

## ANZSPM Member eNews – 11 September 2020

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- Newly updated National COVID19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce palliative care flowchart
- Still time to register for the ANZSPM20 virtual conference next week, 17-19 September 2020!
- Reminder ANZSPM Aotearoa Annual Business Meeting (ABM) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020
- Important: ANZSPM Membership renewals 2020-21 now due!
- Upcoming events
- Careers – latest jobs link



### Don't miss out! Still time to register for the ANZSPM20 conference (17-19 September 2020)!! Special ANZSPM member rates available!!

Our Virtual conference is on next week. We look forward to seeing you online! Please visit the updated ANZSPM20 conference website to view the program! Registering will provide 12 months access to conference presentations. In light of COVID-19 and the move to a virtual conference, this year we are able to open registrations to attendance by nurse practitioners and other allied health professionals who are involved in delivering palliative care services. Please spread the word!

### Free supplementary meetings at ANZSPM20

The following meetings are open to medical professionals and will be held via ZOOM. Please see below for details on each meeting and how to register your attendance.

#### 17 SEPTEMBER 2020

##### *Renal Supportive Care SIG*

**Open to:** SIG Members only

**Time:** 0900 – 1000 (AEST)

**About:** This meeting includes two presentations by the following presenters:

1. Renal Supportive Care - An overview by Dr Kelly Li, Nephrologist and Palliative Care Physician, St George Hospital, Sydney.
2. Symptom Management in Chronic Kidney Disease - focus on uraemia pruritus and taste changes. By Dr Frank Brennan, Palliative Care Physician, St George Hospital, Sydney.

**Register:** Contact [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au) for the ZOOM link to register for this meeting.

### ***Respiratory Palliative Care SIG***

**Open to:** SIG Members only

**Time:** 1545 - 1645 (AEST)

**About:** This meeting will allow members to enjoy the opportunity afforded by the conference to come together and share progress on current activities, as well as planning next steps.

**Register:** Contact [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au) for the ZOOM link to register for this meeting.

### **18 SEPTEMBER 2020**

#### ***AChPM fellows update meeting***

**Open to:** AChPM fellows/members and ANZSPM members only

**Time:** 1530 - 1630 (AEST)

**About:** ANZSPM Members are invited to participate in the Fellows update meeting provided by Dr Michelle Gold the President of the Australasian Chapter of Palliative Medicine Committee.

**Register:** To register for free for this AChPM fellows update meeting, please [click here](#).

### **19 SEPTEMBER 2020**

#### ***Rural & Remote SIG***

**Open to:** Anyone working in or with an interest in rural and remote palliative medicine

**Time:** 0900 – 1000 (AEST)

**About:** For those doctors currently working in a rural or remote location OR with an interest in rural or remote palliative care, you are invited to join the virtual meeting of Rural and Remote special interest group (SIG) during which time we will update on recent activities of the working group and discuss with members how best to provide peer support.

**Register:** To register for free for this SIG meeting, please [click here](#).

### **COVID-19 updates**

#### **Australian COVID-19 Palliative Care Working Group (ACPCWG)**

ANZSPM continues to work with the ACPCWG on supporting the palliative care response to COVID-19 in partnership with Palliative Care Australia (PCA), Palliative Care Nurses Australia (PCNA), the Australasian Chapter of Palliative Medicine (AChPM) of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) and the End of Life Directions for Aged Care (ELDAC) program.

Other ACPCWG-related updates and resources are below:

- Latest ACPCWG newsletter (9 September 2020)
- Previous ACPCWG newsletter (27 August 2020)
- An online hub of resources can be found on the CareSearch website.

#### **ANZSPM COVID-19 Special Interest Group (COVID-19 SIG) guidance documents**

ANZSPM guidance documents developed by the COVID-19 SIG relating to palliative care in the COVID-19 context are available [here](#). With further updates coming soon! ANZSPM members are encouraged to use and distribute these documents at their workplace. You can download the guidance documents [here](#).

#### **NEW: Palliative care flow chart published by National COVID19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce**

On 10 September 2020, the National COVID19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce published its new MANAGEMENT OF PEOPLE WITH COVID-19 WHO ARE RECEIVING PALLIATIVE CARE flowchart.

#### **NZ Taskforce on COVID-19**

COVID-19 related resources for NZ health care professionals can be found hosted on the Hospice NZ website here.

#### **AUS: Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for the health and aged care sector**

The Australian Department of Health regularly provides up-to-date and authoritative information and advice on COVID-19 for the health and aged care sector here.

#### **NZ: Health advice and latest updates on COVID-19**

The Ministry of Health in New Zealand provides regular updates, information and health advice on COVID-19 on its website here.

### **Government News**

#### **AUS: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety releases new research paper**

Royal Commissioners into Aged Care Quality and Safety released a new independent report on aged care providers' financial information which says that there is insufficient financial transparency about the use of funds from Government and people in care, which in 2018–19 totalled approximately \$25 billion. The Royal Commission engaged global professional services firm BDO to analyse the data supplied by aged care providers to the Australian Department of Health. BDO's findings are presented in Research Paper 12 – Report on the profitability and viability of the Australian aged care industry which is available on the Royal Commission's website.

#### **AUS: Australian Department of Health updates end-of-life resource**

The Australian Department of Health has published a revised version of the *What do you want for your end-of-life care* resource. To download and read the new version, click here.

#### **QLD: When someone dies – a new guide for community**

The Queensland government has developed a booklet to provide support and direction for when someone dies. Intended for family and friends, it has information and practical ideas about things to do before and after an adult family member or friend dies. Also available in Arabic, Chinese, Vietnamese, and easy English. For more information, click here.

### **ANZSPM updates**

#### **ANZSPM membership renewals 2020-21**

We have now emailed all members a membership renewal invoice through our Xero accounting system. Thank you to the 392 members who have paid their renewal.

**If you haven't renewed please note that your current membership expired on 30 June 2019 and after 30 September 2019 you will no longer be a financial member of ANZSPM.**

If you have any membership enquiries, please contact us at [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au).

#### **ANZSPM Aotearoa Annual Business Meeting (ABM) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

A reminder to register for the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) of ANZSPM Aotearoa Members to be held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 from 10.30 -11.30am (NZT) by Zoom. [An email was sent out to all NZ members on 7 September with the Agenda for this meeting and registration link. You need to register via that new ZOOM link to get the ABM meeting link!](#)

If you have any queries, please email [nzadmin@anzspm.org.au](mailto:nzadmin@anzspm.org.au).

#### **ANZSPM updates position statement on The Practice of Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide**

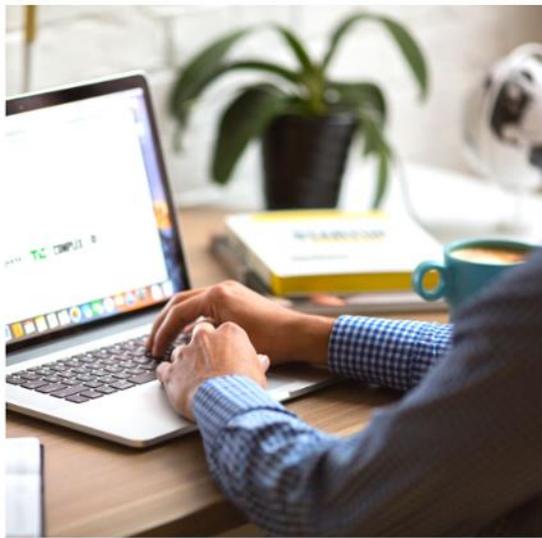
At their August 2020 meeting, the ANZSPM Council agreed to update its Position Statement on The Practice of Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide in terms of references and terminology. It was agreed that the fundamental message will remain unchanged and does not require extensive review.

We recognise there are divergent views within society, the medical profession and the membership, and this will continue to be acknowledged in the Position Statement, which can be accessed here. ANZSPM's Statement on the New Zealand End of Life Choices Act 2019 is consistent with the Position Statement and can be found here.

### ANZSPM Brand Refresh: Get Involved!

We are forming a small working party to assist us with refreshing the ANZSPM brand across all communications platforms. Council member and ANZSPM Newsletter Editor Dr Chi Li will lead the group, which will provide advice on what we want our new look to communicate. Working party members will need to commit to up to three virtual meetings over the coming two months. We'd love to hear from members, old and new! Email [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au) to express interest or request further information.

### ANZSPM webinar series in 2020



## ANZSPM Webinars

via @TheRACP

ANZSPM members are invited to join us for a series of webinars over the next 6 months on:

- Advanced Care Planning & incorporating VAD: the adult & paediatric perspective
- Palliative care in pandemics
- Update on opioids for breathlessness
- Haematology and Palliative Care

**Our Members will be emailed registration details or can contact [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au) to find out more.**

**Not a member? Join now at [anzspm.org.au](http://anzspm.org.au)!**

# ANZSPM

The webinars are supported by the Royal Australasian College of Physician's 2020 webspilot program.

With the support of the RACP, ANZSPM is again able to bring to our members a series of webinars over the next 6 months. Please save the dates for the following ANZSPM webinars with registration details being sent closer to the date:

ANZSPM webinar topic	Speaker	Speaker presentation date & time
Update on opioids for breathlessness	Prof David Currow	28-Oct-20; 6pm AEDT
Haematology and Palliative Care	Dr Rob Weinkove & Dr Zoe McQuilten	24-Nov-20; 6pm AEDT

### Recordings of 2020 ANZSPM webinars

Please note that the ANZSPM webinars are now also available in the Member area of our website under 'past events'!

ANZSPM webinar topic	Speaker	Link to recording on RACP website (RACP member log in required)
Advance Care Planning & incorporating VAD: the adult & paediatric perspective	A/Prof Jenny Hynson & Dr Barbara Hayes	<a href="https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine">https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine</a>

Public Health Palliative Care, including post COVID-19 PHPC directions	Dr Bruce Rumbold	<a href="https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine">https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine</a>
Palliative care during the COVID-19 pandemic - experiences from a busy London hospital	Dr Sabrina Bajwah & Dr Rachel Wiseman	<a href="https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine">https://www.racp.edu.au/fellows/resources/specialty-society-webinar-series/specialty-societies/australian-and-new-zealand-society-of-palliative-medicine</a>

## External survey requests

### **New COVID-19 research survey – seeking voluntary member participation**

ANZSPM has received a request for voluntary participation in a research survey (approx. 15-20 mins) from Dr Nicola Atkin, Palliative Care Physician at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre: **'Future proofing the frontline: Investigating the psychosocial and mental health needs of frontline health workers during COVID-19 and beyond'**.

The survey explores the psychosocial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare workers and is being conducted by a team of clinicians and researchers representing multiple healthcare organisations and universities. As the pandemic has changed our social and work environments in many different ways, we want to hear the experiences of both frontline healthcare workers who *have* and *have not* worked directly with people with COVID-19. This survey is open to all medical, nursing, allied health and other staff working in inpatient and community healthcare settings. However, palliative care is one of the frontline areas we are focusing on and we are particularly interested in your experiences. Your input will inform recommendations to healthcare organisations and other professional bodies so that healthcare workers can be more effectively supported in future.

Please click on the links below to find out more information and commence the survey: <https://covid-19-frontline.com.au> and <https://redcap.link/futureproofing>. If you have any queries or would like further information please contact Dr Nicola Atkin at [nicola.atkin@petermac.org](mailto:nicola.atkin@petermac.org) or A/Prof Natasha Smallwood at [natasha.smallwood@mh.org.au](mailto:natasha.smallwood@mh.org.au)

### **Reminder: Kidney Disease and Frailty survey – seeking voluntary member participation**

A reminder that ANZSPM has received a request for voluntary member participation in a survey (approximately 10 mins to complete) from Dr Alice Kennard, Staff Specialist Nephrologist and Renal Supportive Care Specialist, The Canberra Hospital on **"Perceptions and Practices of Frailty Among Clinicians Involved in the Care of Patients with Advanced Chronic Kidney Disease.**

The purpose of this study is to understand your perceptions and practice patterns regarding frailty screening and how the presence of frailty may impact on treatment decisions. You are eligible to participate in this study as you have been identified as a subspecialist (nephrologist, geriatric medicine specialist or palliative medicine specialist) who may be involved in the care of patients with kidney disease and frailty. We hope you may be able to comment on your own practice patterns. Follow this link to take the Survey: [Take the Survey](#)

If you would like to know more at any stage, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Alice Kennard at email [alice.kennard@act.gov.au](mailto:alice.kennard@act.gov.au)

## Other updates

### **'caring@home for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People' is looking for an advisory committee representative**

ANZSPM was invited to provide a representative to the advisory committee of the 'caring@home for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People', a national palliative care project funded by the Australian Government for the period July 2020-2023. The aim of the project is to improve the quality of palliative care service delivery to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people by modifying existing *caring@home* resources to support Indigenous Australians to be cared for and to die at home, if that is their choice. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to support effective and appropriate consultation and the

overall development of resources to meet the needs of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people over an 18 months period. To nominate yourself as ANZSPM representative, please contact [info@anzspm.org.au](mailto:info@anzspm.org.au) or [ceo@anzspm.org.au](mailto:ceo@anzspm.org.au) for more information including the terms of reference. The nomination has to be submitted by 6 October 2020.

### **'caring@home' updated list of medicines suitable for the management of terminal symptoms in community & residential aged care facilities in Australia**

'caring@home' updated the ANZSPM endorsed list of medicines for use in community and RACFs because of the changes to the PBS. There have been no changes to the medicines, just to the notes section at the bottom of the table. To download the list, [click here](#).

### **Cancer Australia's National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap**

ANZSPM has received an invitation from Cancer Australia to participate in the National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap through a dedicated Consultation Hub. The National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap will identify key priority areas for action over the next five years to improve outcomes for people with pancreatic cancer. It will consider all aspects of the cancer pathway, including prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment, supportive and palliative care. The **Consultation Hub will be open until 30 November 2020** at <https://consultations.health.gov.au/cancer-care/national-pancreatic-cancer-roadmap/>.

### **Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA)'s new learning guide**

PEPA has created a new learning guide for care workers to support understanding around palliative care practice. This guide aims to increase knowledge of palliative care and its benefits for people diagnosed with a life-limiting or terminal illness. It also covers the principles of palliative care and promotes effective communication and advance care planning. Care workers can register to the online course or access the written version of the guide. For more information, [click here](#).

### **ARTICLE: Pediatric palliative care when COVID-19 positive adults are dying in a children's hospital**

*Pediatrics* | Online – 27 August 2020: The presence of a pandemic does not mean that a children's hospital needs to halt or cut back services. In <3 weeks, the Children's Hospital at Montefiore, a 130-bed facility attached to an adult hospital, admitted >150 COVID-19 positive adults to our hospital. All received the services of the deployed pediatric palliative care (PC) team. Before 30 March, there was only 1 PC pediatrician providing service to an entire children's hospital. In the model the authors describe, one specialist was able to provide training and oversight to an entire deployed team and quickly expand services. The team completed >150 new consultations, 700 supportive calls were made, and 38 families received bereavement counselling over 6 weeks. During calls, families often expressed gratitude for our services. The team worked to combat the isolation caused by visitor restrictions, the fear created by an incompletely understood illness, and the heightened demands placed on the standard system of care. This approach may be useful for other children's hospitals that may have similar situations in the near or distant future. PC remains essential to alleviate the suffering of our patients, their families, and frontline providers during this time of great uncertainty and loss. **Full text:** <https://bit.ly/3lqHyzo>

### **ARTICLE: Palliative care utilisation: Family carers' behaviours and determinants: A qualitative interview study**

*BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care* | Online – 31 August 2020: Most research on starting palliative care (PC) focuses on the role of healthcare services and professional carers. However, patients and their family carers may also play a role. Especially opportunities for starting PC might exist among family carers. This study focused on family carers by identifying their behaviours and underlying determinants that might contribute to starting PC. Most reported behaviours regarding starting PC were related to communicating with the seriously ill person, other family members and professional carers; seeking

information and helping the seriously ill person process information from professional carers; and, organising and coordinating care. Determinants facilitating and hindering these behaviours included awareness (e.g., of poor health), knowledge (e.g., concerning PC), attitudes (e.g., negative connotations of PC) and social influences (e.g., important others' opinions about PC). This study identified relevant family carers' behaviours and related determinants that can contribute to starting PC. As these determinants are changeable, the PC behavioural model that resulted from this study can serve as a basis for the development of behavioural interventions aiming at supporting family carers in performing behaviours that might contribute to starting PC. **Abstract:** <https://bit.ly/3gLguav>

## Upcoming Events

**Please note:** In light of the evolving situation around the current COVID-19 pandemic, many events previously promoted in our eNews may have been postponed, cancelled or moved to a virtual format. ANZSPM recommends members check this directly with event organisers!

### **Oxford Centre for Education and Research in Palliative Care: ADVANCED COURSE WEBCASTS | multiple dates for 2020**

The Oxford Centre for Education and Research in Palliative Care in the UK is bringing you education of high quality from great speakers. For more information visit <https://www.sobelleducation.org.uk/our-courses/>

### **Compassionate Schools seminar by UB Compassionate Communities center of expertise (COCO) | Wednesday 23 September 2020 1-4pm (CET), via ZOOM**

For more information and to register, please contact Sarah Dury at [sdury@vub.be](mailto:sdury@vub.be)

### **The International Society of Geriatric Oncology (SIOG) 2020 Annual Conference | 1-3 October 2020 | Geneva, Switzerland**

Please note this conference has been cancelled but a remote meeting will be held instead. Please visit website at <https://siog.org/content/siog-2020-annual-conference-0>

### **23<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Palliative Care | 13-16 October | Montreal, Canada**

For more information visit at <http://palliativecare.ca>

### **EUROPALL2020: European Conference on Controversies in Palliative Care | 29-30 Oct 2020 | Munich, Germany** More information is at <https://europall2020.com>

### **PAIN2020 Virtual Meeting | 14-15 November 2020**

More information available at [www.dccconferences.com.au/pain2020](http://www.dccconferences.com.au/pain2020) or @PAIN2020SYD on Twitter.

### **Palliative Care Nurses Australia Conference | 22-23 Nov 2020 | Pullman Albert Park, Melbourne VIC**

More information at <https://www.pcna2020.org/>

### **Ō tātou hiranga | What matters to us - shared decision-making and advance care planning virtual hui | 2-3 December 2020**

The NZ Health Quality & Safety Commission is hosting a shared decision-making and advance care planning virtual hui for health care workers and managers. More information at <https://hqsc.eventsair.com/acp2020/>

## 2021

### **Australian Pain Society 41st Annual Scientific Meeting | 18-21 April 2021 | National Convention Centre, Canberra**

More information at [dcconferences.com.au/aps2021/](https://dcconferences.com.au/aps2021/)

**7th Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium | 24-25 May 2021 | Alice Springs, NT**  
<https://www.ruralhealth.org.au/7rrhss/>

## Careers

For the latest positions advertised on the ANZSPM website – visit the ANZSPM Careers pages for details!

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