

## Standard 3

This resource maps CareSearch resources, evidence and knowledge to the National Palliative Care Standards and the NSAP Quality Elements. CareSearch has developed this resource to assist Services to develop their Quality Improvement Action Plan based on their Key Improvement Area priorities identified at the end of their NSAP self assessment snapshot.

### **When to use this resource:**

After you have completed your NSAP self assessment snapshot you will receive your NSAP Self Assessment Interim Report and Results Report. Your next NSAP steps are to create a Quality Improvement Action Plan (QIAP) based on these reports, your strategic plan, latest palliative care evidence and other quality programs you are involved in (eg PCOC) . This resource assists your Service to source the latest evidence for the quality improvement initiatives your Service will undertake, the main goal is to prevent Services 'reinventing the wheel'.

### **How to use this resource:**

This resource includes some suggested reading and resources that may assist your Service to develop your Quality Improvement Action Plan. Evidence on relevant Standards is found within the Systematic Review Collection, the PubMed Topic Searches and the Clinical Practice Pages. Always consider the GP hub, Allied Health and Nurses' hub for further relevant or contextual information. Refer patients and families to relevant pages or resources written especially for them.

### Instructions for use:

- Electronically go straight to the hyperlinks for the information
- As a hard copy use the words underlined in the search engine in CareSearch

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Standard 3: Ongoing and comprehensive **assessment** and care planning are undertaken to meet the needs and wishes of the patient, their caregiver/s and family.

National Palliative Care Standard		Relevant Evidence (to read)	
Standard 3		<a href="#">CareSearch Review Collection</a> : eg Symptoms, Symptom and Clinical Dilemmas, Needs Assessment, Tools and Measures  <a href="#">Palliative Care PubMed Searches</a> : eg Symptoms, Audit	
NSAP Quality Element	Location of health professional resources (to read)	Location of consumer resources (to recommend)	Things that you can do
<b>3.1</b>	The regular assessment of pain and other symptoms (including but not limited to shortness of breath, nausea, fatigue and weakness, anorexia, insomnia, anxiety, depression, confusion and constipation) is documented in the patient record. Validated instruments, where available, should be used to undertake clinical assessment.	Clinical Evidence / <a href="#">Patient management</a> has information on Physical, Psychological, Social and Spiritual symptoms	
<b>3.2</b>	Validated instruments are used to undertake clinical assessment (cross reference with 2.5).	Clinical Evidence / Service Delivery Evidence / <a href="#">Audit</a>	Consider the PCOC suite of tools in the audit pages
<b>3.3</b>	Response to patient reports of symptom related distress is timely and actions are documented.	For Patients, Carers and Families / Living With Illness / Why is Communication Important / <a href="#">Communicating With Health Professionals</a>	Refer GPs to the GP pages for information and resources on symptom control

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NSAP Quality Element		Location of health professional resources (to read)	Location of consumer resources (to recommend)	Things that you can do
<b>3.4</b>	Regular re-evaluation of the effectiveness of treatment is undertaken and includes patient and family feedback. Results are documented.			Consider the PCOC or NSAP family feedback tools
<b>3.5</b>	Patient phase changes are assessed and documented.	Clinical Evidence / Service Delivery Evidence/ Audit / <a href="#">PCOC</a>		
<b>3.6</b>	The family's understanding of the patient's condition is routinely assessed and documented.	Clinical Evidence / Family and Carer Evidence / <a href="#">Resources for, and about, carers</a>	For Patients, Carers and Families/ Living With Illness / <a href="#">Symptoms, Changes Over Time, Course of Illness</a>	
<b>3.7</b>	The capacity of the family to secure supports required to meet their needs is routinely assessed.	Clinical Evidence / Family and Carer Evidence / <a href="#">Supporting Carers</a>	For Patients, Carers and Families / How to Care / <a href="#">Getting Practical Help</a>	The Needs Assessment Tool for caregivers and patients might be useful. For Patients, Carers and Families / Projects Supporting Consumers/ Life Hope Reality / <a href="#">Useful Assessment Tools</a>

*NSAP would like to acknowledge CareSearch for the work in developing this resource.*