

ANZSPM Member Alert – 13 December 2018

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Government News Australia - Operation of the Aged Care Act Report

The Department of Health has released the 2017-18 report detailing the operations within Australia's aged care system.

The report delivered to Parliament by the Minister in accordance with section 63-2 of the *Aged Care Act 1997*, provides a snapshot of the aged care system.

For further information regarding the report, download [the full report here](#), or email any enquiries to agedcarereporting@health.gov.au.

Government News New Zealand – Medicinal Cannabis Bill

The *Misuse of Drugs (Medicinal Cannabis) Amendment Bill* has this week passed the third reading in the New Zealand Parliament. The Bill will introduce an exception and a statutory defence for terminally ill people to possess and use illicit cannabis and to possess a cannabis utensil; provide a regulation-making power to enable the setting of standards that products manufactured, imported, and supplied under licence must meet; and amend Schedule 2 of the Act so that cannabidiol (CBD) and CBD products are no longer classed as controlled drugs.

Further information on this Bill can be found [here](#)

Member feedback sought: Review of the Quality Use of Medicines Program's Delivery

ANZSPM is seeking Member feedback to prepare a response to a request from the Australian Government Department of Health for submissions to inform the Review of the Quality Use of Medicines Program's Delivery by the National Prescribing Service MedicineWise (NPS) (the Review).

The Review is being conducted by Emeritus Professor Lloyd Sansom AO. The purpose of the consultation is to seek broad stakeholder and community feedback to inform future Australian government policy settings for the delivery of the Quality Use of Medicines program.

The consultation is open until 5pm Canberra local time, Thursday, 24 January 2019 and can be accessed at <https://consultations.health.gov.au/>

Feedback should be **emailed to: submissions@anzspm.org.au by 12pm on 20 December 2018** to provide sufficient time for collation of an ANZSPM response in the new year.

Hospice NZ- #weneedtotalkaboutdying

[ANZSPM supports the Hospice NZ campaign #weneedtotalkaboutdying, designed to promote positive engagement and communication about dying.](#)

Hospice NZ are sharing these stories on their [website](#) and through their [YouTube channel](#) – each one is unique and intended to inspire the conversation about death and dying. ANZSPM has shared the videos via social media and all are welcome to do the same.

caring@home resources

caring@home has now released a range of best practice and consistent resources for community service providers, health care professionals and carers to support carers to help manage breakthrough symptoms safely in community-based palliative care patients using subcutaneous medicines.

Prof. Liz Reymond, Deputy Director, Metro South Palliative Care Service, Metro South Health and Project Director of *caring@home*, said that the resources are intended for health care professionals to support carers and palliative care patients living in the community.

“The *caring@home* package is designed to support nurses to teach carers to help manage breakthrough symptoms safely using subcutaneous medicines prescribed by the person’s GP. If carers volunteer for this role, palliative patients can remain at home for longer,” said Prof. Reymond.

[Read the full statement](#)

ANZSPM Trainee Day, Saturday 30 March 2019 | Palmerston North NZ

The next ANZSPM Aotearoa Trainee Day will be held at Arohanui Hospice on Saturday 30 March 2019.

The Trainee Day is open to ANZSPM Members only who are medical practitioners training in palliative care (Advanced Trainee/Diploma of Palliative Care, GP with special interest in Palliative Care, Palliative Care Medical Officers). The program and registration forms will be provided on the ANZSPM website once finalised.

OTHER EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Cancer Care at a Crossroads Conference, 31 Jan – 1 Feb 2019 | Te Papa, Wellington NZ

The University of Otago (Wellington) and Cancer Society of New Zealand, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and New Zealand Society for Oncology are convening a landmark cancer control conference to address challenges in cancer care, equity, prioritization, and cancer control. The conference will :

- Bring together the brightest minds and most influential people from across the cancer control continuum.
- Draw knowledge and experience from international contexts that have faced similar problems to us.
- Paint a picture of the current major challenges that we face, and identify possible solutions to these challenges.
- Provide a forum for debate, and an opportunity to build networks and bridges across the continuum.
- Bring together funders, academics, clinicians and providers, policy leaders, and decision makers.

For more information and to register, please visit the website: [Cancer Care at a Crossroads Conference](#). Places will be limited.

The Gold Coast Supportive and Specialist Palliative Care Service inaugural seminar on Interventional Palliative Care and Medical Updates, 7-8 June 2019 | Gold Coast University Hospital, QLD

The inaugural seminar will provide updates and support for Consultants, Registrars, Nurse Practitioners and CNC in palliative care.

It is a free event, with catering provided. Please note places are limited and registration is essential.

To register visit: <https://1st-goldcoast-pallcare-seminar.eventbrite.com.au>

And for all enquiries, email: GCHPalliativeCare@health.qld.gov.au

Asia Pacific Hospice Conference, 1-4 August 2019 | Indonesia

This conference will provide an opportunity to gain and exchange expert knowledge and network with fellow hospice and palliative care experts.

Abstract submission deadline; 1 February 2019

For more information please visit the conference [website](#) and/or contact the conference secretariat at aphc2019poster@gmail.com

Oceanic Palliative Care Conference, 10-13 September 2019 | Perth – registrations open!

Palliative Care Australia in collaboration with Hospice New Zealand has opened registrations for the 2019 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference.

ANZSPM will be hosting a study day for trainees and new fellows on the first day the conference (Tuesday, 10th September 2019). The ANZSPM AGM will be held on the morning of Thursday 12 September. We look forward to catching up with members in attendance at the conference.

To register and for more information on the conference visit the [Oceanic Palliative Care Conference website](#).

Twitter updates for the event can be followed at #19OPCC.

Careers

One new position has recently been advertised on the ANZSPM website – visit the ANZSPM [Careers](#) pages for details.

ANZSPM Membership

Let's grow our membership ... promote ANZSPM to your colleagues

Medical practitioners with an interest in palliative medicine may apply for membership. Please direct interested people to the [online join facility](#) on the ANZSPM website, where they can read about the many benefits of membership and submit an application online.

Membership inquiries should be directed to info@anzspm.org.au.

ANZSPM Holiday Office Closure

The ANZSPM office will close for the holidays on Thursday 20 December, re-opening on Monday 7 January 2019. From all of us at ANZSPM, we wish you a safe and happy festive season!

You are receiving this email as a member of ANZSPM.

Are you following us on Twitter [@ANZSPM](#) and [LinkedIn](#)? For more news and updates, follow ANZSPM and visit www.anzspm.org.au.

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Our standard office hours: Mon-Thurs 9.15am-2.45pm AEST

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