



Celebrating 20 years in improving palliative care outcomes

December 2025 Newsletter

The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration Turns 20!

This year, we celebrated 20 years of PCOC...and what a year it has been!

Reaching this special milestone has inspired an opportunity for **reflection, appreciation and gratitude.**



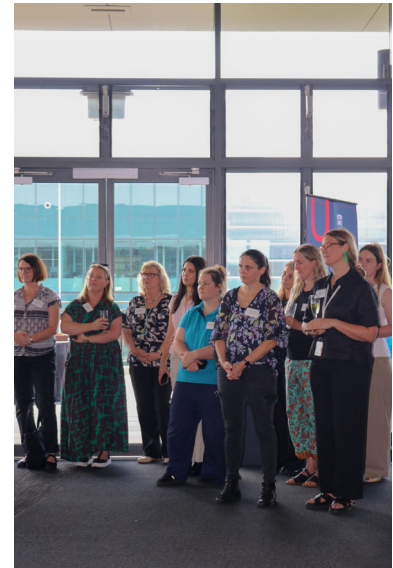
Emerging as a modest initiative involving just **eight pilot services**, PCOC now encompasses more than **230 participating services** across Australia. This collective endeavour of **expertise, passion and unwavering commitment** has allowed the program to grow into an initiative that is truly meaningful – a collaboration that continues to make a **real difference to patients and their families.**

To commemorate this milestone, we took the opportunity to honour our anniversary in the company of some **valuable members of our community.**

PCOC's 20th Birthday Afternoon Tea

In early November, we invited a group of guests to attend **PCOC's 20th anniversary afternoon tea** held at our head office in Wollongong. The celebratory event welcomed delegates from the **Australian Government Department of Health, Palliative Care Australia**, the **Australian Institute of**

Health and Welfare, the Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD, and the University of Wollongong.



It was a vibrant afternoon (with great food and cake!) that began with a reflective speech from **PCOC Director, Sabina Clapham**, extending heartfelt acknowledgements to current and past PCOC staff, as well as PCOC's Chief Investigators, **Distinguished Professor Patsy Yates, Professor Kirsten Auret** and **Professor Katy Clark**.



We also had the pleasure of hearing from the Commonwealth A/g Assistant Secretary of the Cancer and Palliative Care Branch, **Georgie Fairhall**, the UOW Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Sustainable Futures), **Dr. Paul Di Pietro**, and the UOW Associate Head of School Research Strategy (Graduate School of Medicine), **Professor Andrew Bonney**.

Dedicating an afternoon to **connecting with collaborators and champions of PCOC** was a wonderful way to honour **20 years of the Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration!**



Looking Back, Looking Forward

This year has brought about some exciting changes to PCOC, including the development of a **consumer engagement framework**, a new **strategic research plan**, a **refreshed report suite** and the announcement of **Version 4** (just to name a few)!

Looking ahead to the new year, we welcome new features to PCOC such as the **screening for delirium**, **ESAS-PCOC**, and the **new interactive digital dashboard!**



The PCOC team extends **sincere appreciation** to everyone who has **supported, strengthened, and championed the program**—whether throughout this year or over the past 20 years. We wish you all a **wonderful and restful break over this festive season!**

Data Submission Window Opens: 1 Jan 2026

Before the PCOC team signs off - a quick reminder that the **data submission window for the July-Dec 2025 period** will be open on **1 January 2026**, and

will close during the first week of Feb. Data can be submitted via the PCOC Secured Online Submission (SOS) portal. The PCOC team will be **out of office from Xmas Eve and back on Monday 5 January**, refreshed and ready to support you during submission time.



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