



Defining Supportive Palliative Care in Texas

Innovative Collaboration Model



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Local Problem

There is confusion among patients and health care providers regarding the definition of and differences between supportive palliative care (SPC) and hospice care (HC).

AIM

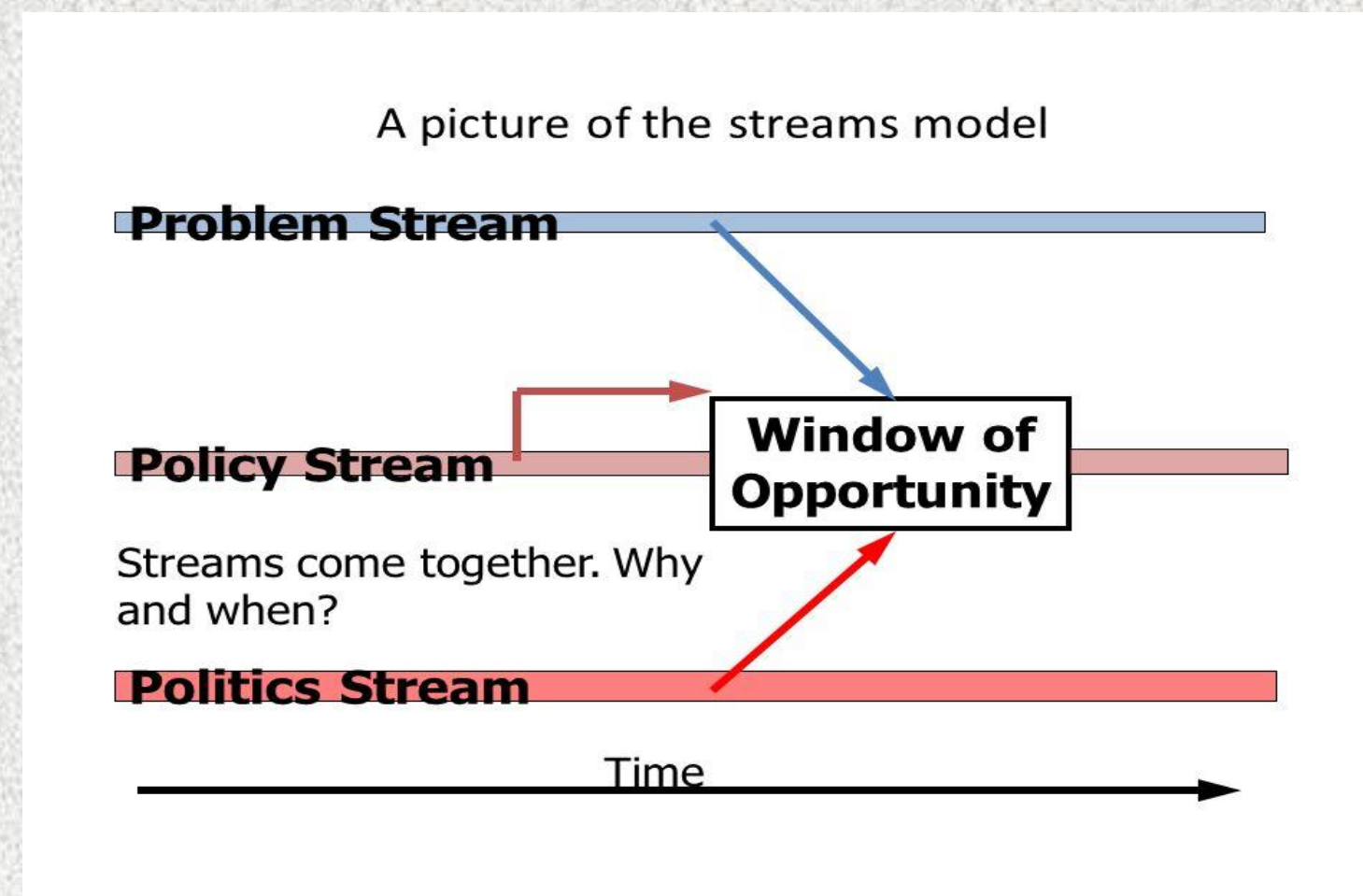
The aim of this scholarly practice project was to propose formal legislation to define supportive palliative care in the Texas Health and Safety Code for consideration by the 86th Texas legislative session, beginning January 2019.

Background

- Health care clinicians lack formal health care education on the differences between SPC and HC service lines.
- Appropriate access to SPC or HC is reduced and unnecessary barriers exist for patients.
- Consumers and clinicians are not fully aware of the significant differences between and benefits of each service line, therefore there is a of lack true informed consent for treatment in the context of the patient centered goals of care.
- Patients are dying in the hospital while receiving non-beneficial and/or undesired medical care.

Method

Kingdon's 3 Stream Policy Making Process



Problem Stream: No definition of SPC → Patients, families and clinicians who experience these problems

Policy Stream: National & local experts; Texas Advisory Council → Definition of SPC

Political Stream: Legislators, legislative staff, Governor's Office, professional organizations

Senate Bill 916 & House Bill 2057
Defining Supportive Palliative Care

Results

1. SPC definition included in the Texas Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council (PCIAC) 86th Legislative Report.
2. Formal legislation proposed & passed in the Texas House and Senate.

Post Project Outcomes

- ✓ Bipartisan collaboration for the bill.
- ✓ Formal bills filed in the Texas House (H.B. 2057) by Chairman Zerwas and Senate by Senator Johnson (S.B. 916).
- ✓ National tools created by the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) to assist all states.
- ✓ S.B. 916 signed by Governor Abbott on June 10, 2019 effective immediately.

Acknowledgements

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- Texas Health and Human Services Commission and Jimmy Blanton.