

Legacy Work In Palliative Care

BACKGROUND

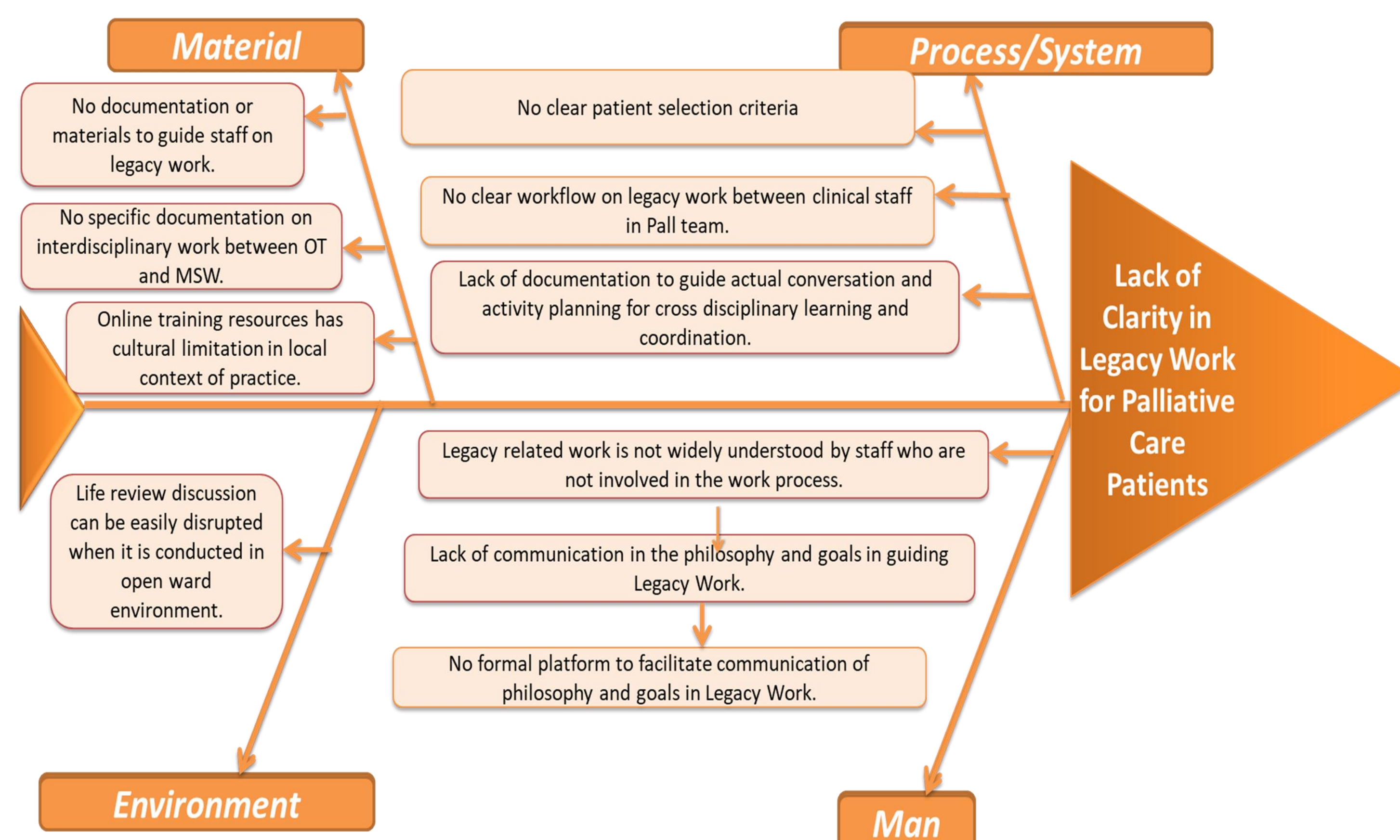
In their sunset years, many patients review their lives with a mix of emotions and responses. The loss of physical functions, changed social roles, and uncertainties of impending demise, threatens patient's well being. OT and SW in the palliative team to use legacy work as a form of intervention to work with patients. However, there is a lack of clarity on actual planning and execution of the legacy work.

PROJECT AIM

1. Understand staff awareness of legacy work for palliative care patients.
2. Create a handout on workflow, conversation and activities guide in doing legacy work.
3. Run sharing sessions on the philosophy of legacy work and the handout.

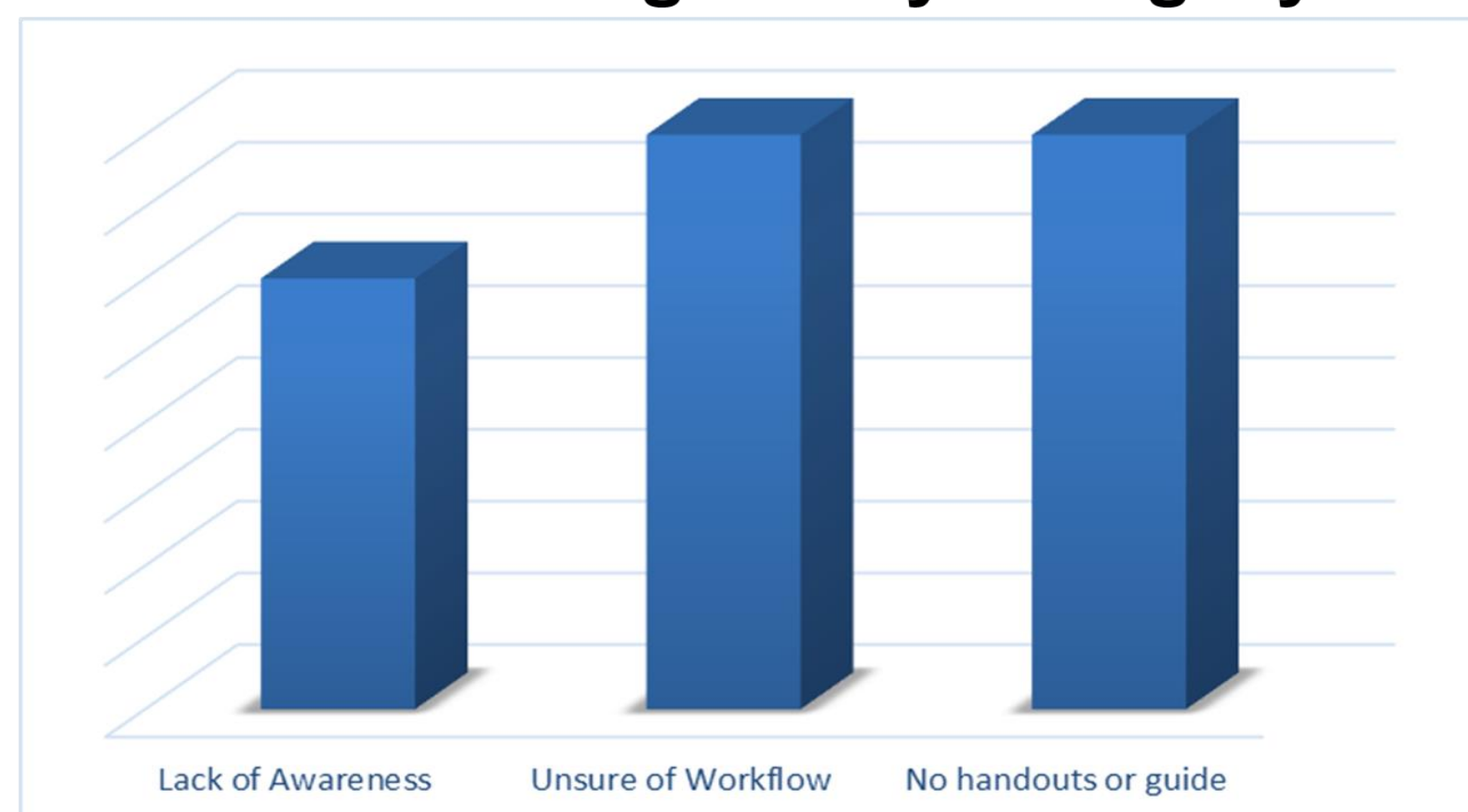
ANALYSIS

An Ishikawa (Fish bone) cause and effect were done to analyze the lack of clarity in legacy work. Factors include a lack of awareness and understanding of legacy work among staff, lack of guidelines in conducting conversation and activities planning and examples for references.

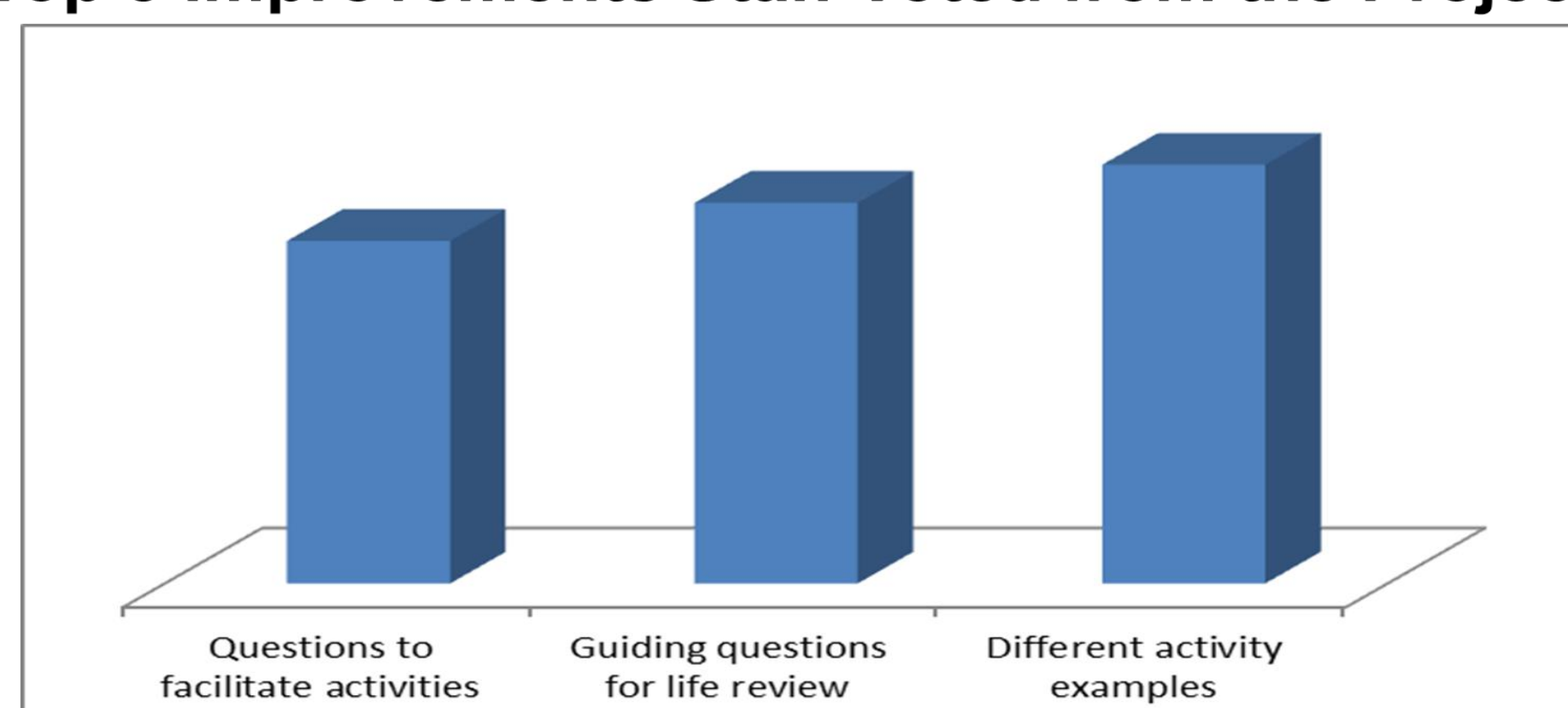


Staff's Feedback on Legacy Work

Top 3 Issues Affecting Clarity in Legacy Work



Top 3 Improvements Staff Voted from the Project



OUR PATIENTS' LEGACIES



Letters



Scrapbooks



Recipes



Skills Training



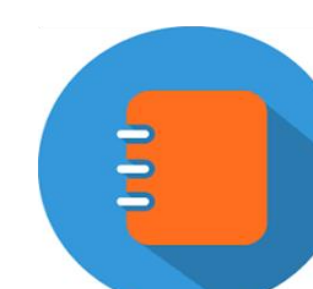
New life

SOLUTIONS



Criteria and Workflow

A criteria and workflow were set up to provide clarity in legacy work planning progress.



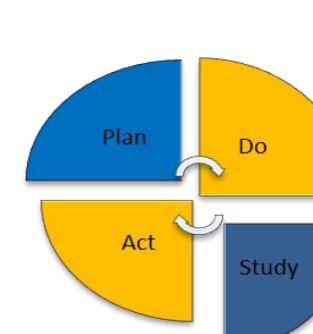
Legacy Work Manual

A practice manual on workflow, conversation and activities guide were written to guide staff on legacy work process.



Sharing Sessions

2 rounds of sharing sessions were conducted with allied health and medical staff to share about the criteria, workflow and manual.

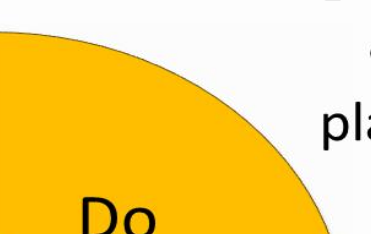
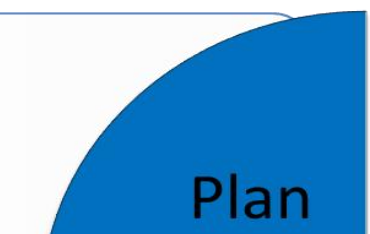


Continuous Plan-Do-Study-Act Cycles (PSDA)

A Plan-Do-Study-Act cycle is conducted after each sharing session with staff to refine the workflow and manual information. Feedback from patients and family members were also sought.

Cycles of Continuous Improvement

- Review current process of doing legacy work within the Pall Care team.



Cycle 1

- Practice manual written jointly by OT and MSW .

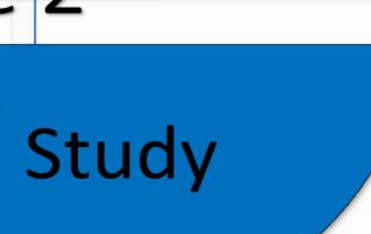


- Staff from the OT and MSS planned a survey on awareness of Legacy work and its processes.
- Evaluation and feedback was reviewed .

- Manual include patients' recipes.
- Layout revised into a booklet format with soft copy.



Cycle 2



- Sharing session with staff was conducted to introduce Legacy Work criteria, work flow, conversation and activities guide.

- Revision to manual made.

- Feedback from staff, patients & caregivers consolidated and reviewed.

PROJECT'S IMPACT



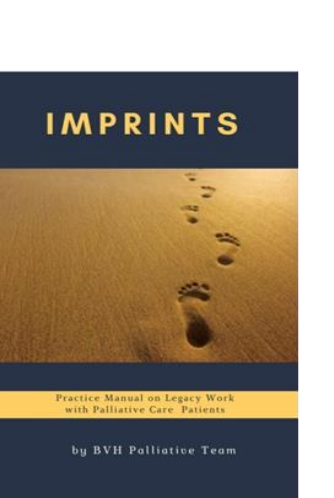
Document legacy work done by staff



Conducted staff sharing sessions and seek feedback from staff, patients and caregivers.



Use of feedback to improve on work process and document in manual.



Feedback from Staff

- 100% of staff who attended the sharing were more aware of objectives of legacy work.
- Perception of legacy work as a helpful intervention in end of life care increased from 79% to 99% after the sharing session.
- Staff outside of the palliative care team expressed interest in engaging patients in legacy work.
- Clearer workflow needs to be established as the roles of OT and MSW in providing psychosocial care are integrated .

Verbal Feedback from Patient and Family Members

"Before my brother passed away, he wrote us thank you card with the help of the MSW. We were so touched by Geok Seng's gesture."

"I hope the staff will remember me by using my recipe to bake pineapple tarts with other patients."



SUSTAINABILITY AND SPREAD

Manual

A guide for staff to take reference in conducting conversation and activities with patients.

Spread

Staff from other wards can replicate activities and conversation with patient who will benefit from legacy work.