

## National snapshot

### Patient Outcomes in Palliative Care

January to June 2015



The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration is a voluntary program partnering with 116 palliative care services nationally to improve patient outcomes through benchmarking. Following is a snapshot of the key outcomes in patient care for the participating services from January to June 2015.

You can find the full report at <http://ahsri.uow.edu.au/pcoc/reports/national/index.html>.

This national report is based on information from 100 services meeting requirements for reporting:

- 59 inpatient palliative care services.
- 28 community palliative care services.
- 13 palliative care services which provide both inpatient and community care.

#### Highlights of national services reporting to PCOC

- PCOC palliative care services provided 24,180 episodes of care to 19,220 patients in this period.
- 52% of palliative care episodes occurred in the hospital (inpatient setting).
- Pain management was the most improved patient outcome for both inpatient and community patients (moderate/severe PCPSS pain).
- Two benchmarks were met in the inpatient setting (one for timely hospital admission; one for pain management).
- Patient outcomes for severity of pain, other symptoms, family and carers, psychological or spiritual problems, distress from nausea, breathing problems and bowel problems were above the national average.
- For participating services, the average length of stay for a patient in hospital was 10.9 days.
- Average length of time that care was provided for a patient in the community 38.3 days.
- 9,435 (49%) of patients from participating services died during this 6-month period, of these: 71% died in hospital; 29% died in the community.
- 78% of patients had a malignant diagnosis and 22% of patients had a non-malignant diagnosis.

Please contact PCOC if you require additional or customised information.