

# Caring for people in the last days and hours of life

Health and Care providers across Scotland are committed to the provision of consistently high quality end of life care for all that reflects the 4 principles set out in the guidance Caring for people in the last days and hours of life published at the end of 2013

- Principle 1:** Informative, timely and sensitive communication is an essential component of each individual person's care
- Principle 2:** Significant decisions about a person's care, including diagnosing dying, are made on the basis of multi-disciplinary discussion
- Principle 3:** Each individual person's physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs are recognised and addressed as far as is possible
- Principle 4:** Consideration is given to the wellbeing of relatives or carers attending the person

**“All care needs  
are identified and  
effectively addressed  
through responsive and  
holistic care planning”**

**All care delivered in the last days  
and hours of life should comply  
with these principles**

**Evidence of compliance should be  
reflected in the documentation**

All enquiries should be addressed to the  
Living Well in the Communities Team at  
[hcis.livingwell@nhs.net](mailto:hcis.livingwell@nhs.net)

A copy of the full Guidance document  
can be accessed at [www.gov.scot/  
Publications/2014/12/6639](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2014/12/6639)