We have an emerging picture of the numbers of babies, children and young people in the UK who are living with and dying from life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

55,000 young adults
aged 18-40 living with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition in England, almost 13,000 in the 18-25 year old age group

5,000 children
die each year in England and Wales, 2,500 as a result of a life-limiting or life-threatening condition

49,000 children
aged 0-18 living with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition in the UK

15 million
children (aged under 19) in the UK

55,000 young adults are living with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition.
Further research estimated that there are 55,000 young adults aged 18-40 living with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition in England, of which almost 13,000 were in the 18-25 year old age group. The data for this study was only readily available in England.

2,500 children and young people die each year from life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.
More than 5,000 children (aged 0-18) die every year in England and Wales, about half of these die from life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

49,000 children and young people living with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions.
There are estimated to be 49,000 children and young people with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition in the UK (aged 0-18 years). We don’t currently know how many of these 49,000 children would be eligible or would wish to access support from dedicated children’s palliative care or hospice services. However, we would expect that all these children would benefit from some elements of the palliative care approach and from knowing about the support that is available from children’s palliative care services.

References