



Celebrating 20 years in improving palliative care outcomes

November 2025 Newsletter

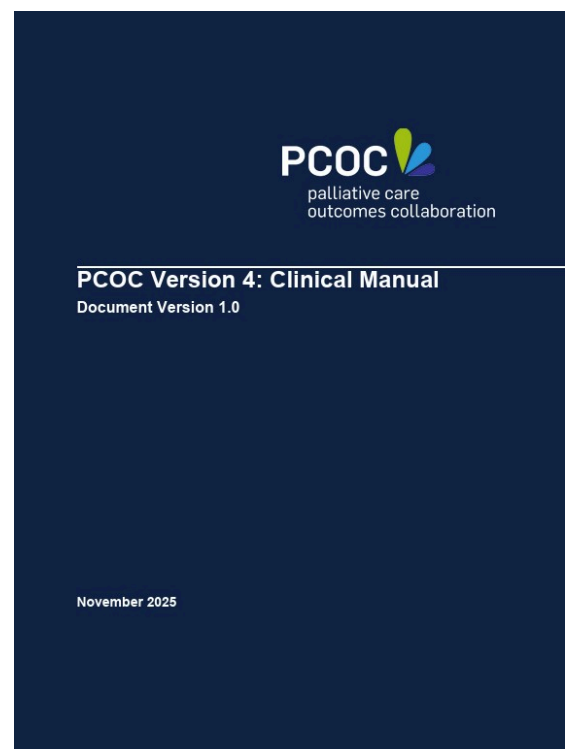
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## Released: PCOC Version 4 Clinical Manual!

PCOC has released the **Version 4 Clinical Manual!** This is the go-to manual for clinicians using PCOC in everyday practice, providing detailed information on **all clinical items**, including **descriptions, collection options, intended use** and **opportunities for quality improvement**.

Focusing on practical application, the manual serves as an **essential resource for clinicians**, underpinning **best practice in palliative care** assessment and response.

Access the manual now on the home page of the [PCOC website!](#)



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## Medical Records System Update to Version 4 is underway

Contact PCOC for more details regarding when your service is able to start using PCOC Version 4.

The V4 medical record system transition timeline can be accessed on the [PCOC website](#) home page.

#### V4 Transition Timeline

Earlier this year, PCOC engaged with IT vendors across the country to announce the transition to the PCOC Version 4 dataset.

The proposed Version 4 transition timeline is summarised as follows:

2025	<b>May - June</b> Version 4 Data Dictionary & Technical Guidelines disseminated to IT vendors
	<b>May - September</b> Build and test Version 4 in PaCentre
	<b>July - December</b> A number of IT platforms commencing integration of V4
	<b>October</b> PaCentre with V4 will be released Clinical Manual Finalised
2026	<b>January</b> First expected V4 data submissions for July-December 2025 reporting period
	<b>March - June</b> V2 and V4 data submissions during interim submission period
	<b>July</b> NSW Public participating services submitting V4 data and a selection of other IT systems commencing V4 submissions
	<b>December</b> More than half of all participating services collecting and submitting V4 data
2027	<b>January - December</b> Continued migration from V3 to V4, assisting remaining IT systems in transitioning to Version 4

To access the Version 4 Data Dictionary & Technical Guidelines, follow this [link](#).  
If you have any questions or require any support throughout the transition to Version 4, please email the PCOC team at [pcoc@uow.edu.au](mailto:pcoc@uow.edu.au)

## Version 4 Assessment Forms

The image shows a sample of the PCOC Clinical Assessment Form. It includes a header with the PCOC logo and 'Community Palliative Care Clinical Assessment Form'. Below this is a patient information section with fields for name, date of birth, sex, and address. The main body of the form is divided into several sections: 'ONGOING ASSESSMENT' with a grid for recording observations; 'Delirium' with a grid for recording delirium-related symptoms; 'Edmonton Symptom Assessment System (ESAS-PCOC)' with a grid for recording various symptoms like pain, fatigue, drowsiness, nausea, and depression. A vertical label 'PATIENT REPORTED' is on the left side of the ESAS-PCOC grid. At the bottom, there are instructions for how to rate the symptoms.

In addition to the release of the Clinical Manual, **PCOC Version 4 Assessment Forms** are now available to view on our [website](#).

Some new features of the V4 forms include the **screening for delirium** and the **ESAS-PCOC (Edmonton Symptom Assessment System)**. Three unique forms have been designed for multiple settings: **community, inpatient consult, and inpatient unit.**

If you need support with the new V4 forms, please reach out to your PCOC Improvement Facilitator.



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