

# The Benchmark

The newsletter of Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC)

March 2021, Vol 1

## National Benchmarking Workshop Series 2021

**National address: Australia's benchmarking results 2020**

**Presenter: Prof Kathy Eagar**

**Thursday, April 8th 2.00 PM**

**Panel : The future of palliative care outcomes & benchmarks**

**Thursday, April 15th 2.00 PM**



## National Benchmarking Workshop Series 2021

PCOC is delighted to launch the 2021 national benchmarking workshop series. A national address by Prof Kathy Eagar will commence the series. Australia's palliative care benchmarking results, which were achieved in 2020 will be presented, with insights into how COVID influenced results.

A panel discussion will follow Kathy's national address. The panel will prompt reflections on national outcomes and a discussion about the future of benchmarks. Services that receive an outcomes or transitional report will be invited to the state-based workshops led by PCOC's chief investigators (CIs). Opportunities for services to explore state-based results, to compare their results with peers, and to identify state-based priorities will be provided.

## PCOC outcome reports

National and state-based outcome reports for the July- Dec 2020 period have been released, available [here](#). Service-level reports are published, available [here](#).

## New chief investigator



Associate Prof Kirsten Auret has joined PCOC as the new CI for WA, NT and SA.

Associate Prof Kirsten Auret is a palliative care and general physician with an academic appointment in the Rural Clinical School in the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, The University of Western Australia.

## Save these dates

*National address:* 8th Apr 2021

*National panel discussion:* 15th Apr 2021

*State-based workshops:*

Qld: 22nd Apr 2021 (D/Prof Yates)

WA, SA, NT: 4th May 2021 (A/Prof Auret)

NSW & ACT: 18th May 2021 (Prof Eagar)

VIC & TAS: 25th May 2021 (Prof Currow)

## Featured service



### **Ballarat hospice telehealth model**

Ballarat Hospice received plaudits for the optimal use of their telehealth model, which helped them to continue to provide care to patients remotely in 2020. The construction of a new purpose-built facility also helped to maintain their service, ensuring end-of-life care and palliative care remains available and accessible for their community into the future. Ballarat's telehealth resources are available [here](#).

## New chair



### **Introducing Ms. Judy Brewer: the new chair of PCOC's Management Advisory Board**

PCOC's MAB is responsible for the the strategic and executive management of PCOC. We are delighted to introduce Ms. Judy Brewer as MAB's new chair, commencing May, 2021.

Judy is an advocate, public speaker and writer on issues relating to autism and family carers. Judy has been actively involved in an executive capacity in many organisations, including the Founding Chair of the National Co-operative Research Centre for Autism (2013–2017). Judy received the Asia Pacific Autism Award (2013) and became an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) (2016) for service to people with a disability, particularly those with Autism Spectrum Disorders, to refugees living in rural areas, to women, and to education.

## Symposia series

PCOC's new symposia series has been designed to highlight key clinical, research and policy areas in order to help drive improvements in palliative care outcomes. Commencing in June, key topics covered will include: outcomes in residential aged care, patient-reported outcomes, and the link between outcomes and experiences.

## Mr Noel Hicks

After 15 years of substantive service as the chair of PCOC's MAB, Mr Noel Hicks has retired. A former Mayor of Broken Hill, and member of Federal Parliament for 18 years, Mr Hick's seminal contribution to the PCOC program is greatly appreciated.



## PCOC publications

Data submitted to PCOC is used for reporting, benchmarking and research into areas of importance to the palliative care sector. Publications in 2021 include:

Ding J, et al., (2020) Characteristics of People with Dementia vs Other Conditions on Admission to Inpatient Palliative Care. [Journal of the American Geriatrics Society](#).

Ding J, et al., (2020) Palliative care needs and utilization of specialist services for people imminently dying with dementia: A national population-based study. [International Journal of Nursing Studies](#).

# PCOC calendar 2021

## April

National benchmarking address  
QLD Clinical Leaders Advanced Workshop  
National benchmarking discussion panel  
QLD benchmarking workshop

**Thursday, 8th**  
**Wednesday, 14th**  
**Thursday, 15th**  
**Thursday, 22nd**

## May

**Tuesday, 4th**  
**Tuesday, 18th**  
**Tuesday, 25th**  
**Tuesday, 25th**

WA, SA and NT benchmarking workshop  
NSW and ACT benchmarking workshop  
VIC and TAS benchmarking workshop  
NSW Clinical Leaders Assessment & Response Workshop

## June

Symposia seminar series: Palliative care outcomes, and patients and carers experience of palliative care: What are the missing links?

NSW Clinical Leaders Advanced Workshop  
VIC PCOC Wicking Clinical Leaders Advanced Workshop  
VIC Clinical Leaders' Assessment & Response Workshop

**Wednesday, 2nd**  
**Tuesday, 8th**  
**Tuesday, 15th & Thursday 17th**  
**Wednesday, 30th**

## July

**Wednesday, 7th**

Symposia seminar series: How can we integrate palliative care within health systems?

## August

Symposia seminar series: Palliative care outcomes in residential aged care: Can palliative care and PCOC help improve outcomes?  
NSW Clinical Leaders Assessment & Response Workshop

**Wednesday, 4th**  
**Tuesday, 12th**

## September

**Tuesday, 21st**  
**Wednesday, 22nd**  
**Tuesday, 28th**  
**Wednesday, 29th**

SA Clinical Leaders Assessment & Response Workshop  
SA Clinical Leaders Advanced Workshop  
WA Clinical Leaders Assessment & Response Workshop  
WA Clinical Leaders Advanced Workshop

## October

Palliative care outcomes for culturally & linguistically diverse groups: What can PCOC tell us about the Australian response?

NSW Clinical Leaders' Advanced Workshop  
TAS PCOC Wicking Clinical Leaders Workshop  
PCOC Wicking Clinical Leaders Workshop  
PCOC Wicking Clinical Leaders Workshop

**Wednesday, 6th**  
**Thursday, 14th**  
**Friday, 22nd**  
**Monday, 25th**  
**Wednesday, 27th**

## November

Symposia seminar series: Patient-reported outcomes in palliative care: When is it possible in palliative care and does it really matter?

**Wednesday, 3rd**

## December

**Wednesday, 1st**

An international approach to benchmarking palliative care outcomes