Researching end of life care from a social science perspective: past, present and future contributions

Profiles of guest speakers

Prof Jane Seymour

Prof Jane Seymour is professor of Palliative and End-of-Life Care at the University of Sheffield, with a background in sociology and nursing. Jane’s research has received considerable acclaim in both the palliative care field (awards include a Lifetime Achievement Award at the International Journal of Palliative Nursing Awards) and in policy, where she has worked with partners including NHS End of Life Care Programme, Dying Matters, and the Commission for the Future of Hospice Care. Jane has made significant sociological contributions to understanding palliative and end-of-life care in the UK, and has particular interests in frail older people, the role of advance care planning and end-of-life decision-making, palliative and end-of-life care in resource poor contexts nationally and internationally, and public education for end-of-life care.

Prof Allan Kellehear

Allan Kellehear, PhD., FAcSS, is a medical and public health sociologist and 50th Anniversary Professor (End of Life Care) at the University of Bradford. He has received international policy interest for his work on community approaches to addressing the needs of people at the end of life. His concepts of ‘compassionate cities’ and ‘compassionate communities’ have been adopted in Australia, Britain, Canada, Europe, and India. As founder of the global public health movement in palliative care his approach has been adopted by several national bodies in the UK including Public Health England, National Council for Palliative Care, and the Scottish Partnership in Palliative Care. Allan has also written about the sociology, history, and social psychology of dying conduct and experiences. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and from 2013 to 2017 he was President of the Association of the Study of Death and Society.