

# PALLIATIVE CARE IN PRISONS PROJECT

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in partnership with  
UTS: IMPACCT



## Message from Project Lead

PROFESSOR JANE PHILLIPS

Welcome to Issue 17 of the Palliative Care in Prisons (PiP) Project Newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to the Palliative Care in Prisons project. We have reached a critical milestone in developing the National Framework for the delivery of palliative care for people in prisons, with the launch of our [third and final Delphi survey round](#). If you have received an invitation, I encourage you to complete the survey as soon as possible. If you expected to be included but haven't received an invitation, please don't hesitate to contact us, and we will send you the Delphi survey link. Your perspectives are invaluable in ensuring that this National Framework reflects the principles critical to providing people in prison with access to the best palliative care, regardless of jurisdictional setting.

Our most recent Community of Practice session featured our palliative care colleagues, Imogen Eastwood and Maria O'Neil from the UK, who are working to strengthen palliative care in prisons within the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust. As part of this work, they have produced 'Dying in Prison: A Dignified End', a short video presenting the reality of dying in a UK prison with palliative care needs. Their willingness to share their experiences and insights into palliative care in prisons was both generous and inspiring. Although we couldn't record the session due to the use of a copyrighted film, the team are happy for interested groups to reach out to them to arrange an alternative viewing of this film.

Maria O'Neil has also agreed to join us at the 24<sup>th</sup> [November Community of Practice](#), where she will present on how she is using SPICCT4All in prisons within the Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust to proactively screen for people with likely palliative care needs.

And finally, our Qstream (spaced education) palliative care in prisons learning module is now available nationally. If you lead a unit or service, you can enrol your team or join directly. This resource consists of bite-sized, case-based learning content and is designed for the real-world constraints of correctional health. Just reach out to [pip.project@qut.edu.au](mailto:pip.project@qut.edu.au) to access this new learning module.

Until next time,  
Jane Phillips, Project Lead

# NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The third and final round of the Delphi survey is now open, and invitations have been sent out.

It is significantly shorter and more focused than the earlier rounds. Your input is crucial for refining and confirming the 80 suggested principles to be included in the National Framework, which have been refined during the previous two Delphi rounds.

By completing this final Delphi survey, you will help to ensure that the National Framework captures practical, evidence-based, and culturally responsive strategies for providing palliative care in Australian prisons.

If you have not received an invitation and would like to contribute please contact us at [pip.project@qut.edu.au](mailto:pip.project@qut.edu.au)

## CAPACITY BUILDING



Over the next 12 months, the Project will deliver a range of activities designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of correctional services and justice health professionals and encouraging their active participation.

### *Q STREAM*

In partnership with industry stakeholders, the project has finalised the development of an online spaced-education package for correctional services personnel on palliative care in prison. Drawing on input from the November 2024 Capacity Building Workshop, co-designed case studies have been refined and incorporated into the learning module. Please contact [pip.project@qut.edu.au](mailto:pip.project@qut.edu.au) if you would like to trial this learning content in your organisation. The project team will provide full support during the trial.

### *Palliative Care Education and Training Collaborative: Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA).*

The PiP team recently hosted a one-day workshop with representatives from Corrections and Justice Health to explore the complexities of providing palliative care in prison settings. The aim was to equip PEPA/IPEPA (<https://pepaeducation.com/>) with the knowledge required to design and deliver education that is both timely and tailored to the realities of correctional settings.

### *COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE*

Our Community of Practice sessions will continue in 2025-2026, fostering knowledge sharing and meaningful discussion. Planned topics include grief and bereavement, as well as case studies from different jurisdictions to highlight diverse models of care across Australia. The next Community of Practice focusing on screening for palliative care needs will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November.

Calendar invitations will be distributed in the coming weeks.

If you have topic suggestions or would like to serve as a panel member in 2025, please contact [pip.project@qut.edu.au](mailto:pip.project@qut.edu.au)

## Community of Practice Recording Links

Below is a list of previous communities of practice, offering valuable opportunities to collaborate, learn, and exchange knowledge. Explore these groups to enhance your professional development and stay connected within your field.

### 1. Voluntary Assisted Death and Implications for Australian Prison (22nd February, 2024);

Presenters: Penny Neller & Dr Andrew Wiley

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/6ah3CBI0xh4>

### 2. Providing Culturally Safe Palliative Care in Prison: Is This Possible? (6th June, 2024);

Presenters: Dr Christine Sanderson, Professor Megan Williams & Cheryl Porter

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/dNIZwz6G-e4>

### 3. Pain Management in Prison (25th July, 2024);

Presenters: Dr Emma Burns, Belinda Hirschbichler, Professor Nick Lintzeris & Dr Mica Spasojevic

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/MNu98g37JrA>

### 4. In Reach Models of Palliative Care for People in Prison - The WA experience (28th August, 2024);

Presenters: Dr Fermin Blanco Mayo & Dr Paula Moffat

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/C2QbI13bKrk>

### 5. Anxiety and depression in the context of palliative care in prisons (10th October, 2024);

Presenters: Professor Andrew Teodorczuk, Cindy Stoupas & Dr Andrew Watt

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/0wHFMPJWGsk>

### 6. Establishing interdisciplinary palliative care in prisons (21st November 2024);

Presenters: Hannah Bodrozic, Catherine Mcloughlin, Alice Finch, Amy Haughey & Mark Thorsby

Link to recording: <https://youtu.be/NPbvjzoF000>

### 7. Palliative Care in Prisons – Victorian model (5<sup>th</sup> March 2025);

Presenters: Dr Tamsin Bryan

Link to recording: [https://youtu.be/GVsl\\_Asa8s](https://youtu.be/GVsl_Asa8s)

### 8. SPIC4ALL in prisons (24<sup>th</sup> November 2025)

Presenter: Maria O'Neil

## PALLIMEDS APP



The pallIMEDS app helps primary care prescribers deliver effective symptom management for patients receiving palliative care in the community.

It provides evidence-based prescribing information on medicines identified by clinicians across Australia as most useful for managing common symptoms in people receiving home-based palliative care during the final weeks of life.

Prescribers can search by symptom or medicine, access dosing guidance and clinical considerations, use the opioid conversion calculator, and check Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listings, all within the app.



Here is a selection of recent publications that highlight key developments and emerging insights. Explore these resources to stay informed and enhance your professional practice.

*In this powerful piece from About Time, Sam Harris challenges us to re-examine how our prison system honours the humanity of those nearing life's end, urging a compassionate, culturally respectful approach to end-of-life behind bars*

## [End-of-Life Care in Prisons: A Call for Compassion](#)

*The National Core Community Palliative Care Medicines List identifies four medicines to manage common symptoms in the terminal phase for home-based patients requiring urgent symptom relief.*

## [The National Core Community Palliative Care Medicines List](#)

## [The 12<sup>th</sup> Health & Justice Summit](#)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
Nottingham, United Kingdom.

## [10<sup>th</sup> Annual Future Justice & Corrections Summit](#)

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
Melbourne, Australia.

## PROJECT LEAD

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PALLIATIVE CARE  
IN PRISONS PROJECT

In partnership with:

## SPHERE

Sydney Partnership for  
Health, Education,  
Research and Enterprise



Maridulu Budyari Gumatj  
Working together for good health and wellbeing

## NEXT MEETINGS

National Consortia Project  
Advisory Group  
Tuesday 21st October 2025  
13:00-14:30 AEST



Correctional/ Justice Health  
Services Working Group  
Tuesday 26 November 2025  
11:00-12:30 AEST



Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Community  
Engagement Strategy  
Working Group  
TBA



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