PCOC
palliative care outcomes collaboration

The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC) is a nationally funded program designed to embed clinical assessment tools into routine clinical practice.

PCOC captures clinically meaningful information across a patient's disease trajectory to facilitate improved patient outcomes. This is achieved by:

Clinical assessment tools
Five standardised and validated tools.

Education
Suite of education programs.

National dataset for palliative care
Point of care assessments collected and submitted every six-months.

Outcome measurement and benchmarking
Sector formed patient outcome measures and associated benchmarks for palliative care services.

Patient outcome reporting
Reports provided every six-months for participating services, states and nationally.

National benchmark workshops
Benchmarking groups by service type brought together annually to reflect upon and share patient outcomes.
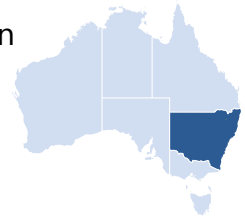
Quality improvement
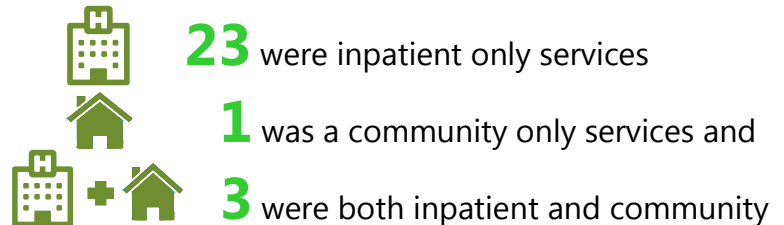Improvement facilitated through a range of activities.

Research
Research activities undertaken and assistance provided with data requests and data analysis.

In **July to December 2015** there were **27** specialist palliative care services in **NSW and ACT** that submitted data to PCOC.

Of these:

23 were inpatient only services

1 was a community only services and

3 were both inpatient and community

Combined, these services provided **5,222** episodes of care to **4,225** patients.
78% of care occurred in hospitals.

79% of patients had a malignant diagnosis.

During this period **2,769** patients died. Of these, **91%** died in hospital.

There are **4** outcome measurement areas. These are:

1 benchmark on **timeliness of care** that **24** services* have met

1 benchmark on **responsiveness to urgent needs** that **13** services* have met

4 benchmarks on **pain management** where **21** services* have met at least one benchmark

8 benchmarks on **symptom management** where **28** services* have met at least one benchmark

*Service providers with an inpatient and community setting are counted twice

For more information, a detailed NSW and ACT state report is available at **www.pcoc.org.au**