

# 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 2016** there were **113** specialist palliative care services in **Australia** that submitted data to **PCOC**.



Of these:



**83** provided care in a hospital or hospice



**31** provided care in the home

Combined, these services provided **25,320** episodes of care to **20,089** patients.



**56.2%** of care occurred in hospitals.



**74.5%** of patients had a malignant diagnosis.

During this period **10,212** patients died

Of these, **76.3%** died in hospital.



There are **20** benchmarks. These are:



**1** benchmark on **timeliness of care** that **91** services have met.

**1** benchmark on **responsiveness to urgent needs** that **60** services have met.



**6** benchmarks on **pain management\*** where **94** services have met at least one benchmark.



**9** benchmarks on **symptom management\*** where **106** services have met at least one benchmark.

**3** benchmarks on **family/carer problems\*** where **80** services have met at least one benchmark.



\*some benchmarks are case-mix adjusted.