

THE ART OF PALLIATIVE CARE: THE ARTIST AS LEADER

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There has been much written about Creative Leadership over the past 10 years (McCauley et al 2006; Stoll 2008). Major issues associated with leadership in hospices in the 21st century were also mentioned in the Final Report of the commission into the Future of Hospice Care (2013) in the form of an undeveloped workforce and also the fact that leaders will need to be developed from within existing hospice standing structures in order to achieve major change.

This paper will explore the benefits of the artist as leader. The author began a career in the hospice movement over 25 years ago and has moved from working as an Arts Practitioner, through various senior management roles and recently took on the role of Chief Executive at a hospice in the South of England.

Three main topics will be considered:

1. The structures, systems and discipline of artistic processes and the benefits of these in relation to developing strategy and leading teams as well providing frameworks for innovation
2. The importance of the experiences and thinking processes of the disciplined artist when calculating risk and the potential of working through and beyond it in order to take risks to achieve preferred outcomes
3. The impact of 'flow and poise' on successfully achieving major change within organisations