4 palliative dimensions

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4 Patient dimensions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical</th>
<th>Psychological</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>Spiritual</td>
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Grant E, Murray SA, Sheikh A. Spiritual dimensions of dying in different cultures. *BMJ* 2010;341:4859.
Spiritual needs

- Everyone has them if faced with a serious illness
- Accepted definition used internationally
- Relates to meaning and purpose of life
- People may or may not use religious vocabulary
- Such needs may cause distress

Dying is a 4-D activity

What’s happening with respect to other dimensions of need?

Research study: method

• Thematically analysed serial interviews as case studies longitudinally and then cross-sectionally from a number of people in last year of life

• Identified the presence and characteristics of social, psychological and spiritual needs
Murray SA, Kendall M, Grant E, Boyd K, Barclay S, Sheikh A. Patterns of social psychological and spiritual decline towards the end of life in lung cancer *J Pain Sympt Man* 2007; 34: 393-402

*His old friends won't even take a cup of tea with me now I've got cancer*” Mrs LR.
“living with uncertainty”

“It was like a black hole”

“It’s much worse the second time round”

“You don’t know what is going to happen to you, fear is the worst thing”

“great nurses and departments they are so caring”