



## DEER LODGE CENTRE

*Making lives better*

### **Research Project Summary**

**Code: DLC- 08-107**

**Subject areas: Geriatrics, Family satisfaction, LTC**

<b>Title</b>	Developing a Predictive Model of Family Satisfaction with End-of-Life care in personal care homes.
<b>Overview</b>	Though some people will face death alone, most individuals with a life-limiting illness will have the support of significant others around them. Accordingly, family members observe and evaluate the care delivered to their loved one and are often active participants in the care. As palliative care ascribes to the philosophy that families are part of the unit of care, family members will themselves be recipients of care in the form of emotional support, health education, and bereavement follow up. Due to the paucity of research in this area and the recognition that LTC facilities will increasingly be expected to provide excellent care at the end of life to a growing cohort of individuals, a study examining family members' perceptions and satisfaction with the quality of end of life care delivered to their loved one is warranted.
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>To develop a predictive model of family satisfaction with end-of-life care delivered in the PCH environment. This overall goal may be achieved through a careful examination of the quality of dying in PCH facilities using family informants. In this regard a thorough understanding of the experiences of dying in a PCH facility and the relationship between the various factors that may influence satisfaction with end-of-life care may be achieved. There are four key research questions to be addressed in this study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are family members' perceptions of the quality of end-of-life care?</li><li>• How satisfied are family members with end-of-life care in the PCH setting?</li><li>• What are associations between resident and family characteristics, structural elements of care, and processes of care and family satisfaction with end-of-life care?</li><li>• What do family members identify as areas for improvement in the quality of end-of-life care provided in the PCH facilities?</li></ul>
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Dr. Genevieve Thompson
<b>Affiliation</b>	Manitoba Palliative Care Research Unit, Cancercare Manitoba.
<b>Location</b>	Multisite study including DLC
<b>Subject area</b>	Geriatrics, Family satisfaction, LTC
<b>Methodology</b>	Quantitative data will be collected using a validated tool to measure the relationship between the needs, perceptions of care,

	family/resident and system characteristics and satisfaction with care provided at the end of life.
<b>Project timelines</b>	8 months
<b>Potential benefit</b>	Examining the quality of dying in LTC facilities from the perspective of family members will provide valuable information about their perceived experience of the residents' last days. Additionally, it will highlight areas of excellence and areas, which relatives' feel require improvements in the quality of care.
<b>Status</b>	Ongoing
<b>Publications</b>	None as of Yet
<b>Last summary update</b>	June 2008