

Monthly update to palliative care consortia.

Date: August 2006

Name of Initiative/Project	Progress
Statewide Consortia Meeting	The next statewide consortia meeting will occur on Thursday 14 September 2006 at 50 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. The day will consist of individual meetings for project officers, consortia chairs and DHS regional contacts in the morning and a combined meeting in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided.
Victorian Palliative Care Implementation Advisory Group (VPCIAG)	The next meeting of the VPCIAG is on Friday 18 August. A summary of the outcomes of this meeting will be provided in the September monthly update. Specific statewide projects endorsed by the VPCIAG are reported below as appropriate.
Workforce Supply and Demand	<p>The pivot table and PDG version of the final report of the Palliative Care Workforce Supply and Demand study has been posted on the website http://www.health.vic.gov.au/palliativecare/</p> <p>We are arranging for hard copy versions to be printed, which will take a little while to get the editing and printing done. When they are ready, we will invite all workforce and palliative care stakeholder to respond to the methodology and conclusions made in the report so as to assist in workforce policy planning for the future.</p> <p>A business case has been submitted to Workforce and Service Development Branch for additional work regarding an employee and volunteer study. We are still waiting to hear if this has been included in their workplan for the next 12 months. If you have any questions regarding the supply and demand study, please contact Gregory Dalton.</p>
Development of an After Hours Palliative Care Service for Victoria	<p>The working group for this project has commenced work.</p> <p>The current membership of the working group is: Professor Margaret O'Connor (Chair) Mr Kevin Larkins (PCV) Mr Mark Cockayne (VPCIAG) Ms Fiona Hearne (RDNS) Ms Dianne Senior (Bendigo Health Care) Ms Carole Hadley (Eastern Palliative Care)</p> <p>The medical representative for the group is being finalised.</p> <p>After Hours palliative care will be the key issue on the agenda for the September 14 Statewide</p>

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	<p>Consortia Meeting.</p> <p>For more information, please contact Amanda Bolleter.</p>
Palliative Care Resource Allocation Model	<p>The PCRAM summary has been distributed to consortia and statewide services and will be loaded to the DHS website shortly.</p> <p>The PCRAM will be updated in mid 2007 to include ABS Data from the 2006 Census.</p> <p>In relation to changes to service catchment areas - please note that only LGAs and SLA's can be used to calculate catchment areas for palliative care services as ABS data is not available for lesser geographical classifications.</p> <p>If you would like any further changes to service catchment areas please advise Amanda Bolleter by the end of August. Any changes to service catchment areas requested after this time will be made as part of the mid 2007 update to the PCRAM.</p>
Volunteer Standards Project	<p>The volunteer standards have been loaded to the palliative care website (www.health.vic.gov.au/palliativecare) under 'What's New'.</p> <p>Volunteering Victoria conducted a workshop about the volunteer standards at the recent Palliative Care Victoria conference.</p>
PEPA	<p>Over the past couple of weeks, host sites have been contacted to gauge their opinions about the last version of PEPA and their ideas for improving PEPA for the next 4 years. This information will be collated and used by Jackie Kearney at a national meeting to decide broad directions for PEPA over the next four years.</p> <p>Applications have been received for the PEPA project officer position, and we hope to announce the successful project officer in the next few weeks.</p>
Unassigned Bed Fund	<p>PCV advise that approximately 80% of the UBF top up funds have been distributed to community palliative care services. PCV are planning to have all funds distributed by the end of August 2006 so if you have not yet sent your proforma to PCV please do so at your earliest convenience.</p>
Indigenous Palliative Care	<p>VACCHO and DHS have submitted to the Department of Health and Ageing a proposal to do some additional work concerning the Resource Kit over the next few months. As details become available, they will be passed on.</p>

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Community Palliative Care Nursing Funding (2006-07 budget)	Consortia have been advised of community palliative care allocations for their region, which have been calculated using the PCRAM. Consortia are asked to advise their agreement to the funding allocation or send an alternative proposal to Amanda Bolleter by Friday 25 August 2006.
Aged Care Services and Palliative Care	In recent weeks, the DHS has been contacted by a residential care peak body highlighting differences in the arrangements and models of care residents aged care services receive regarding palliative care. The DHS is interested to better understand from consortia their ideas about what would be a good process to undertake across Victoria to address this issue, if in fact it should be addressed at this time. This could be an item on the next statewide consortia meeting on 14 September 2006 if consortia are interested in discussing it
Service Coordination	<p>Palliative Care Consortia and Statewide Services have been asked to provide feedback on how they are progressing with implementing service coordination. DHS will use the information provided to assist consortia and statewide services with service coordination implementation. Please return the questionnaire to Amanda Bolleter by Friday 25 August 2006. Statewide services have been invited to a meeting on Thursday 24 August to discuss this issue in more detail.</p> <p>A number of Palliative Care Consortia provided feedback on a draft of the Victorian Service Coordination Practice Manual – many thanks for taking the time to review and comment on this document.</p> <p>The palliative care team will meet with the Office of Health Information Systems in early September to discuss the roll out of Trak Health to palliative care services. More information will be provided in the September consortia update.</p>
Statewide Specialist Bereavement Service	<p>The Australian Centre for Grief and Bereavement has been awarded the contract to develop and operate a statewide specialist bereavement service for Victoria.</p> <p>The statewide service will provide specialist bereavement consultancy to generalist services as well as specialist bereavement counselling and support, education and training.</p> <p>Note that the development and operation of this new service will not involve changes to palliative care services' existing bereavement support for their clients and families.</p> <p>The statewide specialist bereavement service will be a valuable resource for palliative care services. We look forward to working with you and the ACGB to develop and operate this new service.</p>

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Improving End of Life Care Workshop	<p>Improving End of Life Care A workshop on advanced care planning. With key note speaker Professor Jane Seymour, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom. The workshop will provide opportunity for discussion and feedback about the key issues in advanced care planning for Victoria. The workshop is a free event and will be held on Monday 4 September, 10:30am – 3:30pm, Venue TBC – city location. For electronic link, please see e-mail, or contact Julie.odonoghue@dhs.vic.gov.au</p>

Contact details for palliative care team members

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