CareSearch Project Research Studies Register: Registration Proforma	0178

Study Title: Northern Hospice Feasibility Study, Final Report, Department of Health and Human Services Tasmania

Brief description of the study: This report investigates and provides recommendations about the feasibility of establishing a dedicated hospice in Northern Tasmania. BACKGROUND: As part of its pre-election commitments the Tasmanian Liberal Government committed to fund an independent feasibility study into a purpose-built hospice for Northern Tasmania, located in Launceston. Grosvenor Management Consulting was engaged by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to undertake this feasibility study. The study was conducted to determine the need for a dedicated hospice service in Northern Tasmania and examined a range of factors, including, but not limited to: • current, unmet and future demand for hospice care in Northern Tasmania • existing hospice and palliative care services in the region • the capacity of existing services to meet the community need and demand. APPROACH: Alternative service delivery models for the provision of palliative care in Northern Tasmania were identified and analysed against eight feasibility criteria established as part of the study. The feasibility study was informed by extensive consultation and data collection activities and a desktop review of relevant standards, guidelines and approaches to providing palliative care. Consultation activities were conducted in two phases in November 2015 and January 2016, with input received from numerous health professionals, community members, interest groups and professional bodies. OUTCOMES: The report describes and analyses a number of possible models for the delivery of hospice services in Northern Tasmania and presents twelve conclusions and eight recommendations about the most feasible approach. The study found the ongoing operation of palliative care suites in rural hospitals and continued operation of the Melwood Unit at Calvary Hospital to be the most feasible option at the current time

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

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

Project details:

Funding source (Optional): Tasmanian Liberal Government

Has the study received ethics approval?		Yes		No	**X**	Not applicable
Project starting date: November 2015						
Project completion date: April 2016						
Multi site:	**X**	Yes		No		Not applicable
Researchers						
Principal Investigator (name) **Dana Cross**						
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Investigator B (Name) Georgina Roberts						
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Investigator E (Name)						
Associated publications / reports:						
Topics (Admin only) Models of service delivery, Policy						