



Palliative Care
New South Wales

2026 State Conference PROGRAM

19 – 21 October | Sydney Masonic Centre

(Draft and subject to change)

2026 STATE CONFERENCE

19–21 October
Sydney Masonic Centre



The Program Highlights

5 Pre-Conference Workshops and Panels (19th October)

Welcome Reception (19th October)

Engaging Keynote & Plenary Speakers

12 Different Concurrent Streams

40 Concurrent Presentations

16 Poster Pitches

4 Learning Labs

20+ Posters

Diverse content and topics

Interactive exhibition and catering space

Celebration Dinner (20th October)

Conference Venue

Sydney Masonic Centre

66 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000

MONDAY 19th OCTOBER

Pre-Conference Tours & Workshops / Panels

Welcome Reception

Attendance included for all registered full delegates (excluding single day registrations)

10:00am	Pre-Conference Tours (TBA)	
1:00pm	Registration Opens Ground Floor Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre	
Pre-Conference Workshops / Panels Commence		
1:15 – 2:45pm	Panel 1	Workshop 1
	WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT THIS ENOUGH: COMMUNITY VOICES ON DEATH, GRIEF AND CARE Led by Danni Petkovic, Liminal Being Jill Nash, Community Advocate and Volunteer, Ageing and Dying Well Advocate Sally Douglas, Good Mourning Richard Boele, Father, Bereaved Parent and Lived Experience Advocate John Milham, Men's Wellbeing Advocate, Compassionate Connector, Men's Coach, Suicide Prevention Trainer	USING THE PALLIATIVE CARE SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL TO REFLECT ON THE NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE STANDARDS Led by Palliative Care Australia
Afternoon Tea Break Ground Floor Foyer		

3:15 – 5:15pm	Workshop 2	Workshop 3	Workshop 4
	JUST INCLUDE ME: SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY WITH PALLIATIVE CARE, DYING AND GRIEF Led by David Pech, Council for Intellectual Disability	WHEN WORDS MATTER MOST: COMMUNICATION AND CULTURAL SAFETY IN PALLIATIVE CARE Led by Una Turalic, Northern Sydney Local Health District & NSW Transcultural Mental Health Centre David Gillet, Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District	EVIDENCE-BASED THERAPIES FOR BREATHLESSNESS ARE ALL NON- PHARMACOLOGICAL – HERE’S HOW YOU USE THEM Led by Mary Roberts, Westmead Hospital Associate Professor Tim Luckett, University of Technology Sydney (UTS) IMPACCT (Centre for Improving Palliative, Aged and Chronic Care through Clinical Research and Translation) Dr Ester Klimkeit, Westmead Hospital Heather Stephenson, Westmead Hospital Muneeba Chaudhry, IMPACCT, University of Technology Sydney Dr Tracy Smith, Westmead Hospital Bronwen Hewitt, Liverpool Hospital
5:30pm	Welcome Reception Commences Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre		
7:00pm	Welcome Reception Concludes		

TUESDAY 20th OCTOBER

Day 1 Conference Sessions

Celebration Dinner

Celebration Dinner attendance included for all registered full delegates (excluding single day registrations)

8:30am	Registration Opens Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre
9:00am	Conference Day 1 Commences Official Opening Session Grand Lodge Welcome to Country Opening Keynote: Culture, Connection and Voice <i>This immersive and powerful story, told by the team from the Mid North Coast Local Health District and the family involved, highlights the importance of culturally responsive, person-centred palliative care in supporting an Aboriginal man's wish to return to Country at the end of life. Through collaboration, advocacy and partnership with family and services, Ben's journey demonstrates the profound impact of honouring cultural identity, connection to Country and individual choice, ensuring dignity, comfort and cultural safety during his final days.</i> Storytellers Allison McLaughlin, Nurse Practitioner, Palliative Care, Mid North Coast Local Health District Cynthia Younie, Senior Aboriginal Health Worker, Palliative Care, Mid North Coast Local Health District Aunty Jacqueline Smith (Ben's aunty), Kristy Fernando (Ben's sister), and Renshaya Sines (Ben's daughter), South West Rocks Figtree descendants.
10:30am	Morning Tea Banquet & Exhibition Hall
11:00am	Plenary Session Grand Lodge
12:30pm	Lunch Banquet & Exhibition Hall

1:30pm	Concurrent Sessions			
	Stream 1 <i>Complex Minds, Compassionate Care</i>	Stream 2 <i>Connected Care: Models & Partnerships</i>	Stream 3 <i>Palliative Care in Aged Care</i>	Stream 4 <i>Supportive Care: Beyond the Hospital</i>
1:30pm (Poster Pitch)	Bridging Mind and Body at the End of Life: Embedding Psychiatry within an Australian Palliative Care Program - Shalini Rajan, Supportive Care for Chronic Disease, Hunter New England Local Health District	Bridging the Gap – A Review of Specialist Nurse Practitioner Support in a Rural Hospital Setting - Teresa Gillies, Shoalhaven Specialist Palliative Care	Responding to An Ageing Population: System-Level Redesign of Palliative Care in Residential Aged Care Homes - Susan Jenkins, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District	The Missing Piece – The Value of Palliative Care Volunteers - Janet Pearce, Far West Local Health District
1:35pm	Holding Complexity: Trauma, Illness and Continuity in Care at the End of Life - Sarah Pullen, Hunter New England Local Health District	Co-Designing an Innovative Oral Health Model of Care for Palliative Care Nurses: An Australian First - Vipin Jain, Western Sydney University	Implementing PACOP to Improve Palliative Care Outcomes in Residential Aged Care - Renee Millen, Palliative Aged Care Outcomes Program (PACOP) – University of Wollongong	‘Fixing the Fixables’. Supportive and Hospital-in-the-Home Services, Working Together - Clare Jones, St George Hospital
2:00pm	Person-Centred Care in a Siloed Health System: Complexity of Mental Health - Donna Waters, Community Palliative Care, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District	‘From Palm Beach to Eden’ A Collaborative Partnership Enabling After-Hours Telehealth Support in Southern NSW - Sevi Russell-Williams, HammondCare Brigid White, Southern NSW Local Health District	When Dying Isn’t Dying: Reassessing Decline in Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease in Aged Care - Natividad Miles, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	Ticking Off the Bucket List – Managing Chronic Illness in the Community - Clare Jones, St George Hospital

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2:25pm	Exploring Associations Between Pain Burden and Psychosocial Distress in a Rural NSW Palliative Care Population - Felicity Bates, Mid North Coast Local Health District	Improving Palliative Care in Aged Care Settings: Implementation of Needs Rounding on the Central Coast - Megan Whittington, Central Coast Local Health District Janice Spinley, Central Coast Palliative Care Service	Collaborative Multidisciplinary Care Enabling End of Life Care for a Patient with MND in Residential Aged Care - Donna Berry, Calvary Hospital Kogarah	What Matters Most? Transforming Care in Advanced Non-Malignant Chronic Disease - Sarah Pullen, Hunter New England Local Health District
2:50pm (Poster Pitch)	Storytelling at End of Life: Evaluating the Establishment of Volunteer-Led Biography Programs in Palliative Care - Professor Megan Best, University of Notre Dame	Redefining End-of-Life Care: A Clinically Supported Relational Care Model for Integrated Community-Based Systems - Anne Kubiak, Full Circle – End of Life Matters	Syringe Drivers in Residential Aged Care Facilities for Palliative Patients - Juan Cabredo, Prince of Wales Hospital	Integrating Palliative Care into Nephrology: A 10-Year Renal Supportive Care Experience - Natividad Miles, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
2:55pm	Afternoon Tea Banquet & Exhibition Hall			
3:30pm	Concurrent Sessions			
	Stream 1 <i>Managing Complexity</i>	Stream 2 <i>Care Models & Outcomes</i>	Stream 3 <i>Comprehensive Care at End of Life</i>	Stream 4 <i>Person Centred Dementia Care</i>
3:30pm (Poster Pitch)	Feasibility-Testing a Co-Designed Breathlessness Episode Recovery Plan for People with COPD and Their Support Persons - Tim Lockett, University of Technology Sydney	'Safer at Home': Nurse Practitioner-Led Model Strengthening Community Nursing Partnerships in After Hours Palliative Care - Carmen Sanchez, Northern Sydney Home Nursing Service	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>

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3:35pm	Local Error to Statewide Change: Transforming Clonazepam Safety - Joey Chan, Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)	PCOC Version 4: Strengthening Measurement in Palliative Care to Advance Equity and Access - Le-Tisha Kable, Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration	Sowing Seeds of Healing: Evaluation of a Bereaved Parent Peer Mentor Program - Naomi Mason, LadyBird Care Foundation	Unequal Burdens: Socioeconomic Disadvantage in Dementia Care and Caregiving - Joanne Lewis, Avondale University and University of Technology Sydney Deborah Parker, University of Technology Sydney Kristin Bindley, University of NSW and University of Technology Sydney
4:00pm	Delirium-Related Distress in Palliative Care Patients, Family Carers and Health Professionals: A Qualitative Concept Analysis - Kimberley Campbell, University of Technology Sydney	The Establishment of a New Specialist Community Palliative Care Service - Trish Sutton and Charlene Casey, Prince of Wales Hospital	Reframing What Matters: The Evidence for Palliative Rehabilitation - Deidre Morgan, Flinders University	The Art of Being With: Patient and Family Centred Care in an Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice - Anna Blechinger and Sophia Melocco Hill, Adolescent and Young Adult Hospice (AYAH)
4:25pm	When Crisis Meets Compassion: Palliative Care-Emergency Services Partnership in an Unpredictable Case - Julie Howard, HammondCare	Evaluating a Tailored Model of Palliative Care for People with Intellectual Disability - Dr Tawanwart Thipayawat, University of NSW Sydney	<i>TBC</i>	Experiences and Benefits of Elder Clowning for Families of Persons with Dementia in Long-Term Care - Sara-Jane Roberts, University of Technology Sydney

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4:55pm (Poster Pitch)	Hospital in the Home for Palliative Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities - Michelle Leung-Cheng, Calvary Healthcare Kogarah	Pharmaceutical Society of Australia National Palliative Care Project Service Model Pilots - Megan Tremlett, Pharmaceutical Society of Australia	Enhancing Nutrition Care in Rural Palliative Services: A Virtual Model for Equitable Dietetic Support - Leanne Baulch, Murrumbidgee Local Health District	<i>TBC</i>
5:00pm	Conference Day 1 Concludes			
6:30pm	Celebration Dinner Commences			

Make sure to visit the Poster Display Area during conference breaks

Poster Pitch presentations will have their poster on display.

The following additional posters will also be on display:

Carer-Led Ascites Drainage: Empowering Families, Improving Quality of Life

Off-Site Planning Strengthening Continuity and Service Development in Palliative Care

Southern NSW Local Health District End of Life, Death and Bereavement – A Guide for Patients, Families and Friends

Two Lives, One Journey: Embedding Carer Support into Care for Advanced Non-Malignant Chronic Disease

Implementation of Integrated Palliative Care Outcome Scale (IPOS) into Palliative Care Clinics

Paramedic Capability in End of Life and Palliative Care in NSW

All Hands on Deck – Managing Chronic Illness in the Community

Inclusive and Equitable Palliative Care: A Case Study Highlighting Cultural Safety for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Communities (Nepali)

Supportive Care for Patients with High Grade Gliomas

Reducing Residential Aged Care Hospitalisations at End-of-Life: Implementing a Palliative Approach

WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER

Day 2 Conference Sessions

8:30am	Registration Opens Marble Foyer, Sydney Masonic Centre			
9:00am	Conference Day 2 Commences Plenary Session Grand Lodge			
10:30am	Morning Tea Banquet & Exhibition Hall			
11:00am	Concurrent Sessions			
	Stream 1 <i>Death Literacy & Advance Care Planning</i>	Stream 2 <i>Innovations in Systems and Supports</i>	Stream 3 <i>Growing & Supporting the Workforce</i>	Stream 4 <i>Better Access, Better Experience</i>
11:00am	Working Together to Strengthen Death Literacy & Education in Regional and Rural Communities - Maria Cambitzi , HammondCare Shannon Elwell , Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network	Preliminary Data Regarding Equipment Supporting Palliative Patients to Live Safely at Home - Greg Foremann , HealthShare NSW / EnableNSW	Learning Experiences of Nursing Students in Palliative and End of Life Care - Lisa Wong , Western Sydney University (Paramatta South Campus)	Caring Together: Co-Designing a Culturally Safe Paediatric Palliative Care Resource - Annette Vickery , Palliative Care Australia
11:25am	From Awareness to Action: Advancing Care Planning in Practice - Debra Clark , Sydney North Health Network Kelly Arthurs , ANDCare	Nanga Mai – End of Life Care in Campbelltown Emergency Department - Dr Katie Maclean and Kayla Gloss , Campbelltown Hospital	Empowering Aged Care Nurses to Deliver High Quality Palliative and End of Life Care - Nikita Cunningham , NSW Health – South Western Sydney Local Health District Palliative Care Service	Analysis of Patients' Experiences in Community Palliative Care Using the ConsideRATE Tool - Maree Montgomery , Murrumbidgee Local Health District – Palliative Care

	Stream 1 <i>Death Literacy & Advance Care Planning</i>	Stream 2 <i>Innovations in Systems and Supports</i>	Stream 3 <i>Growing & Supporting the Workforce</i>	Stream 4 <i>Better Access, Better Experience</i>
11:50am	Planning for a Death with an Addiction - Sarah Blakemore and Dr Aarti Ganapathi , Drug and Alcohol Services, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District	The Sutherland Hospital Emergency Department & Geriatric Flying Squad Pathway – The Right Care, at the Right Place, at the Right Time, for the Right Person - Sandhya Chand , Sutherland Hospital, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District	The Lived Experience of Registered Nurses Providing Palliative Care in the Community: A Phenomenological Study - Emily Weston , Australian Catholic University / Western Sydney University	Lost in Translation? Clinician Use of PROMs for Patients Preferring Languages Other Than English - Le-Tisha Kable , Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration
12:15pm	Who Gets a Say at the End? LGBTQ+ Voices in Community End-of-Life Care - Zoe Hinton , ACON	But Will They Come Back to Us: Discharging Safely from Specialist Palliative Care - Jen Mckenzie , Murrumbidgee Local Health District	The Power of Storytelling: Connection and Growth Through Schwartz Rounds - Lara Johnson , The Sutherland Hospital	Co-Developing the CALD-PC Navigator Program for NSW Palliative Care Services - Dr Jessica Lee , Concord Centre for Palliative Care, Concord Hospital Dr Rayan Saleh Moussa , University of Technology Sydney
12:40pm	Lunch Banquet & Exhibition Hall			
1:30pm	Learning Labs			
	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3	Room 4
	Caring Without Barriers: Reducing Inequities in Palliative Care for People with Intellectual Disability - Maria Heaton , South Eastern Sydney Local Health District Meredith Laina , Calvary Health Care Kogarah	Paediatric Palliative Care: Caring for Children with Life-Limiting Illnesses - Natalie Hudson and Dr Maggie Winters , Sydney Children's Hospitals Network	Advancing End of Life Communication at Campbelltown and South Western Sydney Local Health District – SHAPES EOL Communication - Dr Katie Maclean , Campbelltown Hospital	Improving Recognition and End-of-Life Planning in Dementia: Integrating the Functional Assessment Staging Tool (FAST) with the End of Life Care Assessment Tool for Dementia (EoLC ATD) in Aged Care Settings -

				Dr Carolyn Bourke, Palliative Aged Care Network (PACN) Jon San Martin, University of Technology Sydney Lara McIntyre, Catholic Healthcare
2:30pm	Closing Keynote Speaker			
3:00pm	Farewell Afternoon Tea Banquet & Exhibition Hall			
3:30pm	Conference Concludes <i>Coach transfers to the airport</i>			

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