

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 14 of the Palliative Care in Prisons (PiP) Project Newsletter.

As 2024 comes to an end and we prepare for 2025, I am pleased to report significant progress of the Palliative Care in Prisons Project and am excited for the outcomes that will come to fruition in the New Year.

Our most recent and major success includes the Capacity Building Workshop in Sydney (28-29th November 2024). This workshop provided an opportunity for representatives from corrections, justice health, specialist palliative care and consumers from across Australia to provide valuable input into the development of a National Framework for Palliative Care in Prisons. Plus develop case studies to be used in a training package for Corrections Officers. I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who attended for their time, expertise and insights, which will greatly enhance these two significant pieces of work. Following this workshop our team will collate feedback and further develop the draft National Framework, before it is circulated in the form of a Delphi Survey for further refinement in 2025.

In addition to the organisation of the workshop, we have been busy securing the final governance approvals and completing the remaining data collection (namely medical record audits in Queensland and Western Australia and semi-structured interviews with corrections staff).

We have also hosted our final PIP Project Community of Practice session in November. This session "Establishing interdisciplinary palliative care in prisons" highlighted the work of the Allied Health team members from the Justice Health NSW Palliative Care Team. The case studies and discussions were valuable and inspiring, highlighting positive work that is occurring in the sector. If you missed this session or previous ones throughout the year, links to recordings can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

We have also started planning a Workshop to help build the capacity of the jurisdictionally based Indigenous (IPEPA) and Palliative Experience in a Palliative Approach (PEPA) Teams. This workshop will ensure IPEPA/PEPA teams are equipped and prepared to provide in-reach education for Jurisdictional Justice Health Professionals, that takes into account of the operational requirements of providing palliative care to people in prison.

As the project enters its final 6 months, I hope you will all join us with a final burst of enthusiasm to ensure the best possible outcomes for this important project.

Until next time,
Jane Phillips, Project Lead

HEALTHCARE IN SECURE SETTING CONFERENCE 2024

The Healthcare in Secure Settings conference took place in August 2024. The two-day event was hosted by NSW Health Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network, on Gadigal Country in Sydney and covered a diverse range of topics.

Josie Newton, PhD Indigenous Health (Research) Candidate (UTS) and member of the PiP team presented at the conference. Her presentation "Wirimbirra (To care) - A review of First Nations' access to cultural protocols for palliative and end-of-life care" was insightful and well received by attendees.



Josie Newton, PhD Indigenous Health (Research) Candidate (UTS) and member of the PiP team.

WALAWAANI CONFERENCE: AMPLIFYING FIRST NATIONS VOICES IN PALLIATIVE CARE



Monique Hooper (PhD Candidate) recently represented the PiP Project at the "Walawaani Conference: Amplifying First Nations Voices in Palliative Care." Monique's presentation "Transforming Palliative Care Access for People in Australian Prisons: Developing a Culturally-Informed National Framework" received high praise and resonated with attendees.

Bringing together leaders in palliative and end-of-life care, the Walawaani Conference provided a powerful platform to amplify First Nations voices and showcase transformative programme initiatives. Rooted in holistic knowledge-sharing, the event supported the journey of returning to Spirit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families, and communities.

The term Walawaani, meaning "we hope you have a safe journey home" in the Dhurga language, symbolised the conference's overarching ethos. It was designed to engage both Indigenous and non-Indigenous professionals across various disciplines and industries involved in care, advocacy, education, or policy for First Nations palliative care.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Over the final 6 months of the PiP project, we will continue to deliver a range of outputs designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of correctional services and justice health professionals, as summarised below.

Q STREAM

The project is developing an online spaced education package for correctional services personnel on palliative care in prison. The recent Capacity Building Workshop in Sydney provided a valuable opportunity for input from justice health, specialist palliative and corrections staff on the case studies and questions to be used in the training package. Thank you to everyone for their input, as it is vital the training and its contents reflect the prison environment and that the learning needs of corrections staff are met. The PiP team will continue to progress this piece of work, with a trial of the package anticipated to be rolled out in April, 2025.

PALLIATIVE CARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING COLLABORATIVE: PROGRAM OF EXPERIENCE IN THE PALLIATIVE APPROACH (PEPA)

The PiP team are scheduling a workshop to orientate PEPA staff to the complexities of correctional settings. The proposed date for delivery is March 2025 Adelaide, South Australia. If you would like to contribute to the development of this training package please contact us at pip.project@qut.edu.au.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

The Community of Practice sessions have stimulated rich discussions throughout the year and been a successful way to share skills and knowledge. We'd like to thank all presenters for their time and expertise and everyone who attended and contributed to discussion.

Listed over the page are all the Community of Practice sessions from 2024, along with links to the YouTube recording, should you wish to re-watch. This includes our most recent session on "Establishing interdisciplinary palliative care in prisons," with Allied Health team members from the Justice Health NSW Palliative Care Team. The case studies and discussions were valuable and inspiring, highlighting positive work that is occurring in the sector.

Please contact the PiP team with any topic suggestions or to volunteer as a panel member for a session in 2025.

RESOURCES - COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE RECORDING LINKS

Voluntary Assisted Death and Implications for Australian Prison (22nd February, 2024)

Presenters: Penny Neller & Dr Andrew Wiley

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

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>

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>

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/C2QbII3bKrk>

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>

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>

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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

12th February 2025, 1pm AEST



Correctional/ Justice Health
Services Working Group

26th February 2025, 1:30pm
AEST



Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Community

Engagement Strategy Working
Group

19th February 2025, 2:30 AEST



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