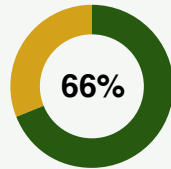


Key findings at a glance

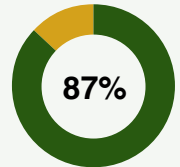
National Audit of Care at the End of Life, Mental Health Spotlight Audit 2025



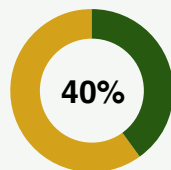
Proportion of patients who died of natural causes, where staff had recognised or expected the likely imminence of death.



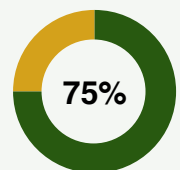
Proportion of clinical case notes with documented evidence that the likelihood of dying was discussed with the dying persons nominated person(s).



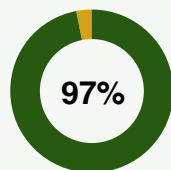
Proportion of patients whose primary cause of death was dementia.



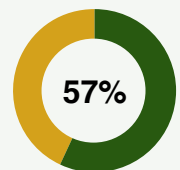
Proportion of mental health trusts/health boards that transfer patients to an acute trust/unit¹ if their physical health deteriorates near the end of life.



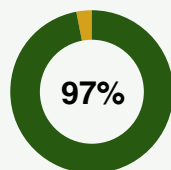
Proportion of clinical case notes with documented evidence of an individualised plan of care addressing the patient's needs at the end of life.



Proportion of clinical notes with an assessment of the spiritual, religious and cultural needs of those important to the dying person, or a reason recorded why not.



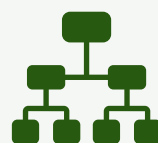
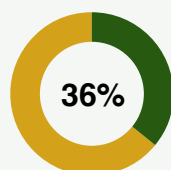
Proportion of clinical case notes with documented evidence of a review of the patient's pain.



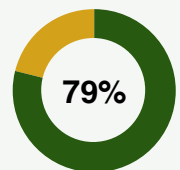
The median time between referral to the specialist palliative care team /end of life care team and review by the specialist palliative care team/ end of life care team.



Proportion of staff that strongly agree or agree that they have completed training specific to end of life care within the last 3 years.



Proportion of mental health trusts/health boards with an identified member of staff with a responsibility/role for end of life care.



¹In Wales, the term "acute unit" is used to reflect local service arrangements.

²All findings relate to care delivered in in-patient mental health wards. Local providers can use the infographic template available at www.nacel.nhs.uk/qi-documents to present their findings alongside the national results. To support comparison, relevant Acute and Community findings can be found in the [NACEL 2025 State of the Nations Report](#).