

Abstract No. 6.9

Thursday 7th September 2017 at 14:15-15:00

Title: A guide for supporting people living with deafblindness through their palliative journey

Presenter: Lorraine Simpson, DeafBlind Ontario Services, Canada

Main focus: Mainly practice/Both congenital and acquired deafblindness

Abstract: The purpose of the guide is to educate, support and inspire intervenors/support teams who may be supporting a person living with deafblindness on their palliative journey. The need to understand what is happening at different stages will assist those to provide the best possible care. It will also help the people who are living with congenital deafblindness to better understand what is occurring at these stages on their journey.

This presentation will also include discussion on using a Palliative Performance Scale (PPS), which assists the person and the intervenor/support teams to make choices and decisions in four areas: activity, intake, self-care and ambulation. Also included are examples of basic options to allow the client to actively participate in relaying information about their current state in the PPS scale.

We will demonstrate how the guide speaks to inclusion, support, end of life decisions, and the close relationship between the intervenor/support teams and the person living with deafblindness. In addition, familiar terminology with terms and working as a team and what to expect during and after a life limiting illness.