

## Study shows inpatient palliative care reduces hospital costs and readmissions

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Palliative care provided in the hospital offers known clinical benefits, and a new study shows that inpatient palliative care can also significantly lower the cost of hospitalization and the rate of readmissions. Further, the study shows the hospital can get the expertise it needs through a collaborative relationship with a community hospice. The results of a comparative study are published in *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, a peer-reviewed journal from Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers. The article is available free on the *Journal of Palliative Medicine* website until November 15, 2014.

In the article "A Hospice-Hospital Partnership: Reducing Hospitalization Costs and 30-Day Readmissions among Seriously Ill Adults," John Tangeman, MD, Christopher Kerr, MD, PhD, and Pei Grant, PhD, Center for Hospice and Palliative Care (Cheektowaga, NY), and Carole Rudra, PhD, MPH, Rudra Research (Buffalo, NY), compared cost per hospital admission and readmission rates among patients who received inpatient <u>palliative care</u> to those who did not at two hospitals in western New York.

"Palliative care has been proven to deliver on the value equation," says Charles F. von Gunten, MD, PhD, Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Palliative Medicine* and Clinical Professor of Medicine, Ohio University. "To be successful, every health system will want to maximize its investment in palliative care to deliver the highest quality of care at the lowest cost."



**More information:** "Hospice-Hospital Partnership: Reducing Hospitalization Costs and 30-Day Readmissions among Seriously Ill Adults." Tangeman John C., Rudra Carole B., Kerr Christopher W., and Grant Pei C.. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*. September 2014, 17(9): 1005-1010. DOI: 10.1089/jpm.2013.0612.

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