

# Comparing the effectiveness of palliative care for elderly people in long term care facilities in Europe and in Switzerland

Sophie Pautex, Catherine Bassal, Emilie Morgan, François Herrmann, Claudia Gamondi, Pierre-Alain Charmillot, Tania Fusi-Schmidhauser

# Thank you



To program «Research in Palliative Care» with  
the support of the Gottfried and Julia Bangerter  
Rhyner and Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundations

To all nursing homes: staff; physician, relatives;  
administrative...

And to all collaborators.....

LTCF

PACE 1

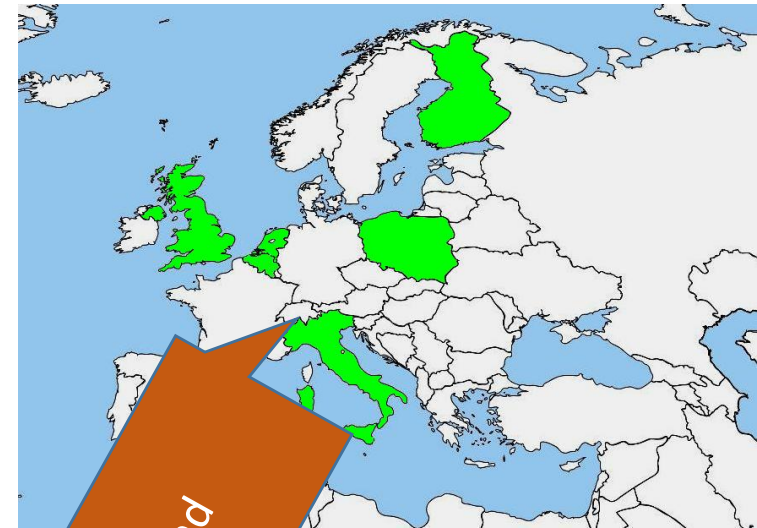
Descriptive

Pace 2

Intervention

## PACE FP7 EU -funded project 2014-2019

1. Mapping palliative care structures in care homes in Europe (EAPC Taskforce)
2. Describing and comparing quality of end-of-life care and quality of dying in 6 EU countries (cross-sectional study)
3. Randomised controlled cluster trial to integrate palliative care “PACE Steps to success” intervention



And Switzerland

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PACE 1 Descriptive

Pace 2 Intervention

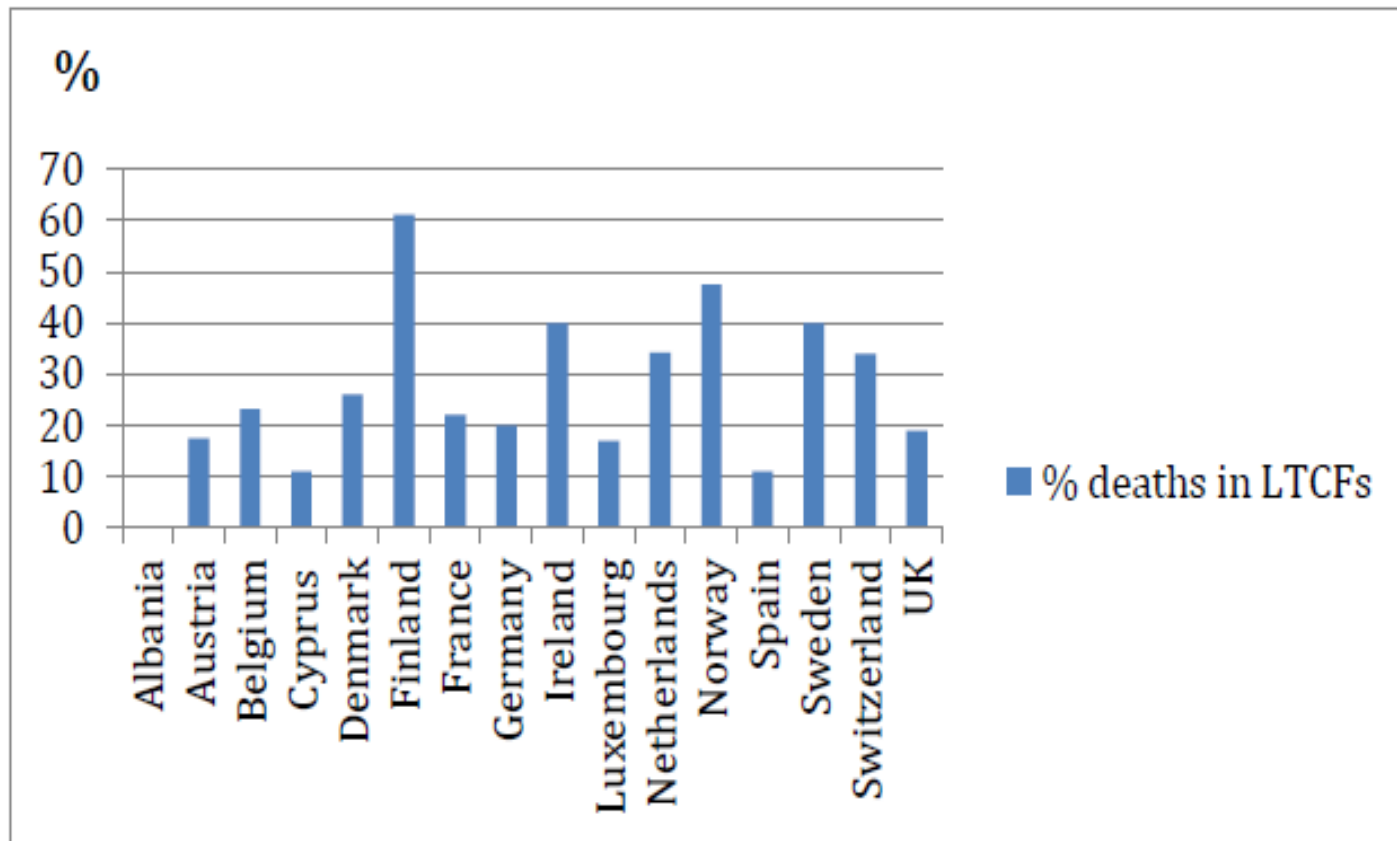
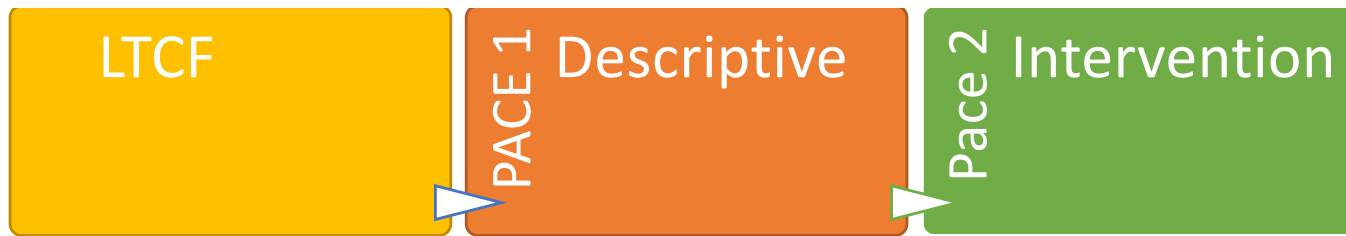


Figure 6: LTCFs as Place of Death



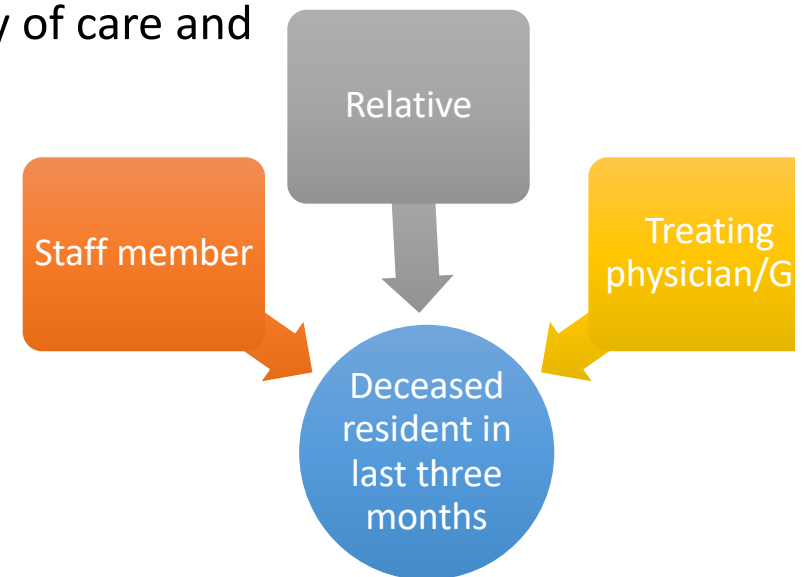
- Cross-sectional study of deceased residents

Every care home reports all deceased residents (in and outside the facility) over a past three month period

Structured after-death questionnaires on quality of care and quality of dying

- Cross-sectional study of staff

Knowledge and attitudes





# Primary Outcome

- **EOLD-CAD:** End-of-Life in Dementia Scale Comfort Assessment while dying completed by staff
- **QOD-LTC:** Quality of Dying in Long Term Care completed by staff
- **Knowledge Construct of the Palliative Care Survey completed by staff**

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*Original Article*

# Quality of dying and quality of end-of-life care of nursing home residents in six countries: An epidemiological study

Lara Pivodic<sup>1</sup>, Tinne Smets<sup>1</sup> , Nele Van den Noortgate<sup>2</sup>,  
Bregje D Onwuteaka-Philipsen<sup>3</sup>, Yvonne Engels<sup>4</sup>, Katarzyna Szczerbińska<sup>5</sup>,  
Harriet Finne-Soveri<sup>6</sup>, Katherine Froggatt<sup>7</sup>, Giovanni Gambassi<sup>8, 9</sup>,  
Luc Deliens<sup>1</sup> and Lieve Van den Block<sup>1</sup>; on behalf of PACE

*Palliative Medicine*

2018, Vol. 32(10) 1584–1595

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DOI: 10.1177/0269216318800610

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# Characteristics of patients

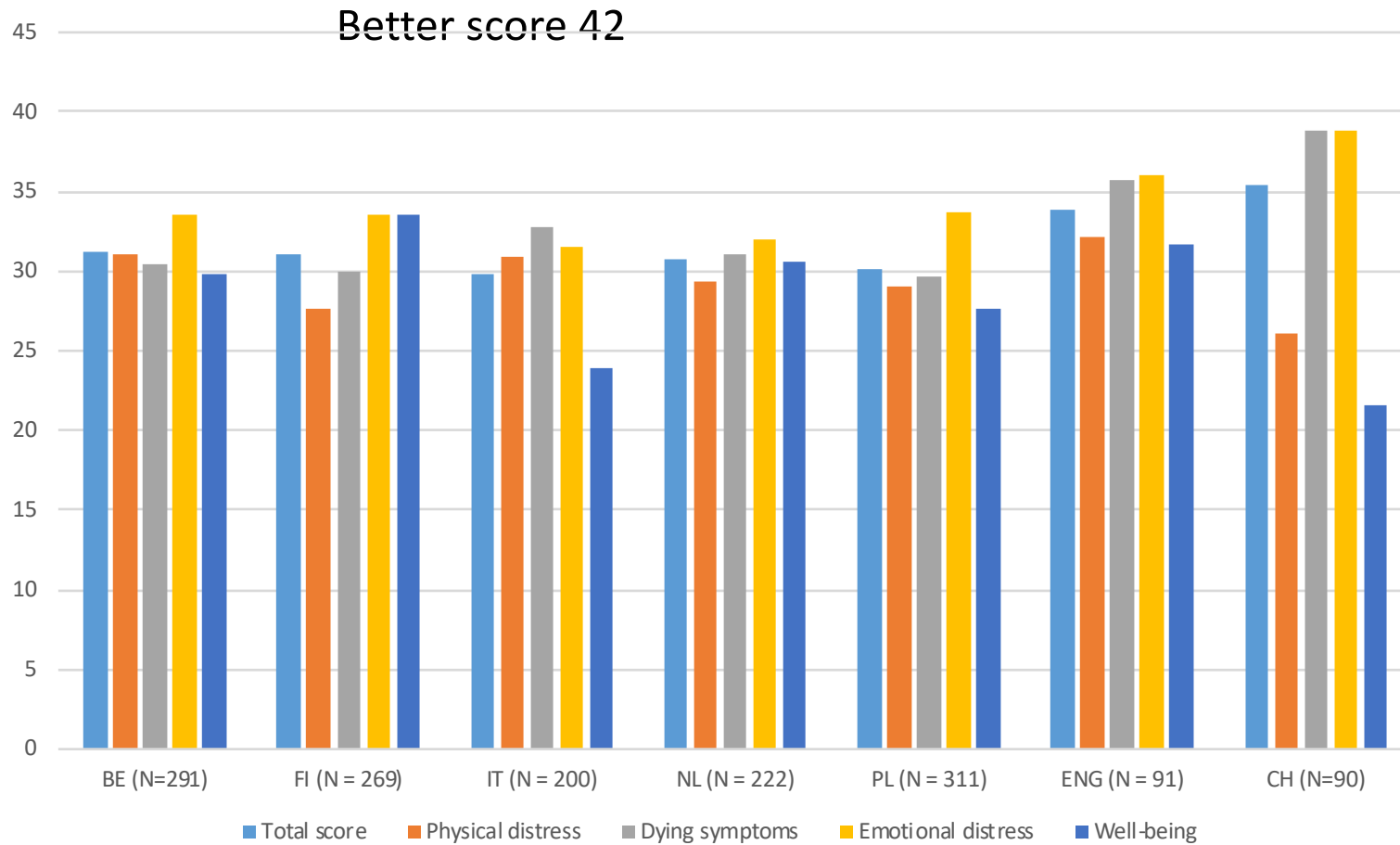
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	BE (N = 291)		FI (N = 269)		IT (N = 200)		NL (N = 222)		PL (N = 311)		ENG (N = 91)		CH (N=90)		P Value
Age at time of death, median (IQR)	88	(83-92)	86	(82-91)	87	(81-91)	87	(83-92)	83	(74-89)	89	(85-94)	88.7	(71-101)	<0.001
Gender, female, n (%)	174	64	169	64	136	68	138	67	195	64	66	78	52	59	0.38
Underlying cause of death, n (%) <0.001															
Cancer	30	11	90 patients												
Cardiovascular disease (excl. CVA)	71	25	88.7 years old												
Stroke/CVA	30	11	61% had dementia												
Dementia	61	22	36% dies from CVD												
Respiratory disease	38	13	88% died in NH												
Other	53	19													
Resident had dementia, n (%)	183	63											<0.001		
Functional status 1 month before death (BANS-S), median (IQR) <sup>b</sup>	19	(15-22)											<0.001		
Place of death, n (%)															
Nursing home	227	83	67 % stayed more than 1 year										0.014		
Length of stay in nursing home, n (%)													<0.001		
Up to 6 months	55	19	80	30	68	34	49	22	163	53	26	30	24	27	
6-12 months	33	12	20	8	21	11	18	8	23	8	8	9	9	10	
1 year or more	200	69	166	63	111	56	153	70	122	40	54	61	57	63	
Respondent for resident, n (%)															
Nurse most involved in care	245	85	251	94	197	100	97	44	212	70	36	40	88	98	
Other staff most involved in care	45	16	15	6	1	1	123	56	92	30	53	60	2	2	





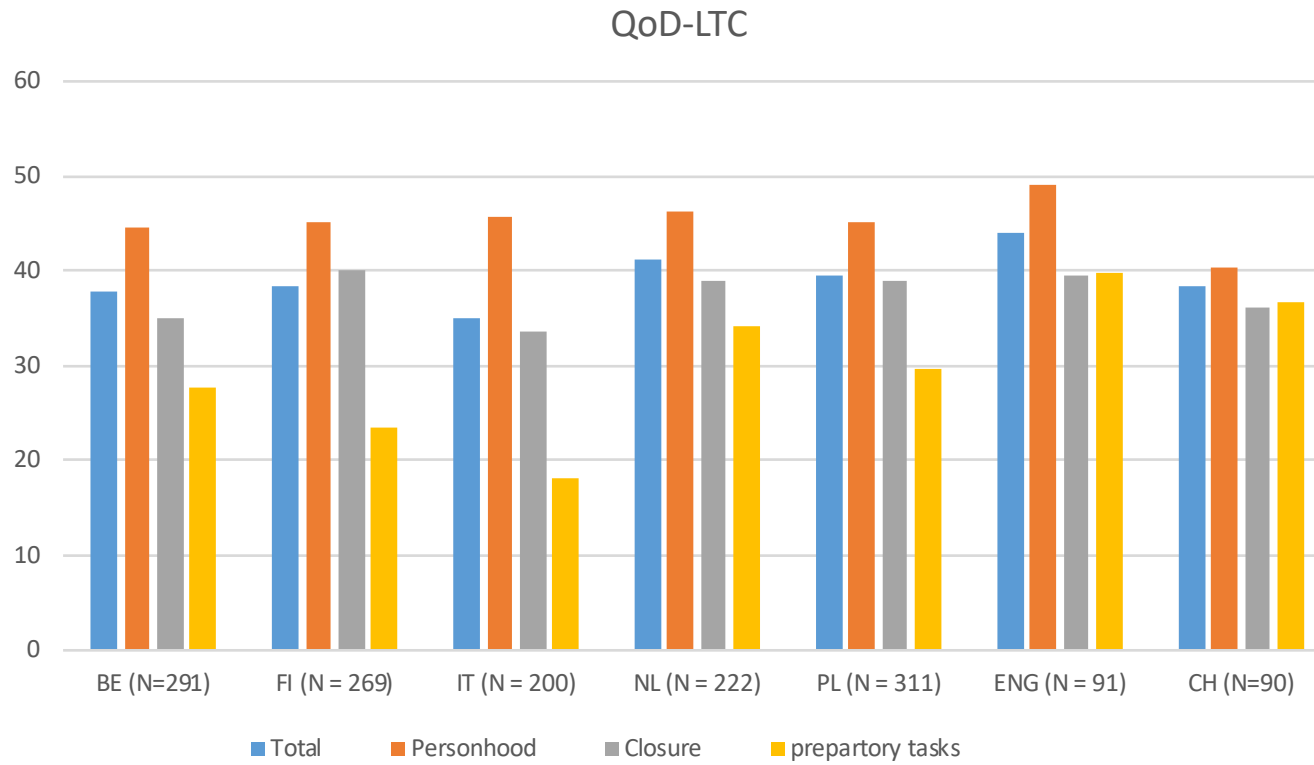
## Dementia Scale Comfort Assessment while dying (EOLD-CAD)





## Quality of Dying in Long Term Care completed by staff

Better score 55





*Original Article*



# The palliative care knowledge of nursing home staff: The EU FP7 PACE cross-sectional survey in 322 nursing homes in six European countries

*Palliative Medicine*  
2018, Vol. 32(9) 1487–1497  
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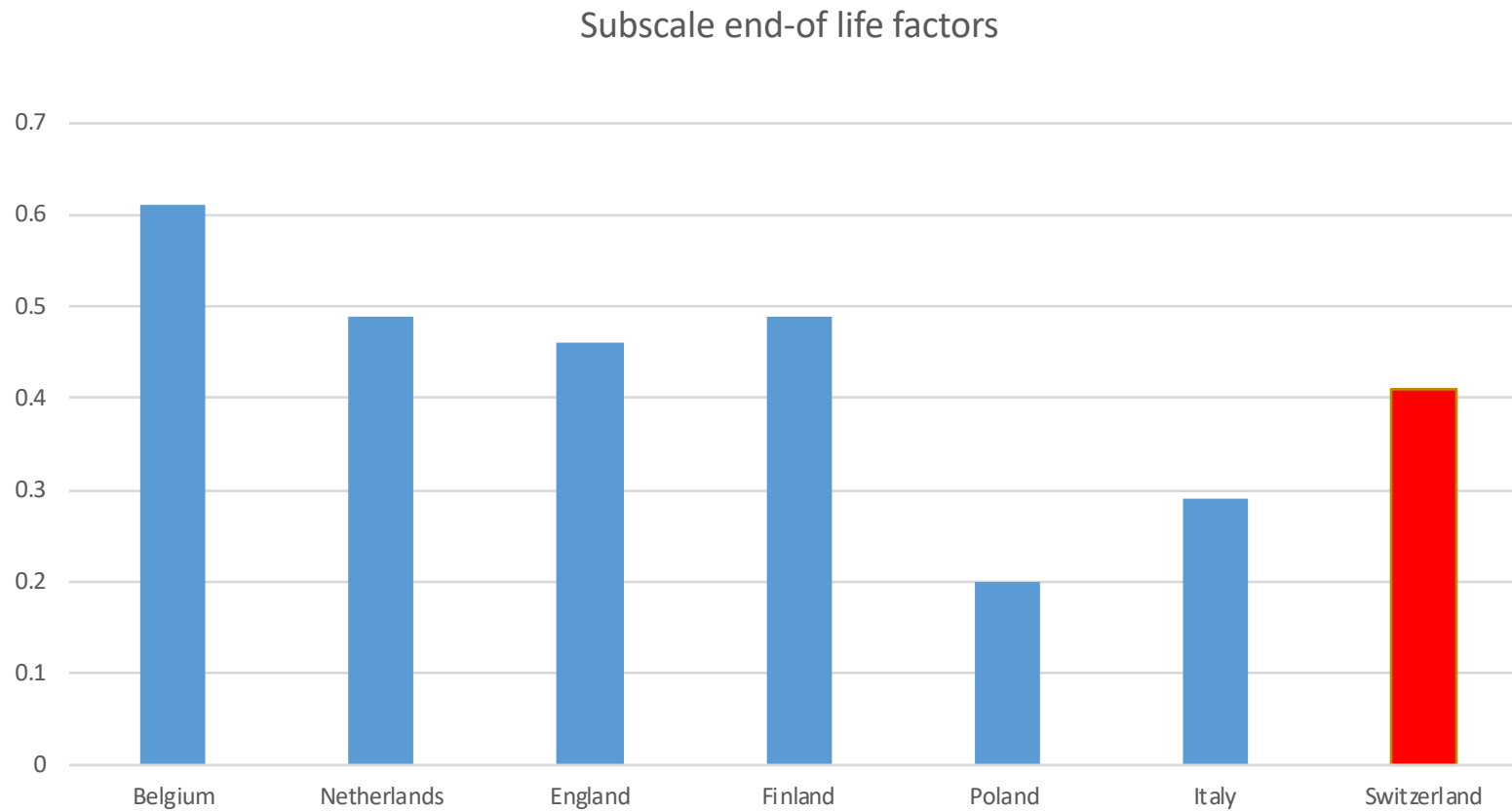
# Characterics of the nurses

	Belgium (n = 559)		Netherlands (n = 440)		England (n = 152)		Finland (n = 559)		Poland (n = 399)		Italy (n = 166)		CH (n=669)		p value *	
<b>Age</b>															<0.001	
<b>17–35</b>	224	40.4	128	29.5	61	41.2	141	25.9	67	17.1	86	55.5	177	27.2		
<b>36–50</b>	201	36.3	165	38	46	31.1	207	38.1	207	52.9	59	38.1	272	41.8		
<b>&gt;50</b>	129	23.3	141	32.5	41	27.7	196	36	117	29.9	10	6.5	202	31		
<b>Gender (female)</b>	495	88.6	412	94.3	139	92.7	527	95.8	371	94.2	107	67.3	561	84	<0.001	
<b>Registered nurse</b>	262	41% formal training in PC 21% are nurse														<0.001
<b>Formal training in palliative care</b>	390	74.3	263	60.3	80	54.4	324	59	235	60.9	90	56.3	274	41	<0.001	
<b>Number of years working in direct resident care</b>															<0.001	
<b>Less than 10 years</b>	223	42.3	148	34.7	92	63.4	236	43.9	167	45.3	108	73	252	38.9		
<b>More than ten years</b>	304	57.1	278	65.3	53	36.6	301	56.1	202	54.7	40	27	396	61.1		

AS	340 (50.9%)
ASSC	106 (15.9%)
IDE	139 (20.8%)

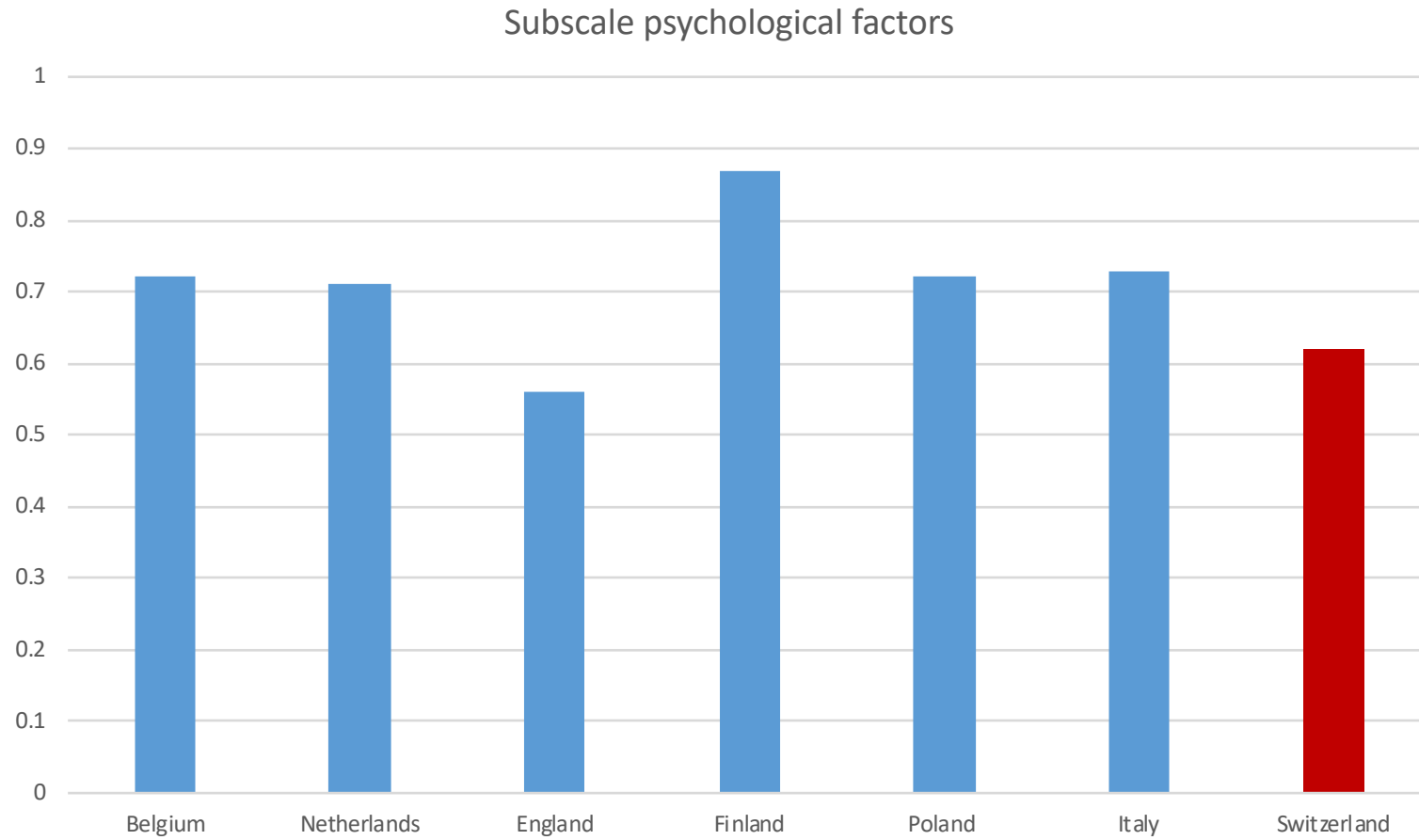


## Knowledge Construct of the Palliative Care Survey



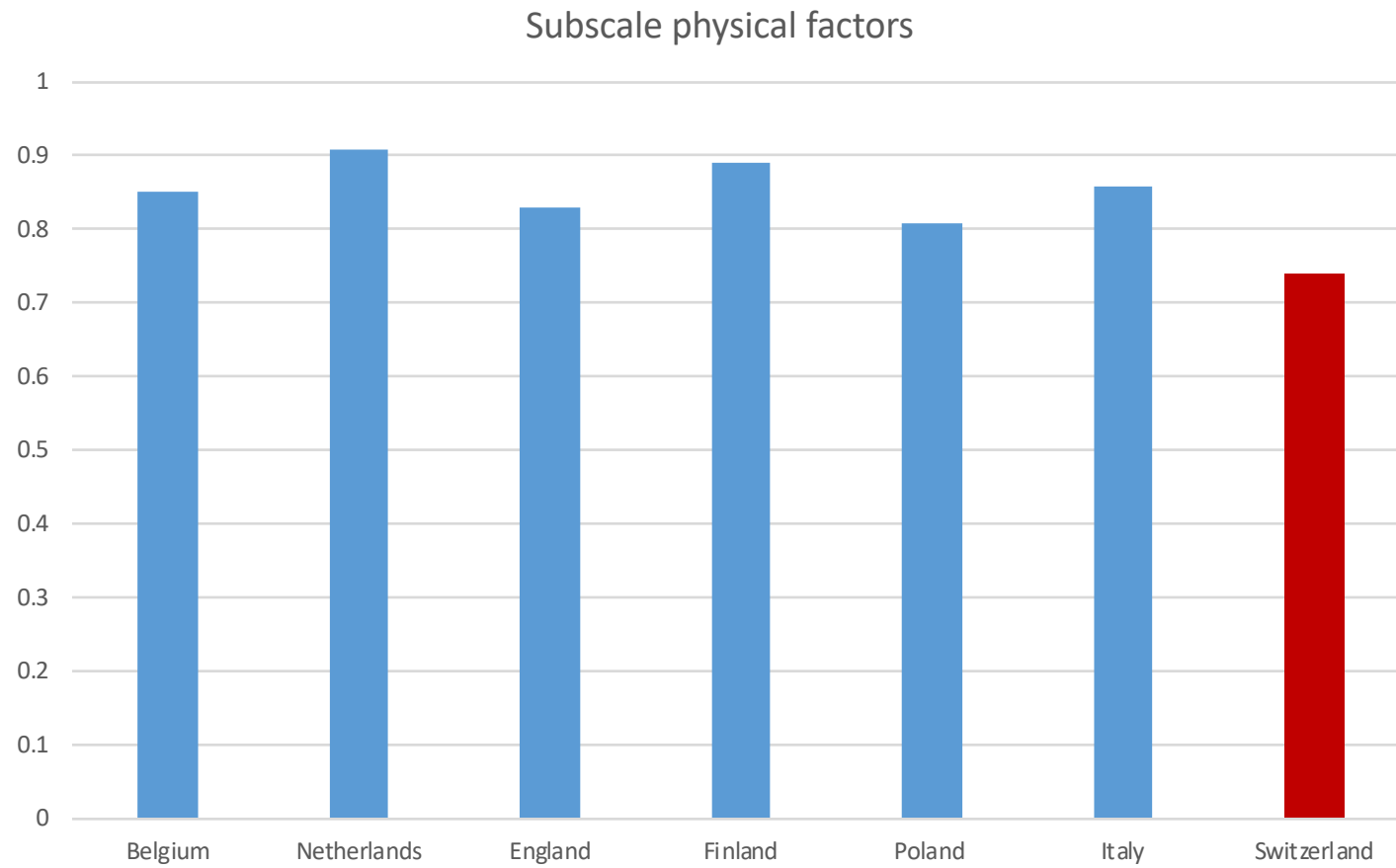


## Knowledge Construct of the Palliative Care Survey





## Knowledge Construct of the Palliative Care Survey



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JAMDA 20 (2019) 696–702



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Original Study

## Physician Visits and Recognition of Residents' Terminal Phase in Long-Term Care Facilities: Findings From the PACE Cross-Sectional Study in 6 EU Countries



M.G. Oosterveld-Vlug PhD<sup>a,\*</sup>, H.R.W. Pasman PhD<sup>a</sup>, M. ten Koppel MSc<sup>a</sup>,  
H.P.J. van Hout PhD<sup>b</sup>, J.T. van der Steen PhD<sup>c,d</sup>, D. Collingridge Moore MSc<sup>e</sup>,  
L. Deliens PhD<sup>f</sup>, G. Gambassi PhD<sup>g</sup>, M. Kylänen PhD<sup>h</sup>, T. Smets PhD<sup>f</sup>,  
K. Szczerbińska PhD<sup>i</sup>, L. Van den Block PhD<sup>f</sup>,  
B.D. Onwuteaka-Philipsen PhD<sup>a</sup>, on behalf of PACE



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# In Switzerland

- The number of physician visits to residents (median) :
  - in the last 3 months of life :6
  - in the last week of life :2
- Recognition that the resident was in the terminal phase: 59.0%
- Residents in these countries had palliation as main treatment goal the least :71%
- Very experienced physician but few have a formal training in PC

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PACE 1

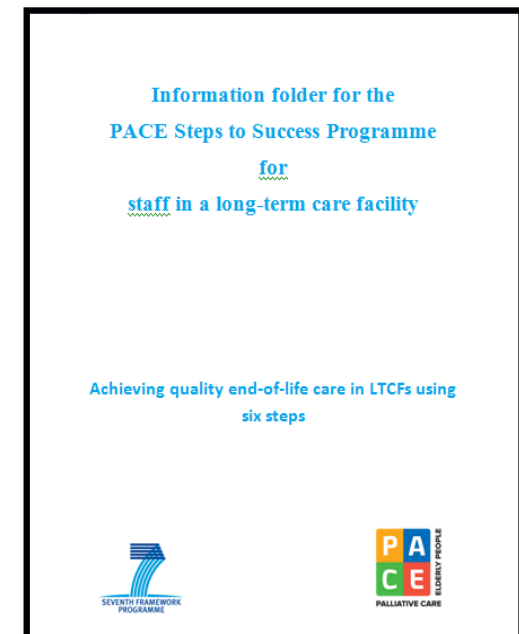
Descriptive

Pace 2

Intervention

# PACE Steps to Success intervention

- Based on a UK intervention
- Specifically developed for care home context
  - Nurses and care workers delivering care (with limited PC training)
  - Complex prolonged trajectories, multi-morbidities, dementia, pending death not always recognised
  - “weak context”: high staff turnover, low educated personnel, lack of multidisciplinary input
- Implemented in 7 countries BE, CH, FI, IT, NL, PL, UK

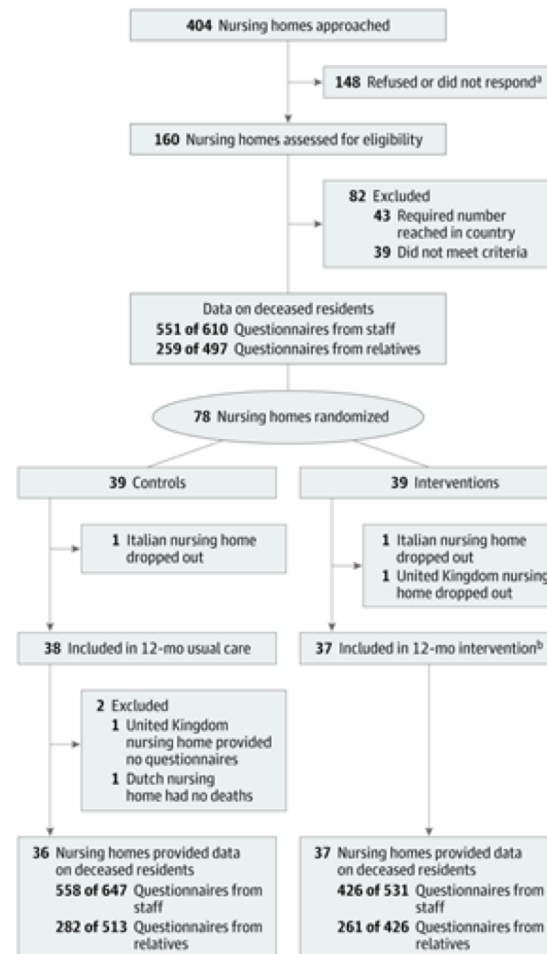


JAMA Internal Medicine | Original Investigation

## Evaluation of a Palliative Care Program for Nursing Homes in 7 Countries The PACE Cluster-Randomized Clinical Trial

Lieve Van den Block, PhD; Elisabeth Honinx, MSc; Lara Pivodic, PhD; Rose Miranda, MSc; Bregje D. Onwuteaka-Phillipsen, PhD; Hein van Hout, PhD; H. Roeline W. Pasman, PhD; Mariska Oosterveld-Vlug, PhD; Maud Ten Koppel, MSc; Ruth Piers, PhD; Nele Van Den Noortgate, PhD; Yvonne Engels, PhD; Myrre Vernooij-Dassen, PhD; Jo Hockley, PhD; Katherine Froggatt, PhD; Sheila Payne, PhD; Katarzyna Szczerbińska, PhD; Marika Kylänen, MSc; Giovanni Gambassi, MD; Sophie Pautex, PhD; Catherine Bassal, PhD; Stefanie De Buysser, PhD; Luc Deliens, PhD; Tinne Smets, PhD; for the PACE trial group

1001/jamainternmed.2019.5349  
November 11, 2019.





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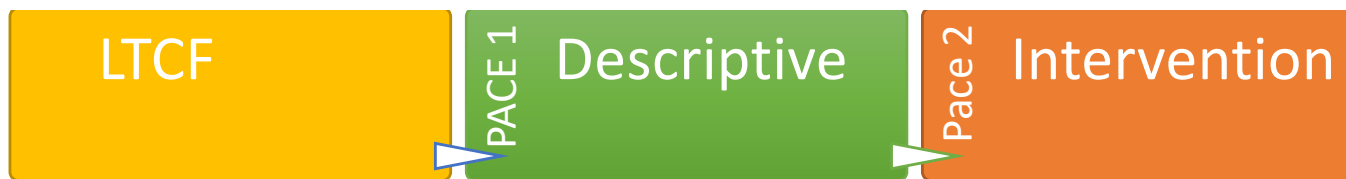
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[10.1001/jamainternmed.2019.5349](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2019.5349)  
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Residents' comfort in the last week of life did not differ between intervention and control groups

Staff in the intervention group had statistically significantly better knowledge of palliative care than staff in the control group, but the clinical difference was minimal



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### Why these results?

The program might be too complex with too many components to be implemented within a 1-year time frame.

The implementation of the intervention might have been suboptimal in some nursing homes

The different intervention components and the primary outcome measure—comfort in the last week of life—did not match perfectly

LTCF

PAGE 1

Descriptive

PAGE 2

Intervention

# In conclusion

- There is some place for improvement
- How can education improve the care of the patient?
- It's possible to participate to some EU studies
- Importance to have the money for the data management....
- Possible to do some research in nursing home, even multicentric