

PALLIATIVE CARE IN PRISONS PROJECT

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in partnership with
UTS: IMPACCT



Message from Project Lead

PROFESSOR JANE PHILLIPS

Welcome to the first newsletter for the Palliative Care in Prisons Project for 2025!

We are excited to embark on a busy and productive year as we approach the culmination of the National Palliative Care in Prisons project. This year will witness the rollout of the co-designed National Framework for Palliative Care in Prisons and several valuable learning resources. We are committed to ensuring that the strategies and collaborations fostered by this project will continue to thrive beyond its completion.

Thanks to the invaluable contribution from 40 stakeholders into the first co-design National Framework Capacity Building Workshop held in Sydney (28-29th November 2024), our team has been diligently integrating the numerous suggestions made by stakeholders and refining the draft Framework. For those who attended and would like a certificate for professional development hours, please email us at pip.project@qut.edu.au.

The next stage of the Framework development involves a Modified Delphi. We are currently working with a company specializing in Delphi studies to distribute the online Survey, so keep a key on your inbox for an invitation to contribute towards the National Framework before the end of March 2025. This survey will allow us to gather national feedback on the next draft of the Framework, ensuring it meets the sector's needs and expectations.

Thanks to Prof Megan Williams, Josie Newton and Monique Hooper for leading the conversations with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Group, who provided essential insights to ensure the needs of our First Nations people were considered and appropriately integrated into the Framework. We look forward to their wise advice and counsel as we refine the National Framework.

We are in the final stages of data collection for the project. With governance approval in Queensland, finally being secured we are keen to commence medical record audits in this State. Semi-structured interviews with justice health and corrections staff are ongoing, and we greatly appreciate everyone who has participated. Your contributions are invaluable in advocating for the needs of those on the ground, and in developing learning resources, as well as shaping the National Framework.

We are also working to secure a date for a one-day National Workshop with the Program of Experience in The Palliative Approach / Indigenous Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA/IPEPA) teams. This workshop aims to equip PEPA/IPEPA with a detailed understanding of the unique prison context, enabling them to develop and deliver tailored, timely palliative care education in Australian prisons. Finally, we look forward to hosting further Community of Practice sessions in 2025. Please keep an eye out for calendar invitations.

Until next time,
Jane Phillips, Project Lead

CAPACITY BUILDING

Q STREAM

The project is developing an online spaced education package for correctional services personnel on palliative care in prison. Following input at the Capacity Building Workshop in November 2024 we have co-designed 10 cases, which are being refined and will be available for trial at the end of April 2025. We are currently taking EOI from organisations keen to test the feasibility and acceptability of the Qstream learning content within your workplace, please email us at qip.project@qut.edu.au. The project team will support you with testing this learning content.

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

The PiP team are scheduling a one-day workshop with representatives from Corrections and Justice Health with a detailed knowledge of the complexities of delivering palliative care in the prison context and PEPA/IPEPA (<https://pepaeducation.com/>).

The aim of this workshop is to help equip PEPA/IPEPA with a detailed understanding of the unique prison context and as a result be able to confidently develop and deliver tailored, timely palliative care education in Australian prisons by learning from Justice Health representatives.

If you would like to contribute or nominate to attend the workshop, please contact us at qip.project@qut.edu.au.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Our Community of Practice sessions will continue in 2025 with a hope of continuing to stimulate rich discussions and promote the sharing of skills and knowledge. Planned session topics include Grief and Bereavement and continuing to discuss cases in different jurisdictions to provide insight into the various models of care across Australia. Please keep an eye out for calendar invitations which will be sent in coming weeks.

Please contact the team with any topic suggestions or to volunteer as a panel member for a session in 2025 (qip.project@qut.edu.au).

NATIONAL REVIEW OF FIRST NATIONS HEALTH CARE IN PRISONS REPORT

We would like to highlight the 2024 [National Review of First Nations Health Care in Prisons: Final Report](#).

The report presents evidence and key recommendations on the opportunities for systemic reform at the national, state and territory levels to improve health care delivery for First Nations people in places of detention.

The report findings have been guided by the review's key lines of enquiry, while also recognising that there are distinct challenges within the broader operating environment that impact on the ability for progress to be made in this area



Figure 1 | Summary of review recommendations

Recommendations

- 1 Health and justice ministers agree to a set of national reform principles to drive action
- 2 Health and justice ministers investigate evidence provided to the review and take steps to cease any practices that violate prisoners' rights
- 3 Establish a National Partnership Agreement to govern the reform of First Nations health services in places of detention
- 4 Implement a national program of work for First Nations health care in places of detention, led by the National Partnership Agreement
The national program of work should address:
 - National health outcome indicators
 - National First Nations model of care
 - Continuity of care
 - Innovative programs with proven success
 - National quality standards and reporting framework
 - Funding arrangements
 - Reporting and data collection
 - Workforce strategy
 - Infrastructure strategy and standards
- 5 Facilitate the leadership of the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector in the policy, design and delivery of health services in partnership
- 6 Health and justice ministers pilot alternative, therapeutic models of custody for First Nations people, prioritising mothers and young people

NEW RESOURCES FROM END-OF-LIFE LAW FOR CLINICIANS

The End of Life Law for Clinicians (ELLC) group from QUT Australian Centre for Health Law Research have launched training on legal issues on end-of-life law, including:

- a new course for aged care health professionals and aged care providers.
- a new module on advanced legal issues in aged care (Module 14 – End of Life Law in Aged Care). This is for all clinicians in any health setting and is available through all ELLC courses.

Links and further information can be access here: [End of Life Law for Clinicians launches new free aged care course and module](#).

There are also have a number of fact sheets ([Top 10 End of Life Laws in Aged Care](#)) and Quality standards guides available for review.



ELLC End of Life Law for Clinicians

End of Life Law for Clinicians News

New free online training course on end of life law in aged care



End of Life Law for Clinicians (ELLC) has launched a [new FREE online training course](#) for residential aged care, home and community care, and aged care providers.

The course focuses on common legal issues in aged care at the end of life, and health professionals' legal roles and obligations in each State and Territory. It is for health professionals working in aged care (nurses, doctors, allied health professionals), and aged care managers.

To access the new course, visit ellic.edu.au or scan the QR code. Select **Aged Care** to access the Aged Care course.



CPD hours may be claimed. Certificates of completion are available.

Oceanic Palliative Care Conference

Early bird registrations are open for the 2025 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference (10-12 Sept 2025).

The theme "Connecting Systems for Better Care," 250PCC will spark the conversations and connections needed to shape the future of care and resolve the challenges of an ageing population. Register here: [250PCC](#)



**Don't miss
Early bird
registrations**



9th Annual Future Justice and Corrections Summit



Registrations are open for one of Australia's Leading Future Justice & Corrections Events "The Future Justice and Corrections Summit" (to be held in Sydney, 24-26 March, 2025).

The Summit focuses on "Delivering Better Outcomes for People in Custody Through Reform, Rehabilitation and Facilities."

Register here: [Pricing and Discounts | Future Justice and Corrections Summi.](#)

In The Media

[Australia's prison population is ageing. But should inmates spend their final days shackled to a bed? - ABC News](#)

Australia's prison population is ageing. But should inmates spend their final days shackled to a bed?

By Natalie Whiting Prisons

Tue 31 Dec



Some prisoners are shackled to their beds in hospital, even when they are near death. (ABC News)

abc.net.au/news/prisoner-shackles-port-phillip-prison-palli...



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LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO LISTEN TO?

Looking for something to listen to? Access Palliative Care Australia's 2024/25 summer playlist and reading library list here:

[Start listening or reading now](#)

PROJECT LEAD

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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
TBC



Correctional/ Justice Health
Services Working Group
26th February 2025, 11am AEST



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
Community Engagement Strategy
Working Group
TBC



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