Study Title: Evaluation of the Rural Palliative Care Program

Brief description of the study: The Rural Palliative Care (RPC) Program aims to build upon the evidence-base originally arising from the Griffith Area Palliative Care Service (GAPS) Pilot program. It is an attempt to implement models of care that translate the National Palliative Care Strategy into integrated services that work for rural Australia. In particular, it seeks to demonstrate that enhanced access to an integrated palliative care service for terminally ill people, their carers and families is achievable and sustainable within a rural context.

The evaluation involves the evaluation of the Rural Palliative Care Program and each of the eight individual Projects that will be funded within the Program. In order to carry this out, An evaluation framework has been developed that operates on three levels as follows:

Level 1 Impact on, and outcomes for, consumers (patients, families, carers, friends, communities)
Level 2 Impact on, and outcomes for, providers (professionals, volunteers, organisations)
Level 3 Impact on, and outcomes for, the system (structures and processes, networks, relationships)

Study Methodology: (Please mark with an x which type of study methodology)

- Epidemiology
- X Health Services / Health Economics / Quality Improvement
- X Qualitative, Observational or Descriptive
- X Mixed Method
- Systematic Review
- Intervention: RCT
- Intervention: Comparative or cohort study
- Intervention: Case series

Project details

Funding source (Optional): The Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing

Has the study received ethics approval? X Yes  No  Not applicable

Project starting date: October 2003

Project completion date: April 2007

Multi site: X Yes  No  Not applicable

RESEARCHERS

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**Associated publications / reports:**

n/a

**Topics:** Conducting Research, Rural / Remote