

End of life care: Supporting community and primary healthcare nurses

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Primary care and palliative care
What is CareSearch?
What is the Nurses Hub?
Is it useful?

Palliative care

- Cure is not the goal of care
- Physical, psychosocial, care planning elements
- Referral based, co-morbidity, multidisciplinary
- Patient and family as unit of care
- Care provided in many settings
- Many health professionals
- Often a family carer



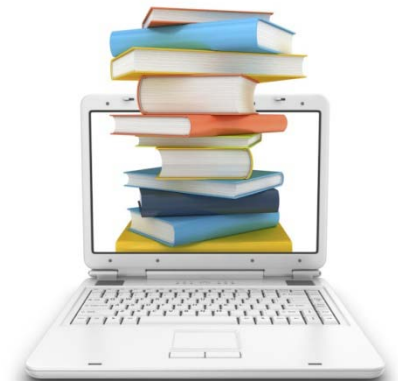
Palliative care in the community

- At home/Across settings
 - Specialist services, Other Clinical specialist services, Acute hospital, RACFs, Community, Rural and remote
- Different roles
 - Generalist (RN, EN), Clinical specialist, Nurse practitioner
- Multidisciplinary team



The expanding evidence base

- Evidence and guidance is growing.
 - 75 trials & 11 systematic reviews being published every day [Bastian et al, 2010]
- How do individuals, services and systems know about, find, select what is important and ensure its use?
 - e.g. Family caregiver psychosocial and bereavement support guidelines; COMPAC Guidelines; EAPC Pain systematic reviews/guidelines



What is CareSearch?

- Funded by Australian Government under National Palliative Care Program
 - Those providing palliative care
 - Those needing palliative care and their families, carers and friends
- Website and online resources
- Knowledge Translation framework
 - Facilitate access to, and use of, evidence in practice





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Welcome to CareSearch. CareSearch is an online resource of palliative care information and evidence. All materials included in this website are reviewed for quality and relevance.

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What is Palliative Care



For Patients and Families



Finding Services



Clinical Practice



Finding Evidence



Education



Research Resources



Professional Groups



About CareSearch

Proudly linked to:



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CareSearch is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing as part of the National Palliative Care Program.

This page was created on 26 May 2008. This website was last updated on 01 July 2011

Why a Hub?

Initial work

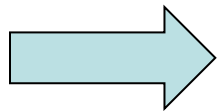
- Consolidating palliative care evidence base

Diverse set of health professionals

- Core responsibility, part of role, occasional role

Diversity of settings

- Community, rural, aged care, hospital, specialist



Different knowledge configurations

Why a Nurses Hub?

- Largest group of health care providers
- Nurses in all care settings
- Palliative care is being provided in primary and community settings
- Nurses want access to evidence and practice information that meets their needs



What is a Hub?

- Discrete set of content and resources that meets information and practice needs of a particular professional group
- Priority to resources developed for the specific context or environment
- Information and resources organised for easy and rapid use

CareSearch Nurses Hub

- Resource within a resource
- Pages written for nurses, reviewed by nurses
- Built on evidence
- Making evidence active
- Focus and context of the content and resources is “for nurses”



Developing the Nurses Hub

- CareSearch Quality Processes
- Content Identification
 - CareSearch Evaluation
 - Review of systematic reviews on nurses and palliative care
 - Review of existing clinical and care content
 - Web search for useful online resources
- Development Group
 - Nurses Hub Working Group
- Internal review
 - National Advisory Group
- User testing
- External peer review
 - Palliative Care Nurses Australia
- Ongoing monitoring and updating
- Nurses[HUB]news Advisory Group

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 - Working With Families
 - Communication
 - Complementary Therapies
 - Ethical Issues
 - Multi Disciplinary Team

Ethical Issues

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Ethical Issues

Much of the daily work of nurses in end of life care could perhaps be thought of as overlaid with ethical issues. This may be in relation to concerns that are raised, or with requests or decisions that are made. This section provides information and resources on some of the ethical issues that nurses can encounter in end-of-life care.



Review Collection [Ethics](#)

- > [Resuscitation](#)
- > [Nutrition and Hydration](#)
- > [Research](#)
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Primary care / community

Palliative care patients at the end of life will often spend the majority of their time at home. Many people if asked would say they would like to stay at home for as long as possible. Many would also like to die at home. When at home they will be cared for by a GP, community nurses and sometimes practice nurses. Family and friends will also often be involved. Specialist palliative care services may or may not be involved in their care during this time.



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Review Collection
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[Site of care](#)

PubMed Search Topics
[General Practitioners](#)
[Models of Service Delivery](#)
[Living Alone](#)
[Rural and Remote Health](#)

Resources

- > Palliative Care Australia resources:
 - Position statement: [Primary healthcare and end of life](#)
 - Power point presentation: [Palliative Care & Primary Care: An overview of selected resources to support Primary Care Providers in Palliative Care](#)
- > The Australian General Practice Network has extensive information, resources and training packages for [Practice Nurses](#)
- > AGPN also has a [Rural Palliative Care Program Resource toolkit](#)
- > The Australian Government Cancer Learning website has [Primary Care](#) resources
- > Advocates for improved recognition of the role of primary care in the delivery of palliative care: [The International Primary Palliative Care Research Group](#)
- > From the Caring Communities Program: Project Summaries [Rural and Remote](#)
- > From the WA Government: [Aboriginal Primary Care Resource Kit](#)
- > [The Gold Standards Framework](#) (GSF) in the UK is a systematic approach to optimising the care for patients nearing the end of life delivered by generalist providers. It has an

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General Resources

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General Resources

There are many resources within CareSearch and elsewhere that can support nurses in their work. Some of these are listed here:

General Resources

- > Department of Health and Ageing website
[Palliative Care resources](#)
- > Cancer Learning website
[Supportive care resources](#)
- > Medical Dictionary
[Medline Medical Dictionary](#)
[NHS Choices: Health A-Z](#)



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Nurses Hub

[Prescribing Resources](#)

State Based Resources

CareSearch [Finding Services](#) pages

Disease specific Resources

About the nurses[HUB]news

- Prompt and a resource
 - Free and online
- Monthly update
 - What's news
 - Free full text review or clinical trial
 - Highlight an online resource
- Bimonthly focus topic (e.g. aged care, heart failure, supporting carers)
- Nurses Views

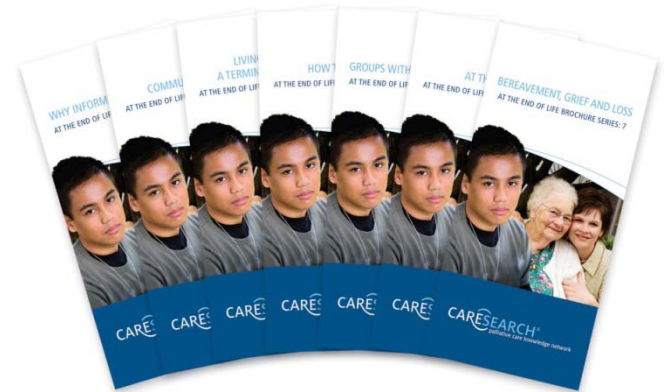


So, is the Nurses Hub useful?

- Web usage
 - Nurses Hub: 101,388 page views in 10/11 or 278 page views a day
- Nurses Hub Evaluation
 - Online user survey (n=233) and stakeholder interviews (n=11)
 - 98% of survey respondents would recommend Hub
 - 30% believed Nurses[HUB] had helped them to make changes to palliative care practice in their service
 - All stakeholder interviewees thought that the Nurses[HUB] was a useful direction for CareSearch.
- Nurses[HUB]news
 - Over 1,000 subscribers

Other resources for primary care

- GP Hub
 - Practical information and resources for general practice
- PubMed Search Filters
 - Shortcut to literature
 - Free full text limit
- Patient & Carer Resources



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Following up the Bereaved

[When to Refer \(Bereaved\)](#)

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What's New!
[Guidelines for the ethical management of people with advanced chronic or terminal conditions in the final months of life](#)
NHMRC document

[Life, Hope & Reality](#)
Resources for patients with advanced cancer

[eviQ Opioid Calculator](#)
Conversion calculator helps to manage patients on opioids.

Summary

- The Nurses Hub provides instant access to profession appropriate palliative care evidence and resources
- A related hub (Aged Care Facilities) is planned for release in 2012
- Other useful primary care resources are available on CareSearch



CareSearch would like to thank the many people who contribute their time and expertise to the project including members of the National Advisory Group and the Knowledge Network Management Group.

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