

PalliArts: where guidelines meet care an app containing information regarding palliative care

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Introduction

In the Netherlands the aim is to provide palliative care at home as long as possible. This complex care is provided by the general practitioner and homecare teams and often demands for acute actions due to changes in the situation of the patient.

Goal of the app

To improve palliative care given by the general practitioner and homecare teams it is of great importance to give quick access to all necessary (local and national) information about palliative care, on the spot, any where at any time, with the possibility to consult other disciplines.

Content of the app

The structure of the content of the app fits the existing structure of supporting palliative care in the Netherlands. This content is composed of 2 parts:

- National content managed by Netherlands Comprehensive Cancer Organisation (IKNL)
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- Regional content managed by the local network manager of Regional Palliative Care Networks.

Use of the app

The app has been launched in March 2016 and has been frequently downloaded (32,000 downloads). Moreover, the use of the app is also impressive, each month there are about 12,000 sessions (approximately 6 screens per session). Most viewed information regards pain, delirium and palliative sedation.

Lessons learned

- Easy access to all necessary information about palliative care, provided by an App is possible and successful.
- To develop such an information-tool, make use of a multidisciplinary consultative group, users know best what they need the most
- Make use of existing organizational structures to publish up to date regional information
- Good public relation-strategy for implementation in collaboration with regional partners is important
- Use a simple content management system (CMS) easy to manage by the local partners (for example Contentful®).









