

***Bridging the gap between Muslims and hospices***



On behalf of Hospice UK and Together for Short Lives, the Woolf Institute is leading the research project: *Bridging the gap between Muslims and hospices*. Through a combination of research and practice, this project seeks to provide both a theoretical and practical understanding of where the challenges and opportunities lie in building a strong and vibrant relationship between hospices and Muslim communities.

It has been shown that people with a terminal illness are significantly less likely to receive hospice care if they are from a BME group, including British Muslim communities (Demos, 2013). This is especially relevant given that British Muslim communities are currently the second largest faith group in the country. In our research we will ask: why might a Muslim communities and hospices be hesitant to engage with each other? Are there any misconceptions about the 'other' that could be helpfully challenged? What will the impact of good mutual engagement look like both within hospices and communities? Through a series of focus groups, interviews and community engagement events this project will build upon the encouraging collaboration already taking place in some contexts as well as exploring future challenges. The report will be launched at the Hospice UK conference in November 2015.

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