

Publication**Palliative care utilization in hospitalized children with cancer****JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)****ID** 4516657**Author(s)** Cheng, Brian T.; Wangmo, Tenzin**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Wangmo, Tenzin](#) ;**Year** 2019**Title** Palliative care utilization in hospitalized children with cancer**Journal** Pediatric Blood and Cancer**Volume** 67**Number** 1**Pages / Article-Number** e28013**Keywords** cancer; epidemiology; health services; oncology; palliative care; pediatric

There is growing evidence that palliative care (PC) is associated with increased quality of life in children with cancer. Despite increasing recommendations in support of PC to improve pediatric oncology care, little is known about its patterns of use.; We analyzed the 2005-2011 National Inpatient Sample, a representative, cross-sectional sample of US hospital admissions. Our study cohort comprised 10,960 hospitalizations of children with cancer and high in-hospital mortality risk. Survey-weighted regression models were constructed to determine associations of person- and hospital-level characteristics with PC involvement and healthcare costs.; Overall, 4.4% of hospitalizations included PC involvement. In regression models invoking stepwise variable selection, a shorter length of stay (PC vs no PC; mean: 23.9 vs 32.6 days), solid cancer (solid vs hematologic vs brain cancer; PC use: 7.4% vs 2.8% vs 5.5%), and older age (PC vs no PC; mean: 10.2 vs 8.9 years) were associated with PC use. PC utilization was also associated with lower overall and daily hospital costs.; One in 20 pediatric inpatients with cancer and high mortality risk receives PC, with differential utilization by socio-economic groups. These results have significant implications for public health resource allocation and the delivery of pediatric PC as high-value care. Future research should focus on the development of new tools to help physicians assess when PC is appropriate for their patients.

Publisher Wiley**ISSN/ISBN** 1545-5009 ; 1545-5017**edoc-URL** <https://edoc.unibas.ch/72865/>**Full Text on edoc** No;**Digital Object Identifier DOI** 10.1002/pbc.28013**PubMed ID** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31612605>**ISI-Number** WOS:000498571600007**Document type (ISI)** Journal Article