



# Economic Assessment for the Six Steps+ End of Life Care Programme

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# End of Life Care

1. End of Life Care is requiring increasing integration
2. End of Life Care is becoming increasingly complex
3. There are unnecessary hospital admissions for avoidable conditions
4. Many nurses report feeling a lack of confidence in end of life care due to lack of knowledge and skills

# Six Steps+ End of Life Care Programme

Originally created by the Cumbria and Lancashire End of Life Care Network; further developed by St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth into the Six Steps+ Programme

Based on the Six Steps outlined in the 2008 DH End of Life Care document: Discussions as the end of life approaches, Holistic Assessment, Co-ordination of Care, Delivery of high quality care, Care in the last days of life and Care after death

**DH** Department of Health

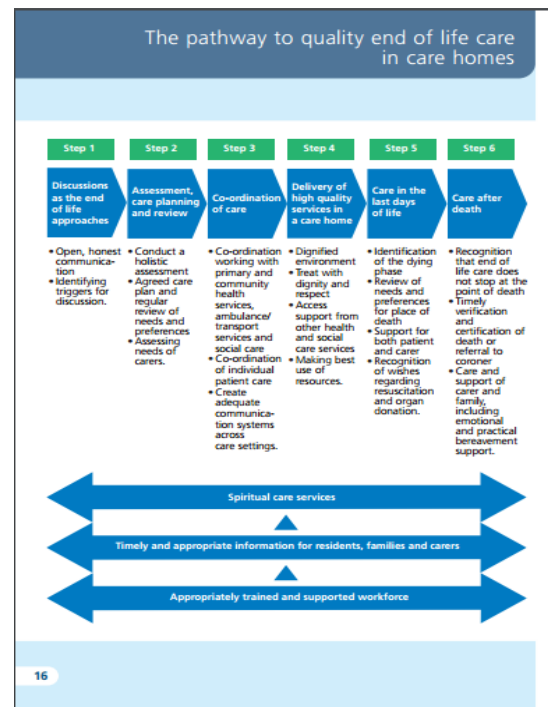
## End of Life Care Strategy

*Promoting high quality care for all adults at the end of life*

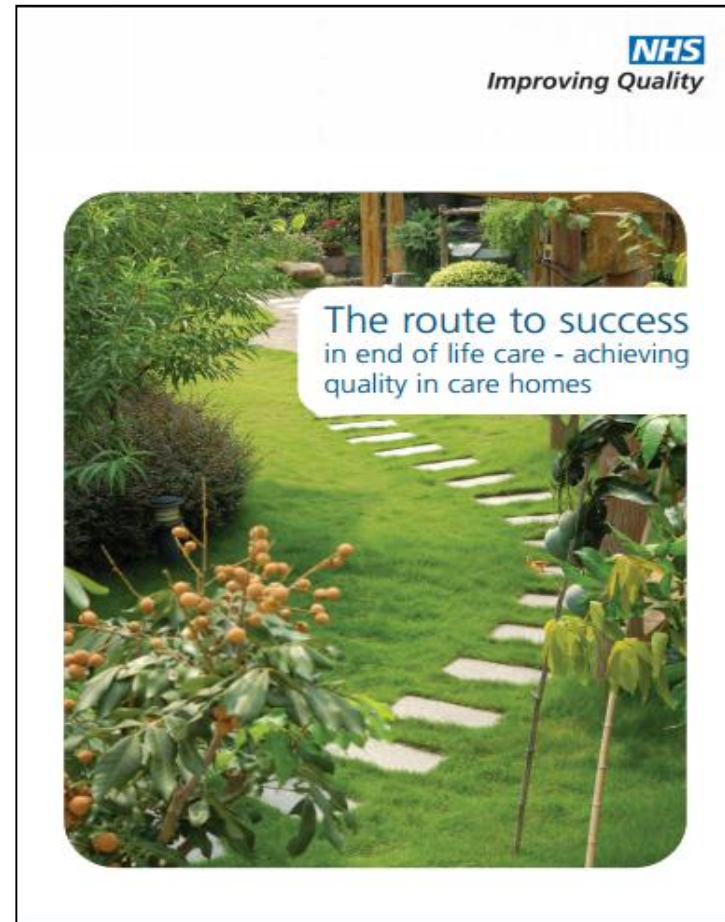
*'How people die remains in the memory of those who live on'*  
Dame Cicely Saunders  
Founder of the Modern Hospice Movement

July 2008

**NHS**



- Uses a whole organisation systematic approach of developing staff knowledge, skills and confidence
- Inappropriate hospital admissions can be reduced
- Individual and Organisation Portfolios
- Annual re-validation possible

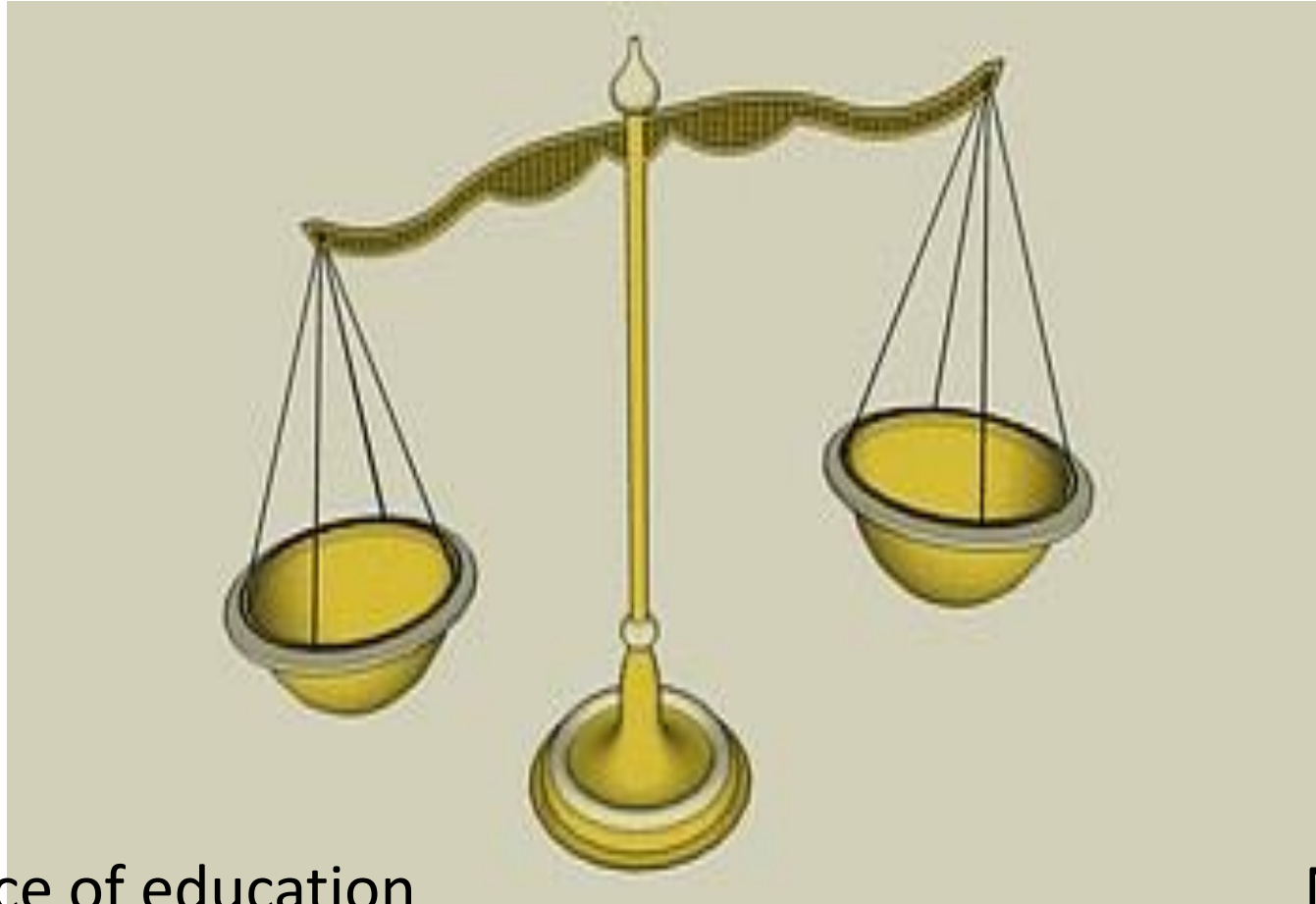




# Participating in the RCN / OPM /Burdett Trust Economic Assessment programme



# On balance...



Importance of education

High motivation

Nervous

On a personal note....



**WORDS**

Empower or Dismiss

# Doing the Economic Assessment Programme

- Programme clear, very well led and support available
- Significantly more work and time needed than originally outlined
- Realisation that there are significantly more costs in service provision, often not immediately obvious, including to those receiving the service



# Personal impact

- Greater awareness of the work and role specifics of others involved in health care provision
- Development of skills in economic assessment
- Confidence in my own abilities

# Key stages of the Economic Assessment

- Area of focus: a cost / benefit analysis of the cost of providing the education programme with avoided hospital admission spend
- Most appropriate Economic Assessment type identified for the project: Cost Avoidance
- Data accessed from National and Local databases and epidemiologist
- Local CCG End of Life Care provision reports identified
- Existing reporting of Six Steps delivery outcomes in the UK identified

# Six Steps+ Benefits and Outcomes

Three main categories:

## **1. Patient /resident**

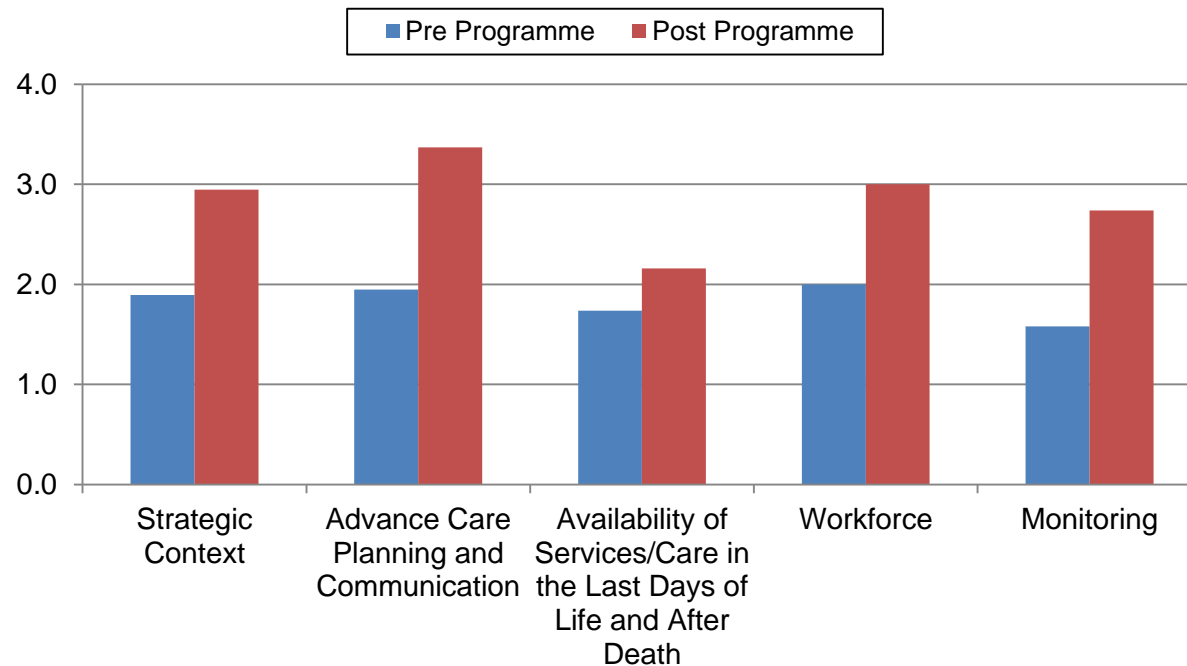
## **2. Organisational**

Commissioners

Care homes/ care agencies

## **3. Participating Students**

# Key findings in the Economic Assessment

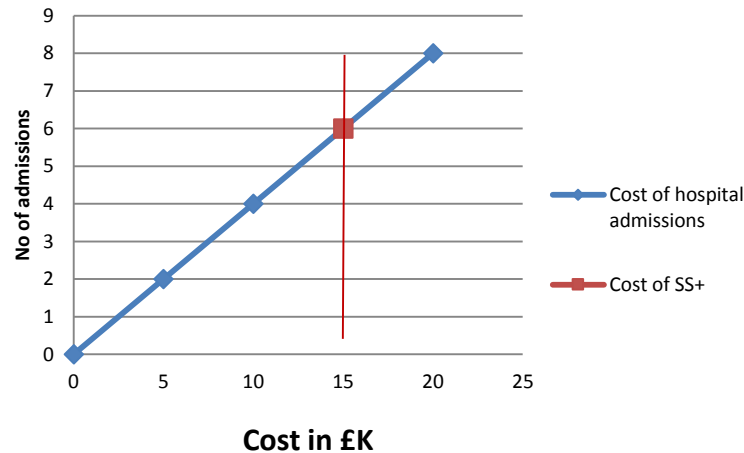


Data from previous local Six Steps Cohort:

self-reported knowledge, skills and confidence improvement across 5 domains

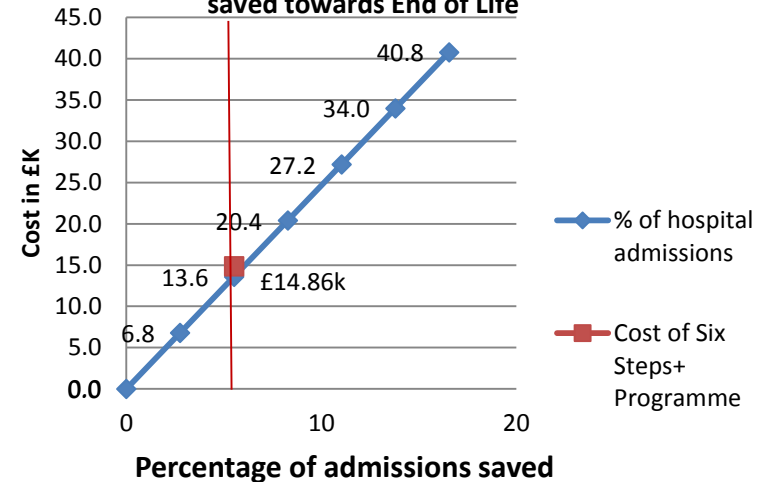
# Cost neutrality to potential commissioners

**Graph 1: Cost of Six Steps+ Programme in relation to number of hospital admissions saved towards End of Life**



**6 avoided admissions would be cost neutral to potential commissioners**

**Graph 2: Cost of Six Steps+ Programme in relation to percentage of hospital admissions saved towards End of Life**



**A 6.8% reduction in avoidable hospital admissions would be cost neutral to potential commissioners**



# Is Six Steps effective?

Saved unnecessary hospital admissions

Systems improvements

High quality care

# Concluding thoughts

Has completing the Economic Assessment Programme been a worthwhile exercise?

The project assessed

The Economic Assessment programme itself

Personal development

Information about this Economic Assessment can be found at:

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/research-and-innovation/innovation-in-nursing/building-nursing-capability-in-economic-assessment/angela-springett>

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