

Canadian Doctoral Nursing Network Conference

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**Title:** Patient Partners Engagement Opportunity for Doctoral Research in Palliative Care

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**Stage in the program:** Doctoral candidate in the process of submitting ethics with the University of Alberta and Institutional Approval at Island Health, British Columbia.

**Abstract (250 words)**

**Issue:** Patients are key stakeholders in validating interpretations of results to quality-of-life questionnaires. Therefore, research about these standardized questionnaires should engage patients as partners.

**Background:** Standardized questionnaires asking about quality of life (QoL) information designed to capture patients' perspectives can be used by healthcare providers to inform patient care. Yet, patients are often not sufficiently engaged in validating the interpretations of the results. The doctoral research project aims to understand how patients and healthcare providers can collaborate in validating interpretations of results to inform patient-centred care.

**Purposes:** Patient partners' perspectives in this research project will enrich the insights and recommendations for routinely engaging patients with reviewing and interpreting the responses and results to quality-of-life questionnaires with healthcare providers.

**Patient Partners Engagement Opportunity:** Supported by Patient & Public Research Engagement at Island Health, people living at home and receiving palliative care are recruited for a survey consultation about interpreting the results to the Edmonton Symptoms Assessment Systems-Revised (ESAS-r), a quality-of-life questionnaire used in palliative care. Patient Partners are asked to complete the ESAS-r, review the patient participants' interview guide for the research project and complete a survey asking for feedback about the interview guide and their engagement in the project. \$125 compensation will be provided for each Patient Partner. The input will be used to change the patient participants' interview guide and inform future research with patient partners.

**Implications:** Patient partners engagement in doctoral research develops new investigators' capacity in patient-oriented research.