

## PCOC Architecture

Central to benchmarking is the need to compare populations of different health services. To achieve this, a common language or unit of counting is required. In the PCOC outcomes collection this is the Palliative Care Phase. Phases occur within an episode of palliative care. An episode is defined by the location of the patient and starts whenever the setting of care changes. For the outcomes collection, a patient may have one or more episodes of care and one or more palliative care phases. To minimise the burden of data collection, services participating with PCOC only extract and submit their patient and assessment records. The assessment data is then used by PCOC to derive both episode and phase level data. This structure is outlined in Figure 1.

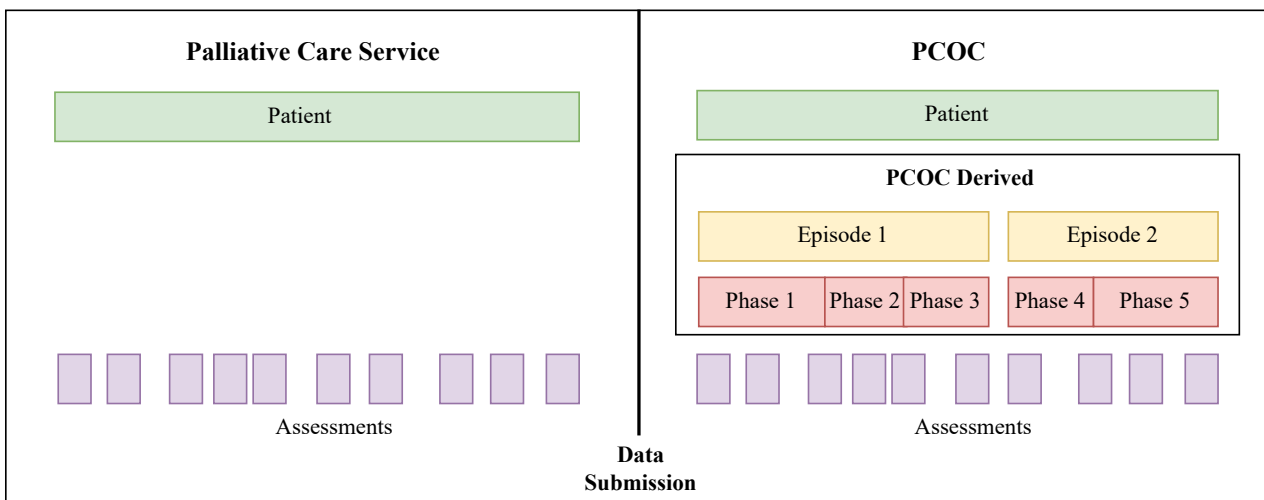


Figure 1: PCOC Data Architecture