

# A helicopter view of patient outcomes in palliative care

National overview | September 2018

PCOC is a national palliative care project funded by the Australian Government Department of Health | [pcoc.org.au](http://pcoc.org.au)

# About this report

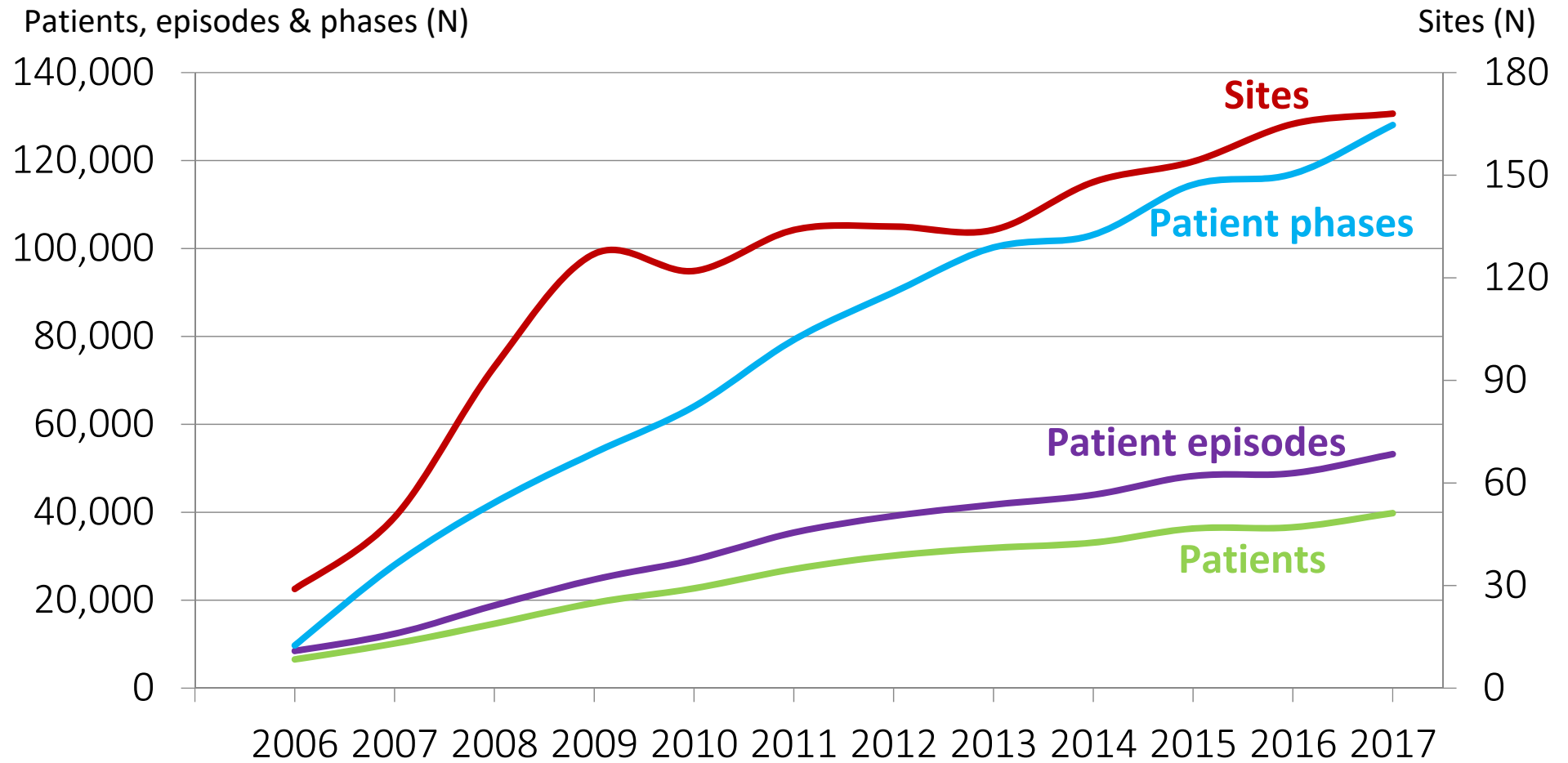
The Australian Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC) is a national palliative care outcomes and benchmarking program. PCOC's primary objective is to systematically improve patient outcomes (including pain and symptom control).

This report provides a high level summary of key patient outcomes, and highlights the improvements achieved by participating palliative care services between 2009 and 2017.

More information about PCOC and more detail about each of the outcome measures can be found in the National and State reports available at [pcoc.org.au](http://pcoc.org.au)

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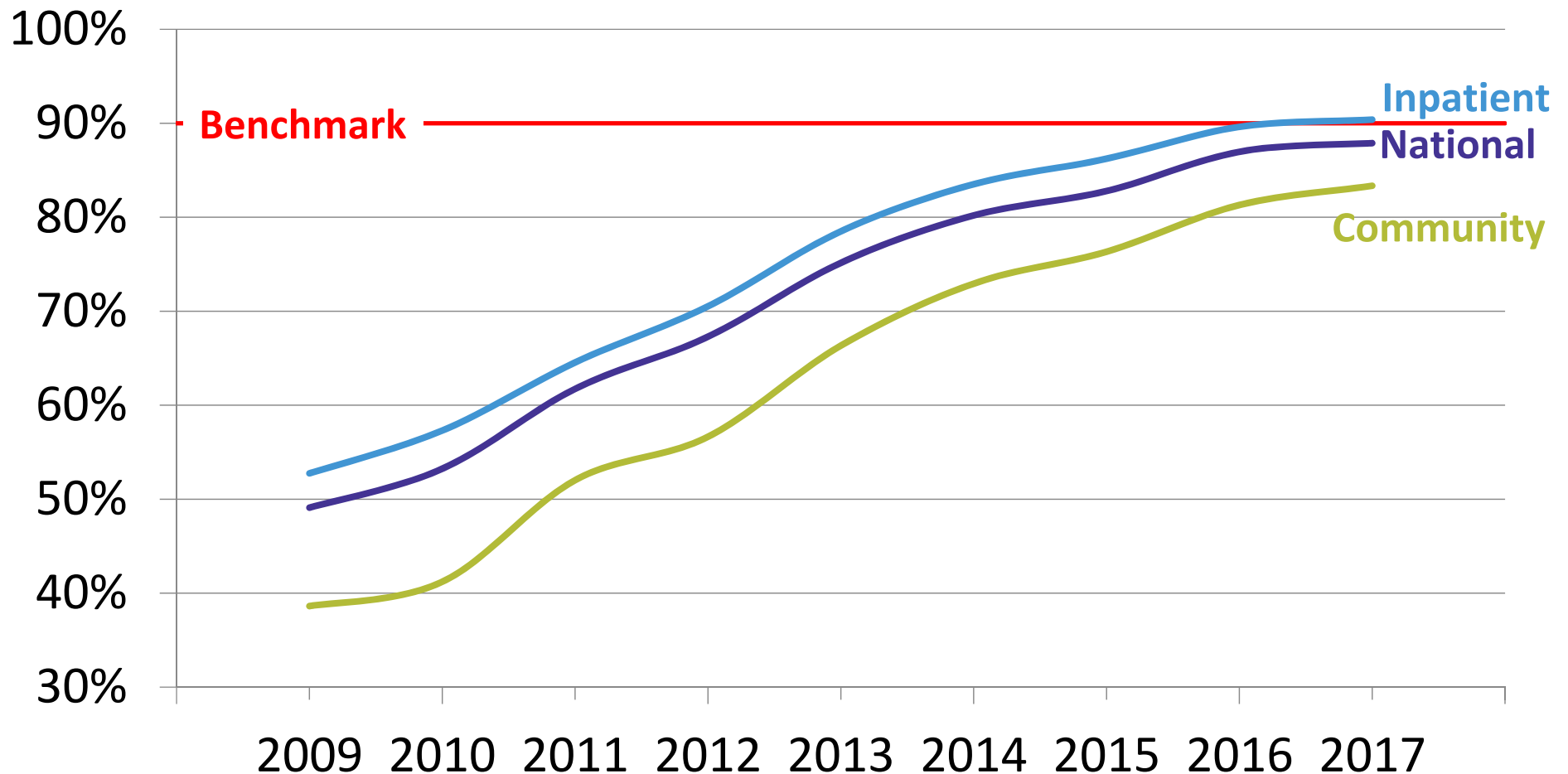
# Growth of PCOC



# Trends in patient outcomes

## Responsiveness to urgent needs

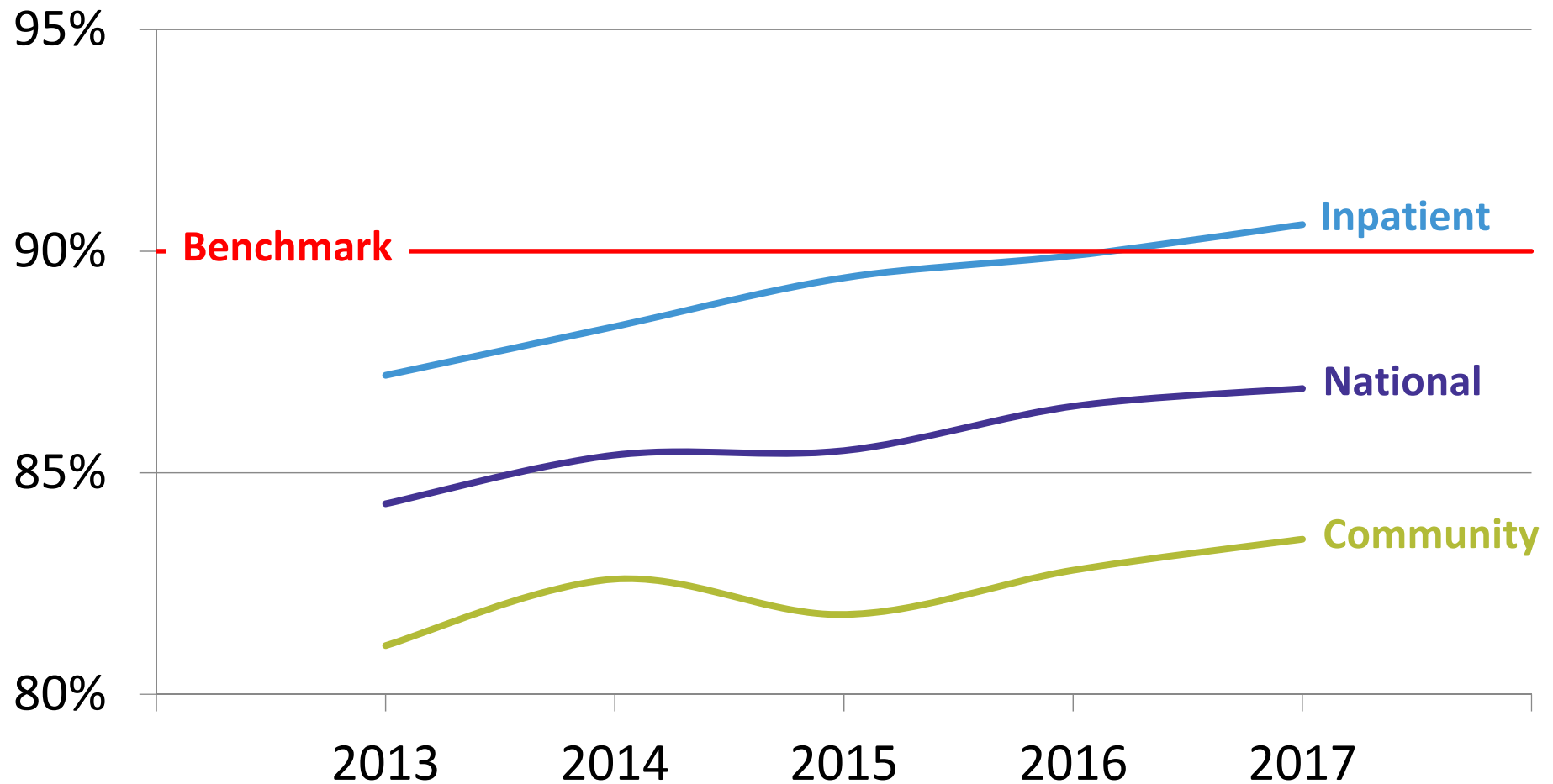
*Positive outcome = Patients with unstable needs addressed within three days*



# Trends in patient outcomes

## Anticipatory pain management

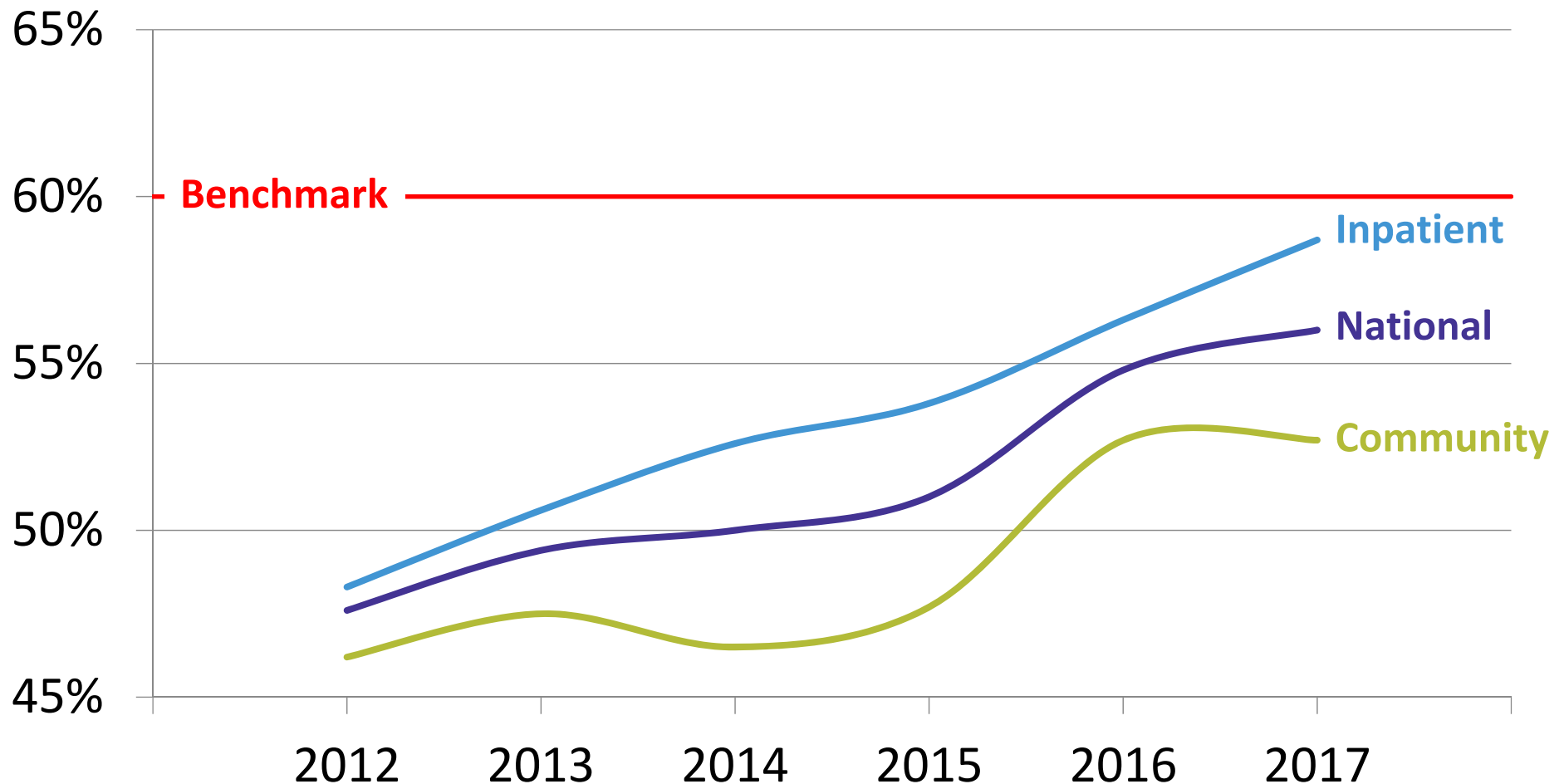
*Positive outcome = Patients with absent or mild pain at the end of a phase  
(maintained that way from the beginning of the phase)*



# Trends in patient outcomes

## Responsive pain management

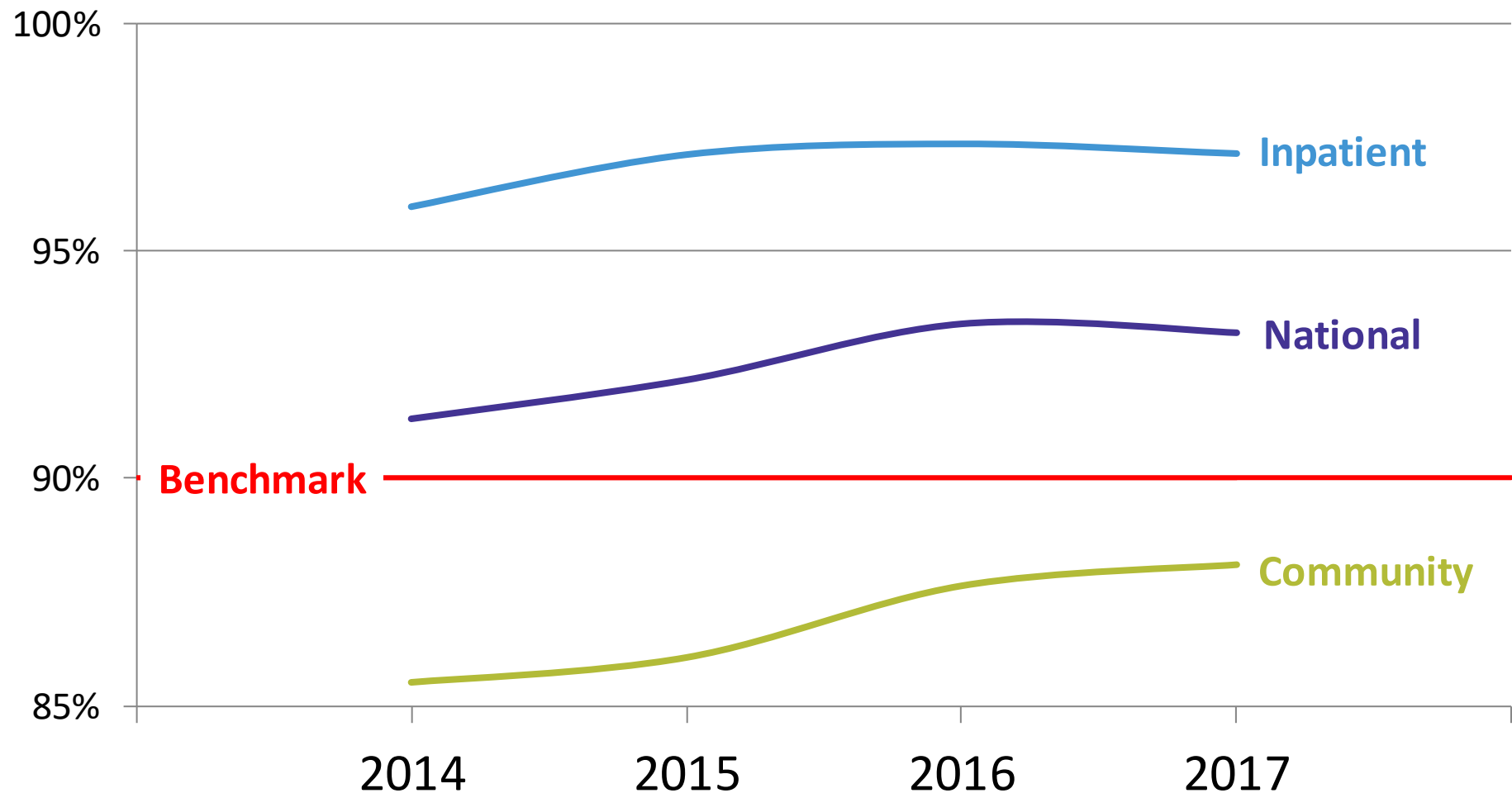
*Positive outcome = Patients with absent or mild pain at the end of a phase  
(reduced from moderate to severe at the beginning of the phase)*



# Trends in patient outcomes

## Timely commencement of palliative care

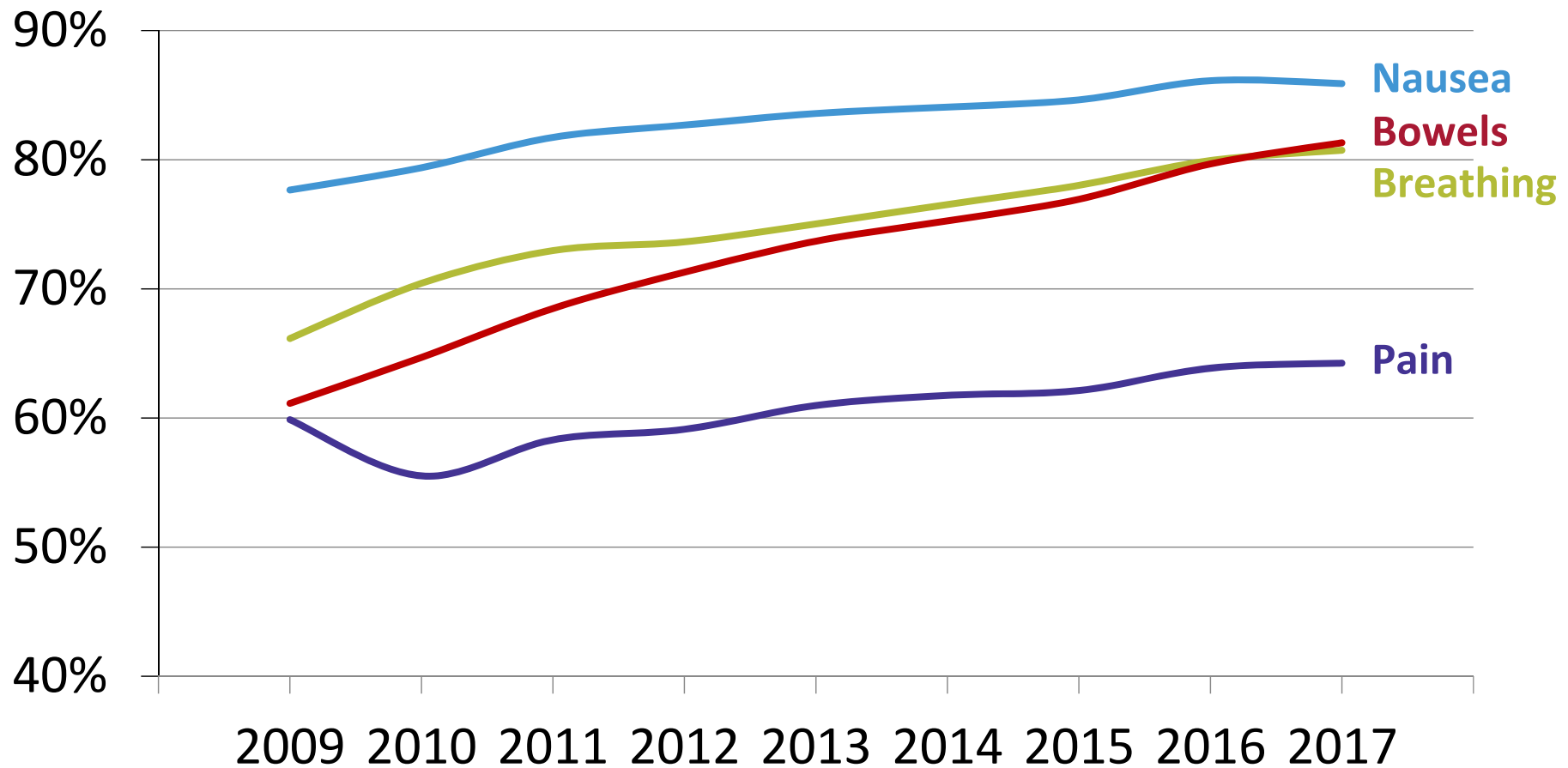
*Positive outcome = Palliative care beginning within two days of the patient being ready*



# Trends in patient outcomes

## Casemix adjusted outcomes (Patient reported distress)

*Positive outcome = a patient's change in pain or symptom is equal to or better than that of the national average patient in 2008*





# Trends in patient outcomes

## Casemix adjusted outcomes (Clinician reported severity)

*Positive outcome = a patient's change in pain or problem is equal to or better than that of the national average patient in 2008*

