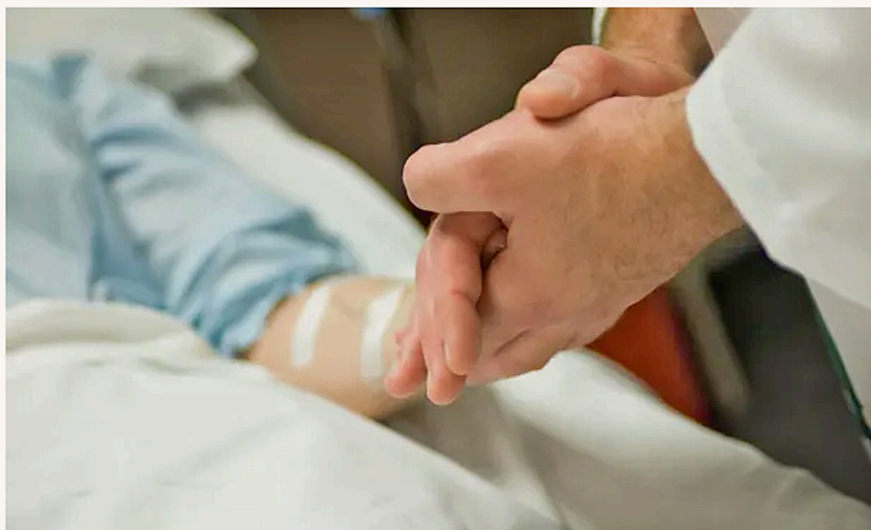


# Palliative care at home for Covid patients needs support

## Letters

Thu 14 Jan 2021 17.50 GMT

Campaigners from the group **In My Own Bed Please** warn about the lack of emergency care for those with severe Covid-19 who prefer to stay in their own home



▲ 'We urge the Department of Health and Social Care to provide logistical, financial and practical support to primary care providers to ensure that emergency palliative care at home is available to everyone who might need it.' Photograph: Alamy

**H**ospitals are no longer able to provide “high-quality care”, are restricting Covid admissions, cancelling urgent operations and rationing ICU beds - and all this set to get worse ([‘The worst by a cataclysmic margin’: the race to save the NHS from Covid](#), 8 January). On top of this, another disaster is waiting in the wings: the overwhelming of GP and community care services.

We have been campaigning since March on behalf of those who would prefer to stay at home with severe Covid-19, and although the provision of emergency end-of-life care in the community has improved in some regions, these services will not be able to cope with a surge in seriously ill patients. This will affect not only those who prefer to stay at home, but also those who have no choice.

We urge the Department of Health and Social Care to provide logistical, financial and practical support to primary care providers without delay to ensure that emergency palliative care at home is available to everyone who might need it. The consequence of not taking action now doesn't bear thinking about.

**Dr Lyn Jenkins, Sir Iain Chalmers, Dr Peggy Frith, David Waterman and Ruth Waterman**

*In My Own Bed Please*