

# Geographical and temporal Understanding In place of Death in England (1984–2010): analysis of trends and associated factors to improve end-of-life Care (GUIDE\_Care) – primary research

Wei Gao,<sup>1\*</sup> Yuen K Ho,<sup>1</sup> Julia Verne,<sup>2</sup> Emma Gordon<sup>3</sup> and Irene J Higginson<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>King's College London, The School of Life Sciences and Medicine, Cicely Saunders Institute, Department of Palliative Care, Policy and Rehabilitation, London, UK

<sup>2</sup>Knowledge & Intelligence (South West) and National End of Life Care Intelligence Network, Public Health England, Grosvenor House, Bristol, UK

<sup>3</sup>Life Events and Population Sources Division, Office for National Statistics, Newport, Wales, UK

\*Corresponding author

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## Plain English summary

### Geographical and temporal understanding in place of death

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## Plain English summary

Information on where people die is essential for public health planning and end-of-life care policy.

In this study we aimed to describe where people died over a 27-year period. We also wanted to find out what factors might be related to this.

We extracted information from death registrations collected by the Office for National Statistics.

We assessed all deaths registered in England between 1984 and 2010. We used statistical and mathematical research to analyse where people died and the related factors.

We analysed the death registration records of over 13 million people. Just under two-thirds had died in hospitals. The second and the third most common place of death (PoD) varied according to the cause of death. Hospices played an increasing role over time but almost exclusively for people with cancer. Hospital deaths were more likely for people aged > 75 years; divorced, single or widowed; from more deprived areas; during winter, autumn and at New Year; and in metropolitan regions. The variations in PoD need to be addressed by clinical services and commissioning groups.

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