Supplementary Table I: List of variables taken directly, or derived, from the questionnaire and classified into domains, with each variable’s categories and numbers in each of categories.

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| **Variable domain** | **Question variable** | **Categories (y=yes, n=no, na=not-applicable, m=missing)** |
| Patient’s  demographics  (=1) | Patient is married or with partner? | y=198, n=123, m=5 |
| Patient's religion | Catholic=127, Presbyterian=89, Church of Ireland=62, Other=42, m=6 |
| Sex of patient | male=184, female=142 |
| Age at death of patient | 0-69=106; 70-79=108; 80+=112 [mean 73.8] |
| Patient’s deprivation quintile | Most Deprived[1]=58, 2=73, 3=76, 4=56, Most affluent[5]=61, m=2 |
| Patient’s  mental fitness  (=2) | Extreme anxiety/depression at three months before he/she died? | y=25, n=292, m=9 |
| Extreme anxiety/depression in the last week? | y=68, n=231, m=27 |
| Confused in the last week before death most of the time? | y=42, n=278, m=6 |
| Over the last week, was patient feeling anxious or worried about illness or treatment most of the time? | y=48, n=272, m=6 |
| Over the last week, did patient seem to be feeling depressed most of the time? | y=46, n=265, m=15 |
| Patient’s physical fitness (=3) | Extreme anxiety/depression at three months before he/she died? | y=25, n=292, m=9 |
| Extreme anxiety/depression in the last week? | y=68, n=231, m=27 |
| Confused in the last week before death most of the time? | y=42, n=278, m=6 |
| Over the last week, was patient feeling anxious or worried about illness or treatment most of the time? | y=48, n=272, m=6 |
| Over the last week, did patient seem to be feeling depressed most of the time? | y=46, n=265, m=15 |
| Patient’s  physical  fitness (=3) | Did the patient stay in a hospital intensive care unit? | y=38, n=288 |
| Did the patient stay in another hospital unit or ward? | y=236, n=90 |
| Did the patient visit A&E? | y=169, n=156, m=1 |
| Did the patient use ambulance services? | y=176, n=149, m=1 |
| Confined to bed at three months before he/she died? | y=23, n=289, m=14 |
| Confined to bed in the last week? | y=262, n=53, m=11 |
| Unable to perform self care at three months before he/she died? | y=61, n=250, m=15 |
| Unable to perform self care in the last week? | y=279, n=40, m=7 |
| Unable to perform usual activities at three months before he/she died? | y=115, n=197, m=14 |
| Unable to perform usual activities in the last week? | y=309, n=12, m=5 |
| **Variable domain** | **Question variable** | **Categories (y=yes, n=no, na=not-applicable, m=missing)** |
| Patient’s  symptom  severity (=4) | Unconscious or in a coma during the last week before death most of the time? | y=28, n=289, m=9 |
| Over the last week, was the patient affected by pain despite medication most of the time? | y=90, n=229, m=7 |
| Over the last week, did other symptoms seem to affect how patient was feeling most of the time? | y=78, n=241, m=7 |
| Severe/overwhelming weakness or lack of energy in the last week despite medication | y=272, n=43, m=11 |
| Severe/overwhelming shortness of breath in the last week despite medication | y=142, n=176, m=8 |
| Severe/overwhelming nausea in the last week despite medication | y=64, n=246, m=16 |
| Severe/overwhelming vomiting in the last week despite medication | y=38, n=263, m=25 |
| Severe/overwhelming constipation in the last week despite medication | y=66, n=238, m=22 |
| Severe/overwhelming diarrhoea in the last week despite medication | y=38, n=260, m=28 |
| Severe/overwhelming drowsiness in the last week despite medication | y=152, n=160, m=14 |
| Severe/overwhelming difficulty communicating in the last week despite medication | y=102, n=208, m=16 |
| Extreme pain/discomfort at three months before he/she died | y=58, n=258, m=10 |
| Extreme pain/discomfort in the last week | y=164, n=144, m=18 |
| How well the  patient was  informed (=5) | Did GP in the home listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=239, n=83, na=2, m=2 |
| Did palliative specialists in the home listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=187, n=25, na=110, m=4 |
| Did nurse in the home listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=209, n=35, na=75, m=7 |
| Did hospital doctors listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=163, n=87, na=74, m=2 |
| Did hospital nurses listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=152, n=88, na=84, m=2 |
| Did hospice doctors listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=36, n=9, na=281 |
| Did hospice nurses listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=37, n=8, na=281 |
| In the care home, did nurses listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=14, n=5, na=306, m=1 |
| In the care home, did the GPs listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=19, n=4, na=302, m=1 |
| In the care home, did the palliative specialist listen and discuss things fully with the patient or carer? | y=3, n=2, na=321 |
| In the care home, did the district nurses listen and discuss things fully with the patient or you? | y=4, n=1, na=321 |
| During the final three months, did patient have a key contact person to rely on to get things done? | y=234, n=70, m=22 |
| Was patient aware of going to die because of illness? | y=278, n=25, m=23 |
| Was it likely that any health professional discussed with the patient regarding the likelihood of dying of the illness? | y=163, n=62, na=48, m=53 |
| Over the last week, was full information given to patient and family? | y=223, n=100, m=3 |
| Did the patient discuss their preferred place of death with any health professional? | y=147, n=104, m=75 |
| **Variable domain** | **Question variable** | **Categories (y=yes, n=no, na=not-applicable, m=missing)** |
| Quality of nonmedical care  provided at home (=6) | Did the patient have any help from a paid home care worker in the patient’s final three months? | y=76, n=247, m=3 |
| Did more than two family or friends look after or help take care of the patient in the patient’s final three months? | y=152, n=162, m=12 |
| Did family & friends help the patient for more than 9 hours per week with personal care in the patients final three months? | y=174, n=141, m=11 |
| Did family & friends help the patient for more than 9 hours per week with household tasks in the patient’s final three months? | y=189, n=119, m=18 |
| Was patient managing financially well in the last three months? | y=298, n=26, m=2 |
| Did health and social services take care of the patients personal needs at home during the last 3 months? | y=159, n=95, na=70, m=2 |
| Quality of  medical care  provided at  home (=7) | Did the patient get as much help as needed from the GP at home? | y=205, n=88, na=31, m=2 |
| Was overall rating of care from the GP at home good to excellent? | y=227, n=67, na=31, m=1 |
| Did the patient get as much help at home as needed from the team from hospice, palliative care, Marie Curie or Macmillan or other specialists? | y=170, n=85, na=64, m=7 |
| Was overall rating of care from teams from hospice/palliative care visit at home good to excellent? | y=192, n=64, na=64, m=6 |
| Did the patient get as much help as needed from the nurses? | y=214, n=52, na=53, m=7 |
| Was overall rating of care from the district/community nurses at home good to excellent? | y=221, n=41, na=53, m=11 |
| Was overall rating of care from all the services at home good to excellent? | y=210, n=55, na=56, m=5 |
| Quality of  medical care  provided  outside the  home (=8) | Did hospital staff take care of the patients personal needs as well as they should have? | y=174, n=46, na=105, m=1 |
| Did the patient get as much help and support as needed from the hospital doctors? | y=179, n=71, na=74, m=2 |
| Was overall rating of care from the hospital doctors good to excellent? | y=193, n=56, na=73, m=4 |
| Did the patient get as much help and support as needed from the hospital nurses? | y=157, n=89, na=77, m=3 |
| Was overall rating of care from the hospital nurses good to excellent? | y=193, n=54, na=73, m=6 |
| Was it very helpful was it to see the palliative care or Macmillan team at the hospital? | y=122, n=58, na=145, m=1 |
| Was overall rating of care from the palliative care or Macmillan team good to excellent? | y=110, n=69, na=145, m=2 |
| Did patient get as much help and support as needed from all the services at the hospital? | y=163, n=87, na=73, m=3 |
| Was overall rating of care while from all the services at the hospital good to excellent? | y=185, n=64, na=73, m=4 |
| Did patient get as much help and support as needed from all the services at the hospice? | y=41, n=4, na=281 |
| Was overall rating of care from all the services at the hospice good to excellent? | y=43, n=2, na=281 |
| Did patient get as much help and support as needed from all the services at the nursing/residential home? | y=17, n=7, na=301, m=1 |
| Was overall rating of care from all the services at the nursing/residential home good to excellent? | y=20, n=4, na=301, m=1 |
| **Variable domain** | **Question variable** | **Categories (y=yes, n=no, na=not-applicable, m=missing)** |
| Carer factors  (=9) | Number of days respondent was off work before patient died | Less than 16=62, More than 16=105, na=145, m=14 |
| Relationship of respondent with patient | Spouse/partner=91, Son/daughter=176, Other  [relative, friend, neighbour]=59 |
| Was respondent aware the patient was going to die because of illness | y=282, n=37, m=7 |
| Did the patient discuss his/her preference with the respondent, family members or friends? | y=228, n=90, m=8 |
| Was home the place where the respondent would have preferred the patient to die 3 months before death | y=266, n=41, na=18, m=1 |