Western Australian snapshot
Patient Outcomes in Palliative Care
January to June 2015

PCOC
palliative care
outcomes collaboration

The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration is a voluntary
program partnering with 11 palliative care services across Western Australia 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/state/index.html.

This Western Australian report is based on information from 10 services meeting requirements for
reporting:

- 7 are inpatient palliative care services.
- 2 are community palliative care services.
- 1 is a palliative care service that provides both inpatient and community care.

Highlights of Western Australian services reporting to PCOC

- PCOC palliative care services provided 3,667 episodes of care to 3,014 patients in this period.

- 66% of palliative care episodes occurred in the home or aged care facility (community setting).

- Pain management was the most improved patient outcome for both inpatient and community patients.

- Three benchmarks were met in both the inpatient and community settings (one for timely hospital admission; one for responsiveness to urgent needs, one for pain management).

- Patient outcomes for pain management, severity of 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 10.4 days (national average 10.9 days).

- Average length of time that care was provided for a patient in the community was 37.4 days (national average 38.3 days).

- 1,392 (46%) of patients from participating services died during this 6-month period, of these: 45% died in hospital; 55% died in the community.

- 75% of patients had a malignant diagnosis and 24% of patients had a non-malignant diagnosis.

Please contact PCOC if you require additional or customised information.

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