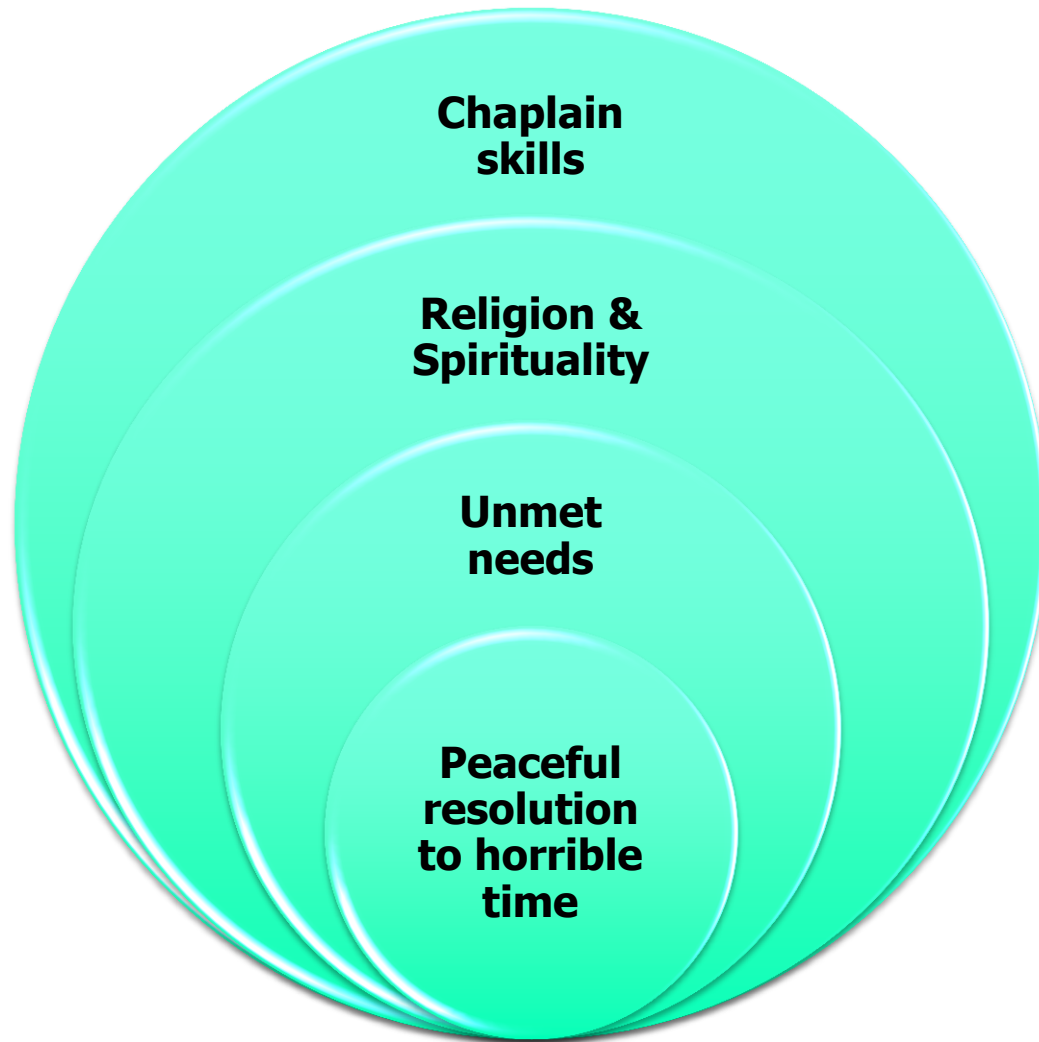


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What people said...





How it worked

Scenario

Female patient in ICU following premature birth of baby girl. Patient now dying of previous cancer. Patient's partner referred by staff nurse due to worries over child custody vis à vis self and patient's sister

Sessions

- Time offered to
 - partner
 - partner's family
- Liaison between partner, family members and staff
- Special time for partner and baby visiting

Referral record

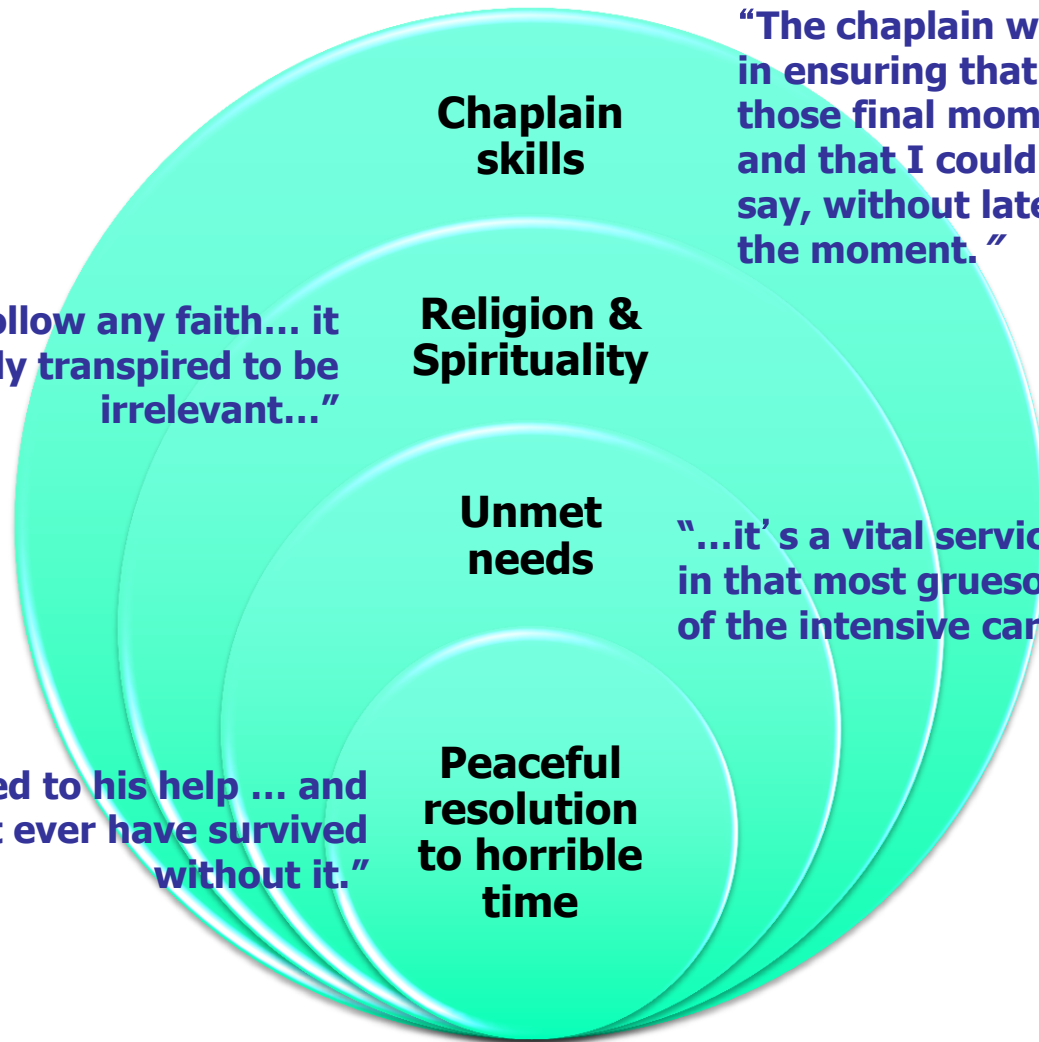
Satisfactory conversation with partner regarding procedures for determining custody – led to outpouring of emotion in relation to previous illness, imminent death and visiting arrangements with other family members

PROM feedback

“The chaplain was incredibly helpful in ensuring that I was able to have those final moments with (partner) and that I could say all ... I needed to say, without later regret of missing the moment. I do not follow any faith ... it immediately transpired to be irrelevant I am indebted to his help ... and wonder how I might ever have survived without it. *It's a vital service which is a must in that most gruesome environment of the intensive care ward ...*”



How it worked



“The chaplain was incredibly helpful in ensuring that I was able to have those final moments with (partner) and that I could say all... I needed to say, without later regret of missing the moment.”

“I do not follow any faith... it immediately transpired to be irrelevant...”

“...it’s a vital service which is a must in that most gruesome environment of the intensive care ward ...”

“I am indebted to his help ... and wonder how I might ever have survived without it.”



Lothian PROM findings

- The lack of correlation between PROM outcomes and spirituality/religion traits means that chaplains were useful for **all** this sample.
- The importance of chaplaincy input was clear.
- Sense of peace is a good outcome.
- 'Being able to talk' is important.
- **The use of a PROM can measure the impact of chaplaincy.**



What's next...

- Would the findings of the Lothian PROM hold in a larger sample?
- What improvements to the Lothian PROM would be required to continue the validation process?
- Would it be feasible to carry out a similar project covering all NHS Scotland Boards?
- **How might this be done?**



The goal of our next project

To establish if the
Scottish Spiritual Care PROM is
**a useful measure of patient outcome
following chaplaincy intervention**
in a national sample of people attending
Community Chaplaincy Listening (CCL).



What are our objectives?

- Investigate the manner in which the Scottish PROM supports spiritual care for people in CCL.
- Establish reliability of the Scottish PROM.
- Establish convergent validity of the Scottish PROM with a validated well-being measure (WEMWBS).
- Establish the relationship between self reported chaplain efficacy scores and Scottish PROM scores.
- Make recommendations for the improvement of spiritual care services and chaplains' professional development.





Questions?

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Healthcare Chaplaincy :
the Lothian Chaplaincy
Patient Reported Outcome
Measure (PROM)

*The construction of a measure of the
impact of specialist spiritual care*



Community Chaplaincy Listening

- Supporting Community Resilience and Wellbeing.
- Chaplains based in General Practice (GP) Health Centres.
- Referrals by GPs and other healthcare professionals.
- Active Listening with the potential for Transformation.
- Helping people explore their hurts and rebuild confidence in their inner strengths.
- People tell their story → we listen → community resilience grows.