

ABSTRACT

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Title: A SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF HOSPICE CARE IN SOUTH AFRICA'S WESTERN CAPE PROVINCE

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It is important for palliative and hospice care facilities to strategically place these facilities in under- or unserved areas. There is a need to determine which populations have access to hospice care services and those who do not based on income and location. By illuminating geographic and income disparities for people and hospice care facilities, studies have found spatial disparities in hospice access. Researchers have concluded that there must be greater access to and more affordable methods for utilizing hospice facilities, especially for those who do not live within a specified area served by a facility. This study will examine the geographic distribution of hospice and palliative care facilities in relation to functional age, household income and distribution of the population by population group to determine the disparities of access in the Western Cape of South Africa.