

Distribution List

Membership of PEoLC North West Coast Clinical Network:
LSC Programme Board
LSC Specialist Palliative Care Medical and Nursing Teams



16th March 2021

Dear Colleague,

In 2019 we shared a letter outlining the End of Life Programme Board position statement regarding ReSPECT. We are writing to you again to provide some guidance on behalf of the programme board.

The ReSPECT process creates personalised recommendations for a person's clinical care and treatment in a future emergency in which they are unable to make or express choices.

At the present time the board do not propose the implementation of ReSPECT in Lancs & South Cumbria for the following reasons:

- Many areas already have established processes in place around anticipatory care planning;
- There are no published outcome measures to illustrate that ReSPECT offers any significant advantage over current practice;
- Some of the issues identified with ReSPECT reflect issues we already observe, e.g. paper based, incomplete forms, etc.;
- As per the recommendations of the ReSPECT group any roll out should be region wide and we don't believe that this degree of 'buy in' currently exists;
- Roll out of ReSPECT would require significant communications and engagement with professionals and the public. An education 'package' would be required along with capacity and funding. There is no funding provision for the roll out of ReSPECT currently, unlike the North West Unified Do Not Resuscitate guidance, which was supported by MPET funding.

The above said, if areas wish to pursue implementation of ReSPECT, obviously they may but would need to follow the comprehensive roadmap stipulated by [ReSPECT](#).

In the meantime, we believe that improved anticipatory care planning (outlined in the [North West Anticipatory Clinical Management Planning Guidance](#)) should be supported through robust education and digital advances both of which are key elements of ongoing workstreams. A working group is currently scoping current practice surrounding Anticipatory Clinical Management Planning against the North West Anticipatory Clinical Management Planning Guidance to enable localities to recognise best practice and plan next steps.

On behalf of:

*North West Coast PEoLC Clinical Network
PEoLC Network Clinical Leads*