N. Ireland Cancer Registry Implications of Research for Services

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Paper Title	Factors associated with emergency admission for people dying from cancer in Northern Ireland: an observational data linkage study
Authors	Mitchell, H., Cairnduff, V., O'Hare, S., Simpson, L., White, R. & Gavin, AT.,
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Conclusion	Many people dying of cancer prefer to be cared for and die at home, but this can be difficult without access to appropriate care, control of symptoms and family support. Indeed many cancer patients are admitted as an emergency in their last year of life. We found that almost three in four cancer patients had at least one emergency admission in their last year of life, and over one in three had an emergency admission in the last 28 days of life. People with haematological, lung or brain cancers, males, younger persons and those with late-stage cancer were significantly more likely to have an emergency admission.
What this means for the service	The high level of emergency admissions points to gaps in routine end-of-life care. Factors associated with accessing emergency care for people dying of cancer need to be researched further and additional training and support for hospital and emergency department (ED) staff caring for people living with cancer is warranted.