

ANZSPM Member Alert – 27 March 2019

On behalf of all members, ANZSPM extends our love and support to our Aotearoa members, in particular those directly impacted by the tragic events in Christchurch on 15 March 2019.

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Government News

ACT Australia: End of Life Choices in the ACT – Select Committee Report released

On Thursday 21 March 2019, the Select Committee on End of Life Choices in the ACT published its report on the inquiry, making 24 recommendations of which 12 related to palliative care services in the ACT.

ANZSPM issued a media release on 22 March in response to the report, circulated to all members. The media release can be viewed on the ANZSPM website [here](#).

WA Australia: VAD Ministerial Expert Advisory Panel – Discussion Paper released

The WA Minister for Health announced an Expert Advisory Panel following release of the report “My Life, My Choice” last year, which recommended that the WA Government introduce legislation for voluntary assisted dying and that an expert panel be established to consult and develop the legislation.

The Panel has now developed a Discussion Paper which can be downloaded from the department website: www.health.wa.gov.au/voluntaryassisteddying.

The Panel is inviting comment, critical or otherwise, on the key issues set out in the discussion paper by the closing date **24 May 2019**. For information on making a response, visit the department website.

Consultation forums will be held in the Perth metropolitan area, Kalgoorlie, Geraldton, Broome and Bunbury in April and May 2019. Roundtable meetings will also be held with key stakeholders to examine specific topics related to the legislation. Information on registering for the forums can be found on the department website.

Comments and suggestions will be collated and used by the Panel to inform its recommendations to the Minister regarding the content of the proposed legislation, which is expected to be introduced into Parliament in the second half of 2019. Further information can be obtained by contacting the End of Life Choices team in the Department of Health via MEP.Secretariat@health.wa.gov.au.

NZ: End of Life Choices Bill

The Justice Select Committee is due to return their report on the End of Life Choices Bill in the coming weeks. The report was deferred from the original reporting date of 27 March and is now due to report on **Tuesday 9 April**, following the recent events in Christchurch. A second reading of the Bill is likely to take place in early May.

Communicating with Children about life-threatening conditions

On 14 March 2019, The Lancet published two ground-breaking papers collating evidence and global expertise to derive core communication principles to assist healthcare professionals in communicating with children about their own life-threatening condition, or that of a parent. These papers, led by a team at the University of Oxford, highlight the importance of communicating with families about life threatening conditions in ways that can make a real difference to the traumatic circumstances in which families find themselves. <http://www.thelancet.com/series/communicating-with-children>

AHPC 2019: Rosalie Shaw Travel Scholarship and AHPN Bursaries

The Asia Pacific Hospice Palliative Care Network (APHN) is inviting applications for the Rosalie Shaw Travel Scholarship and APHN Bursaries for delegates attending the 13th Asia Pacific Hospice Conference in 2019. The selection committee of APHN will shortlist one awardee for the scholarship and 20 awardees for the bursaries. All applicants will be considered for BOTH the Rosalie Shaw Travel Scholarship (RSTS) and APHN bursary. Deadline for application is 31 March 2019. Further information can be found [here](#).

RACP request for input – Royal Commission into Aged Care Safety and Quality

As previously advised, the RACP is seeking input to a submission to the [Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety](#). View the [Terms of Reference](#) for the Royal Commission. Submissions are open until June 2019.

The RACP has requested input **by COB Tuesday 30 April directly to raccpconsult@racp.edu.au**. The RACP will then collate input, prepare a draft and go back to people for more information and specifics if necessary, and progress to CPAC.

European Palliative Care Academy Leadership Course 2019-2021

Applications for the **European Palliative Care Academy Leadership Course 2019 – 2021** are being accepted now.

The new course starts in September 2019. Deadline for applications is **9 June 2019**. For further information on the European Palliative Care Academy and the application process, please visit EUPCA's website: www.eupca.eu

Upcoming ANZSPM Events

ANZSPM Trainee Day, 30 March 2019 | Palmerston North NZ

The next ANZSPM Aotearoa Trainee Day will be held at Arohanui Hospice on this Saturday 30 March 2019. The day is open to medical practitioners training in palliative care (Advanced Trainee/Diploma of Palliative Care, GP with special interest in Palliative Care, Palliative Care Medical Officers and new Palliative Medicine specialists within their first year of vocational

registration). Program and registration forms are now available on the [ANZSPM website](#). Registrations close TODAY! Don't miss out!

ANZSPM Trainee Day, Thursday 6 June 2019 | Gold Coast QLD

An ANZSPM Study Day for Trainees and New Fellows will be held on Thursday 6 June 2019 on the Gold Coast, alongside the Gold Coast Supportive and Specialist Palliative Care Service inaugural seminar on Interventional Palliative Care and Medical Updates being held 7-8 June 2019. More information will be provided on the ANZSPM website soon!

ANZSPM Aotearoa Annual Update & Trainee Day, 27-29 June 2019 | Queenstown NZ

The ANZSPM Aotearoa Annual Update 2019 will be held **28-29 June** at the Heritage Hotel, Queenstown NZ. A Study Day for Trainees and New Fellows will be held on Thursday **27 June**. This event is open to medical practitioners training or working in palliative care. More details on the event will be published on the ANZSPM [website](#) as it becomes available.

Other Upcoming Events

End of Life Choices Public Debate, Monday 1 April 2019 | NZ

The Hon Maggie Barry ONZM North Shore MP invites NZ members to join her at a public meeting to discuss the proposed law changes to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide. Former Prime Minister Sir Bill English and visiting expert Dr Leonie Herx (President of the Canadian Society of Palliative Care Physicians) will debate this issue, along with pro euthanasia advocates. The event will be held 7-9pm Monday 1 April 2019 at Netball North Harbour, 44 Northcote Road, Takapuna. RSVP to northshore@parliament.govt.nz

Euthanasia in Canada Discussion, 2 April 2019 | NZ

Canadian Palliative Care Physician Dr Leonie Herx will share her experience of working in a healthcare system where euthanasia is legal and practiced regularly. She will discuss the impact on doctors, clinicians and the hospice and palliative care sector. This public discussion forum is presented by Dr's Say No www.doctorsayno.nz a member of the Care Alliance www.carealliance.org.nz. The event will be held Tuesday 2 April 2019 from 7-8.30pm at Rutherford House RHLT2, Victorian University of Wellington, Pipitea Campus. Cost: Koha is appreciated and can be made at the door.

National Advance Care Planning Week 1-5 April 2019 | AUSTRALIA

[National Advance Care Planning Week](#), encourages all Australians, regardless of their age or health, to make their future health care preferences known. The initiative challenges people to start conversations with loved ones about what living well means to them and to consider who they would want to speak for them, if they were too sick to speak for themselves.

Voluntary Assisted Dying Conference, 8-10 May 2019 | VIC

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017 will commence on 19 June 2019. To support implementation an interactive Voluntary Assisted Dying Implementation Conference will be held from Wednesday 8 May to Friday 10 May 2019 at the Carson Conference Centre, 535 Elizabeth St Melbourne 3000.

The conference aims to showcase and promote the resources that have been developed by the Implementation Taskforce, provide an opportunity for networking, discussion and information

sharing across Victoria. It will also allow attendees to learn about implementation experience in other jurisdictions and hear from local presenters about preparing for implementation in Victoria. Two pre-conference workshops will be held on Wednesday 8 May aimed at medical practitioners and nurses and allied health professionals.

Further details can be found and information about registering interest can be found [here](#).

ANZSGM Annual Scientific Meeting, 13-15 May 2019 | Adelaide SA

The conference will be on **13-15 May 2019** at the recently redeveloped Adelaide Convention Centre. This is the premier conference for Geriatric Medicine in Australasia. ANZSGM 2019 has the theme of "Geriatric Medicine – Best care to the end" which will focus on evidence and innovation in the care of older adults and in end of life care. The program will also feature updates in cardiovascular and neurological diseases in older patients. Further information is at www.anzsgmconference.org.

Supportive & Specialist Palliative Care Service seminar, 7-8 June 2019 | Gold Coast QLD

The inaugural seminar will provide updates and support for Consultants, Registrars, Nurse Practitioners and CNCs in palliative care. It is a free event, with catering provided. To register visit: <https://1st-goldcoast-pallcare-seminar.eventbrite.com.au>. For all enquiries, email: GCHPalliativeCare@health.qld.gov.au

Annual Renal Supportive Care Symposium, 1-2 August 2009 | Sydney NSW

The Annual Renal Supportive Care Symposium will canvas multiple topics in Renal Supportive Care including symptom management, advance care planning, moral distress for clinicians, the law and ethics of dialysis withdrawal, indigenous issues and communication skills. In addition, Professor Mark Brown, Nephrologist will present "What is new in Renal Supportive Care?" All are welcome. For registration contact Elizabeth Josland: elizabeth.josland@health.nsw.gov.au

Asia Pacific Hospice Conference, 1-4 August 2019 | Indonesia

This conference will provide an opportunity to gain and exchange expert knowledge and network with fellow hospice and palliative care experts. Early bird registrations extended until **Sunday 31 March 2019**. For more information and submission details visit the APHC [website](#) and/or contact the conference secretariat at aphc2019poster@gmail.com.

Oceanic Palliative Care Conference, 10-13 September 2019 | Perth WA

Palliative Care Australia in collaboration with Hospice New Zealand has opened registrations for the 2019 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference. To register and for more information on the conference visit the [Oceanic Palliative Care Conference website](#). Twitter updates for the event can be followed at #19OPCC.

As previously advised, ANZSPM Members are eligible to receive a member discount early bird rate to attend OPCC19. Members simply need to indicate ANZSPM as their member organisation when [registering online](#), in order for the discounts to apply and register before 29 June! This is strictly for current ANZSPM members only.

World Congress on Itch, 17-19 November 2019 | Sydney NSW

The symptom of itch, or pruritus, can be a very disabling. Until the modern era, little was understood about this symptom. In the modern era, a quiet revolution has occurred in the understanding of mechanism and management. This conference will include the work of the world's leading neuroscientists in this area. To help those new to this science of this symptom a session entitled "Itch for beginners" will be held on the first morning. This will summarise the basic pathophysiology of pruritus and the management of major itch syndromes including uraemic, cholestatic and paraneoplastic pruritus and the pruritus of cutaneous T-cell lymphomas. This is the first time this Congress has been held in Australasia and is an excellent opportunity to gain a greater understanding of pruritus. Registration and details are at www.ifs2019.com.au/.

Careers

New positions have recently been advertised on the ANZSPM website – visit the ANZSPM [Careers](#) pages for details!

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Are you following us on Twitter [@ANZSPM](#) and [LinkedIn](#)? For more news and updates, follow ANZSPM and visit www.anzspm.org.au.

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Our standard office hours: Mon-Thurs 9.15am-2.45pm AEST

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