
CONFERENCE ABSTRACT

Reform of palliative care as a model of integrated care

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The Flemish Government wants to reform the functioning, organization and financing of palliative care, with the aim of making palliative care the leading example of integrated care.

The reform process is a highly participatory process that has to lead to a wide support from all actors involved and consists of 3 parts:

1. Through a participatory process with all actors involved (citizens, first and second line care, palliative care sector, welfare,...) the Flemish government is creating a common vision on the future of palliative care in Flanders.

2. Based on this vision, a concrete action and transition plan will be drawn up to evolve from the current to the future organization of palliative care.

3. The effective reform of the functioning, organization and financing of palliative care.

Ultimately, every citizen in Flanders will benefit from the reform of palliative care. The palliative care will focus, even more than it does now, on multidisciplinary, targeting and quality.

The primary target of this reform are the organizations that provide and coordinate palliative care. These organizations are mostly the competence of the Flemish Government. The secondary target group is primary care and welfare providers. The reform will involve them even more in the adapted organization, functioning and financing of palliative care. The goal is for every care and welfare provider to do their part to ensure integrated and goal-oriented palliative care.

Citizens and their loved ones will also be given a full and prominent place in the reform process. They will be involved as much as possible in shaping the vision but will also form a separate sounding board for the Flemish Government. Through this sounding board, citizens, informal caregivers, difficult to reach target groups, etc. will be questioned about the vision on the future of palliative care that has been developed. The central question to them will be: does the new vision (and thus organization of palliative care) answer their questions and needs?

During the presentation, interim findings will be shared about the participatory process.