

Supplemental Table 1: Demographic information and clinical course for 31 patients who died of COVID-19, referred to a hospital palliative care team.

Characteristic	Median [IQR], or n (%)
<i>Age</i>	84 [76 – 89]
<i>Sex</i>	
Male	24 (77)
Female	7 (23)
<i>Ethnicity</i>	
White British	26 (84)
Other – not stated	3 (10)
Not known	2 (6)
<i>Comorbidities</i>	
Total	4 [3-5]
Hypertension	11 (35)
Atrial Fibrillation	11 (35)
Chronic Kidney Disease	10 (32)
Lung Disease	9 (29)
Dementia	9 (26)
Type 2 Diabetes	8 (26)
Cerebrovascular Disease	8 (26)
Cancer	7 (23)
Ischaemic Heart Disease	5 (16)
Haematological Malignancy	5 (16)
<i>COVID-19 diagnosis</i>	
Throat/nasal swab	28 (90)
Radiological/ clinical suspicion	3 (10)
<i>Reason for referral*</i>	
End of life care	27 (87)
Symptom control	23 (71)
Psychological Support	1 (3)
Care Planning	0 (0)
<i>Time (days)</i>	
Admission – First PM consultation	4 [2-8]
First PM consultation - death	2 [1-3]
<i>Location of patient</i>	
Ward	25 (81)
Respiratory HDU	6 (19)
ITU	0 (0)
AKPS	20 [10-20]
Missing	5 (16)
<i>Phase of illness</i>	
Dying	18 (58)
Deteriorating	7 (23)
Unstable	1 (3)
Stable	0 (0)
Missing	5 (16)

*Some referrals made for more than one reason

Supplemental Table 2: Symptoms experienced and medication prescribed and administered.

<i>Symptoms experienced</i>	n (%)			
Breathlessness	26 (84)			
Delirium	24 (77)			
Pain	3 (10)			
Secretions	5 (16)			
Dry Mouth	4 (13)			
Anxiety	2 (6)			
Cough	1 (3)			
<i>Oxygen delivery on referral</i>	26 (84)			
Airvo / CPAP	6 (23)			
Non rebreath mask	13 (50)			
Other mask	3 (12)			
Nasal Cannula	4 (15)			
<i>Oxygen delivery at death</i>	5 (16)			
Airvo / CPAP	1 (20)			
Non rebreath mask	2 (40)			
Nasal Cannula	2 (40)			
‘As required’ PRN medications	Number prescribed (%)	Number receiving dose <24 hours before death (%)	Document ed effectiveness (%)	Dose range (mg s/c)
Morphine	20 (65)	11 (35)	7 (63)	1.25-5
Oxycodone	11 (35)	7 (23)	3 (43)	1.25 - 2.5
Midazolam	31 (100)	15 (48)	8 (53)	2.5-5
Haloperidol	28 (90)	3 (10)	1 (33)	0.5
Levomepromazine	10 (32)	0 (0)		
Lorazepam	3 (10)	0 (0)		
Metoclopramide	15 (48)	0 (0)		
Cyclizine	4 (13)	0 (0)		
Hyoscine butylbromide	29 (94)	4 (13)	2 (50)	20
<i>Syringe driver prescribed</i>			22 (71)	
Morphine alone			1 (5)*	
Morphine + midazolam			9 (40)	
Morphine + midazolam + haloperidol			1 (5)	
Morphine + midazolam + levomepromazine + haloperidol			2 (9)	
Morphine + midazolam + hyoscine butylbromide			1 (5)	
Oxycodone + midazolam			2 (9)	
Oxycodone + midazolam + haloperidol			1 (5)	
Oxycodone + midazolam + levomepromazine + haloperidol + hyoscine butylbromide			1 (5)	
Oxycodone + midazolam + hyoscine butylbromide			1 (5)	

Alfentanil + midazolam	1 (5)
Alfentanil + midazolam + haloperidol	1 (5)
Midazolam alone	1 (5)
Documented effectiveness	15 (68)
<i>Dose in syringe driver</i>	Median [IQR] (mg)
Morphine	10 [10-17.5]
Oxycodone	10 [10 – 18.75]
Alfentanil	**
Midazolam	10 [10-15]
Haloperidol	2 [1.5-2.5]
Hyoscine butylbromide	***
Total oral morphine equivalent (last 24 hours)****	20 [13.75 – 37.5]
Total midazolam (last 24 hours)	10 [3.75-15]

*Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

**n=2: 0.5mg and 0.75mg alfentanil

*** n=3 40mg, 60mg and 60mg hyoscine butylbromide

**** conversions used 1:30 S/C alfentanil: PO morphine. 1:2 S/C morphine: PO morphine. 1:2 S/C oxycodone: S/C morphine.

Supplemental Table 3: Care quality indicators

Characteristic	Median (IQR), or n (%)
<i>Seen by:</i>	
Specialist Palliative Care Nurse	31 (100)
Palliative Medicine Doctor	12 (39)
Chaplaincy	0
Social worker	0
Occupational Therapy	0
Physiotherapy	0
Psychiatrist	0
Total number consults	2 [2-3]
<i>By recipient</i>	
Patient	2 [1-2]
Family	0
Hospital Team	1 [0-1]
<i>By type</i>	
Face to face	2 [1-3]
Telephone	1 [0-1]
<i>Documented care plan</i>	
DNACPR	31(100)
Treatment Escalation Plan	28 (90)
<i>Communication to Next of Kin</i>	
Death possible	30 (97)
Death occurred	31 (100)
Visiting policy	23 (74)
Present at death	6 (19)