

## Marie Curie – Professional bereavement amongst GPs

Methodology: ComRes interviewed 1,005 GPs in the UK between 14<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Data were weighted to be demographically representative of all GPs by former SHA region. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

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**GP survey on professional bereavement**  
**ONLINE Fieldwork Dates: 14th-31st January 2019**

Absolutes/col percents

**Table 1**  
**Thinking about your personal experience in providing care for someone who is terminally ill or dying, to what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?**

**Caring for terminally ill or dying patients is a rewarding part of my job**

Base: All respondents

	Total	S2 – Region										S2 – Region																
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London		South West		South East		West Midlands		East Midlands		East of England		Yorkshire and Humber		North East		North West		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M														
<b>Base</b>	1005	833	95	45	32	116	105	128	88	74	93	86	42	101														
<b>NET: Agree</b>	872	87%	712	85%	89	A94%	41	91%	30	94%	96	83%	94	J90%	105	82%	80	JM91%	68	GJM92%	72	77%	76	J88%	39	GJM93%	82	81%
<b>Agree strongly</b>	363	36%	296	36%	38	40%	17	38%	12	38%	36	31%	41	39%	48	38%	35	40%	28	38%	30	32%	34	40%	13	31%	31	31%
<b>Tend to agree</b>	509	51%	416	50%	51	54%	24	53%	18	56%	60	52%	53	50%	57	45%	45	51%	40	54%	42	45%	42	49%	26	G62%	51	50%
<b>Tend to disagree</b>	91	9%	82	B10%	4	4%	3	7%	2	6%	10	L9%	8	L8%	17	HIL13%	4	L5%	4	L5%	17	EFHIKL18%	6	L7%	0	0%	16	HIL16%
<b>Disagree strongly</b>	19	2%	18	BD2%	0	0%	1	2%	0	0%	2	2%	2	2%	2	2%	4	IL5%	0	0%	3	3%	3	3%	0	0%	2	2%
<b>NET: Disagree</b>	110	11%	100	B12%	4	4%	4	9%	2	6%	12	L10%	10	L10%	19	IL15%	8	L9%	4	L5%	20	EFHIKL22%	9	L10%	0	0%	18	IL18%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	23	2%	21	CD3%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	8	FHJKM7%	1	1%	4	H3%	0	0%	2	3%	1	1%	1	1%	3	7%	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>AVG</b>	3.2		3.2		3.4		3.3		3.3		3.2		3.3		3.2		3.3		JM3.3		3.1		3.3		3.3		3.1	

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**GP survey on professional bereavement**  
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Absolutes/col percents

**Table 2**  
**Thinking about the workload and practicalities of providing care for someone who is terminally ill or dying, to what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?**

**Base: All respondents**

	<b>NET: Agree</b>	<b>Agree strongly</b>	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Disagree strongly</b>	<b>NET: Disagree</b>	<b>Prefer not to say</b>
<b>Base</b>	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005	1005
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>It is important for me to spend time caring for terminally ill or dying patients</b>	921	337	584	62	6	68	16
	92%	34%	58%	6%	1%	7%	2%
<b>Because of my workload I do not have as much time as I would like to care for terminally ill or dying patients</b>	851	380	471	120	22	142	12
	85%	38%	47%	12%	2%	14%	1%
<b>There are enough community resources to give families and carers of terminally ill or dying patients the emotional support that they need</b>	363	33	330	431	197	628	14
	36%	3%	33%	43%	20%	62%	1%

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**GP survey on professional bereavement**  
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Absolutes/col percents

**Table 3**  
**Thinking about the workload and practicalities of providing care for someone who is terminally ill or dying, to what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?**

**Because of my workload I do not have as much time as I would like to care for terminally ill or dying patients**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	S2 – Region										S2 – Region						
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London	South West	South East	West Midlands	East Midlands	East of England	Yorkshire and Humber	North East	North West
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M				
<b>Base</b>	1005	833	95	45	32	116	105	128	88	74	93	86	42	101				
<b>NET: Agree</b>	851 85%	711 B85%	71 75%	40 B89%	29 B91%	103 89%	90 86%	112 88%	74 84%	63 85%	80 86%	69 80%	32 76%	88 87%				
<b>Agree strongly</b>	380 38%	325 B39%	24 25%	13 29%	18 BC56%	54 GL47%	44 42%	40 31%	33 38%	34 GL46%	35 38%	31 36%	11 26%	43 43%				
<b>Tend to agree</b>	471 47%	386 46%	47 49%	27 D60%	11 34%	49 42%	46 44%	72 EI56%	41 47%	29 39%	45 48%	38 44%	21 50%	45 45%				
<b>Tend to disagree</b>	120 12%	94 11%	19 AD20%	5 11%	2 6%	8 7%	12 11%	15 12%	11 13%	9 12%	10 11%	14 E16%	7 17%	8 8%				
<b>Disagree strongly</b>	22 2%	18 CD2%	4 CD4%	0 0%	0 0%	4 G3%	1 1%	0 0%	2 2%	1 1%	3 3%	3 3%	1 2%	3 3%				
<b>NET: Disagree</b>	142 14%	112 13%	23 ACD24%	5 11%	2 6%	12 10%	13 12%	15 12%	13 15%	10 14%	13 14%	17 20%	8 19%	11 11%				
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	12 1%	10 C1%	1 1%	0 0%	1 3%	1 1%	2 2%	1 1%	1 1%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	2 5%	2 2%				
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005 100%</b>	<b>833 100%</b>	<b>95 100%</b>	<b>45 100%</b>	<b>32 100%</b>	<b>116 100%</b>	<b>105 100%</b>	<b>128 100%</b>	<b>88 100%</b>	<b>74 100%</b>	<b>93 100%</b>	<b>86 100%</b>	<b>42 100%</b>	<b>101 100%</b>				
<b>AVG</b>	3.2	B3.2	3.0	3.2	ABC3.5	L3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3				

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Absolutes/col percents

**Table 4**  
**Thinking about the workload and practicalities of providing care for someone who is terminally ill or dying, to what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?**

**It is important for me to spend time caring for terminally ill or dying patients**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	S2 – Region												S2 – Region														
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London		South West		South East		West Midlands		East Midlands		East of England		Yorkshire and Humber		North East		North West		
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M														
<b>Base</b>	1005	833	95	45	32	116	105	128	88	74	93	86	42	101														
<b>NET: Agree</b>	921	92%	756	91%	91	A96%	45	AB100%	29	91%	104	90%	97	92%	114	89%	77	88%	73	EFGHJKM99%	84	90%	78	91%	38	90%	91	90%
<b>Agree strongly</b>	337	34%	275	33%	33	35%	20	44%	9	28%	34	29%	39	37%	43	34%	25	28%	25	34%	36	39%	29	34%	12	29%	32	32%
<b>Tend to agree</b>	584	58%	481	58%	58	61%	25	56%	20	63%	70	60%	58	55%	71	55%	52	59%	48	65%	48	52%	49	57%	26	62%	59	58%
<b>Tend to disagree</b>	62	6%	57	C7%	3	3%	0	0%	2	6%	10	I9%	5	5%	10	I8%	10	IL11%	1	1%	8	I9%	6	7%	1	2%	6	6%
<b>Disagree strongly</b>	6	1%	6	BCD1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	3	3%
<b>NET: Disagree</b>	68	7%	63	BC8%	3	3%	0	0%	2	6%	11	IL9%	5	5%	10	I8%	11	IL13%	1	1%	8	I9%	7	I8%	1	2%	9	I9%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	16	2%	14	C2%	1	1%	0	0%	1	3%	1	1%	3	3%	4	HI3%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	3	7%	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>AVG</b>	3.3		3.3		3.3		A3.4		3.2		3.2		H3.3		3.3		3.1		3.3		3.3		3.2		3.3		3.2	

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Absolutes/col percents

**Table 5**  
**Thinking about the workload and practicalities of providing care for someone who is terminally ill or dying, to what extent, if at all, do you agree with the following statements?**

**There are enough community resources to give families and carers of terminally ill or dying patients the emotional support that they need**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	S2 – Region								S2 – Region																		
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London	South West	South East	West Midlands	East Midlands	East of England	Yorkshire and Humber	North East	North West										
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M														
<b>Base</b>	1005	833	95	45	32	116	105	128	88	74	93	86	42	101														
<b>NET: Agree</b>	363	36%	300	36%	34	36%	16	36%	13	41%	38	33%	34	32%	54	42%	34	39%	26	35%	32	34%	33	38%	17	40%	32	32%
<b>Agree strongly</b>	33	3%	31	<b>BC</b> 4%	1	1%	0	0%	1	3%	5	4%	5	5%	3	2%	3	3%	3	4%	4	4%	4	5%	1	2%	3	3%
<b>Tend to agree</b>	330	33%	269	32%	33	35%	16	36%	12	38%	33	28%	29	28%	51	<b>F</b> 40%	31	35%	23	31%	28	30%	29	34%	16	38%	29	29%
<b>Tend to disagree</b>	431	43%	355	43%	48	51%	17	38%	11	34%	48	41%	51	<b>H</b> 49%	56	44%	28	32%	32	43%	43	<b>H</b> 46%	39	45%	19	45%	39	39%
<b>Disagree strongly</b>	197	20%	166	<b>B</b> 20%	11	12%	12	<b>B</b> 27%	8	25%	27	<b>GL</b> 23%	20	19%	17	13%	25	<b>GL</b> 28%	15	20%	17	18%	14	16%	4	10%	27	<b>GL</b> 27%
<b>NET: Disagree</b>	628	62%	521	63%	59	62%	29	64%	19	59%	75	65%	71	68%	73	57%	53	60%	47	64%	60	65%	53	62%	23	55%	66	65%
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	14	1%	12	<b>CD</b> 1%	2	2%	0	0%	0	0%	3	3%	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	2	5%	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>AVG</b>	2.2		2.2		2.3		2.1		2.2		2.1		2.2		<b>M</b> 2.3		2.1		2.2		2.2		2.3		2.4		2.1	

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Absolutes/col percents

**Table 6**  
**To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the support you receive in caring for terminally ill or dying patients?**

**There should be more resources available to help GPs and practice staff with the grief of losing patients**

**Base: All respondents**

	Total	S2 – Region								S2 – Region																	
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London		South West		South East		West Midlands		East Midlands		East of England		Yorkshire and Humber		North East		North West	
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M													
<b>Base</b>	1005																										
<b>NET: Agree</b>	718 71%	600 72%	66 69%	32 71%	20 63%	93 <b>FK80%</b>	68 65%	93 73%	60 68%	53 72%	76 <b>FHK82%</b>	54 63%	32 76%	71 70%													
<b>Agree strongly</b>	177 18%	153 18%	14 15%	7 16%	3 9%	30 <b>GIK26%</b>	19 18%	18 14%	17 19%	7 9%	19 <b>I20%</b>	12 14%	6 14%	25 <b>GI25%</b>													
<b>Tend to agree</b>	541 54%	447 54%	52 55%	25 56%	17 53%	63 54%	49 47%	75 <b>M59%</b>	43 49%	46 <b>FM62%</b>	57 <b>FM61%</b>	42 49%	26 62%	46 46%													
<b>Tend to disagree</b>	233 23%	189 23%	22 23%	12 27%	10 31%	20 17%	31 <b>EJ30%</b>	25 20%	23 26%	16 22%	14 15%	27 <b>EJ31%</b>	7 17%	26 26%													
<b>Disagree strongly</b>	20 2%	15 <b>C2%</b>	3 3%	0 0%	2 6%	0 0%	2 2%	2 2%	2 2%	1 1%	2 2%	3 3%	1 2%	2 2%													
<b>NET: Disagree</b>	253 25%	204 24%	25 26%	12 27%	12 38%	20 17%	33 <b>EJ31%</b>	27 21%	25 28%	17 23%	16 17%	30 <b>EGJL35%</b>	8 19%	28 28%													
<b>Prefer not to say</b>	34 3%	29 <b>D3%</b>	4 <b>D4%</b>	1 2%	0 0%	3 3%	4 4%	8 <b>J6%</b>	3 3%	4 5%	1 1%	2 2%	2 5%	2 2%													
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005 100%</b>	<b>833 100%</b>	<b>95 100%</b>	<b>45 100%</b>	<b>32 100%</b>	<b>116 100%</b>	<b>105 100%</b>	<b>128 100%</b>	<b>88 100%</b>	<b>74 100%</b>	<b>93 100%</b>	<b>86 100%</b>	<b>42 100%</b>	<b>101 100%</b>													
<b>AVG</b>	2.9	<b>D2.9</b>	2.8	2.9	2.7	<b>FGHIK3.1</b>	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	<b>K3.0</b>	2.8	2.9	2.9													

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**ONLINE Fieldwork Dates: 14th-31st January 2019**

Absolutes/col percents

**Table 7**  
**Which, if any, of the following are undertaken at your surgery?**

Base: All respondents

	Total	S2 – Region												S2 – Region														
		England		Scotland		Wales		Northern Ireland		London		South West		South East		West Midlands	East Midlands	East of England	Yorkshire and Humber	North East	North West							
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M														
Base	1005	833	95	45	32	116	105	128	88	74	93	86	42	101														
Regular informal staff meetings in which GPs' and practice staff's grief and loss are discussed	210	21%	175	D21%	21	D22%	13	D29%	1	3%	31	M27%	17	16%	24	19%	24	M27%	17	M23%	20	M22%	23	M27%	9	21%	10	10%
The practice organises other ways for staff to share stories and get support for dealing with grief and loss	117	12%	95	11%	12	13%	7	16%	3	9%	17	15%	15	14%	14	11%	7	8%	10	14%	10	11%	7	8%	4	10%	11	11%
Formal debrief sessions for all patient deaths in which GPs' and practice staff's grief is discussed	75	7%	64	8%	6	6%	4	9%	1	3%	9	8%	7	7%	13	10%	7	8%	4	5%	7	8%	7	8%	5	12%	5	5%
Formal support sessions on dealing with grief and loss	23	2%	21	C3%	1	1%	0	0%	1	3%	7	FKL6%	1	1%	2	2%	5	KL6%	1	1%	3	3%	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
None – the practice does not organise ways for the staff to share stories or get support for dealing with grief and loss	596	59%	493	59%	58	61%	21	47%	24	AC75%	65	56%	69	66%	78	61%	46	52%	40	54%	57	61%	46	53%	26	62%	66	65%
Don't know	68	7%	59	7%	4	4%	3	7%	2	6%	8	7%	5	5%	8	6%	6	7%	8	11%	4	4%	7	8%	3	7%	10	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100%</b>

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