

ANZSPM Member Alert – 5 September 2019

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Government News

AUS: Two new medicine listings through the PBS

Australian Minister for Health Greg Hunt announced on 26 August two new medicine listings through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS):

- Buvidal® (Buprenorphine) to help patients living with opiate dependency; and
- Kapanol® (Morphine), extended on the PBS to include a new indication on the Palliative Care Schedule – for the treatment of chronic breathlessness in palliative care patients with advanced disease.

As advised back in February, clinical studies undertaken by Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative (PaCCSC), under Prof David Currow, have shown the use of Kapanol® in severe chronic breathlessness can reduce this debilitating symptom in patients with advanced disease.

The Minister's media release can be viewed on the Department of Health website.

Reminder: ANZSPM Annual General Meeting, Thursday 12 September 2019 | Perth WA

The ANZSPM AGM will be held during the Oceanic Palliative Care Conference from 7.30am AWST on Thursday 12 September 2019. The audited financial statements for 2018-19 were shared with members by email and uploaded to the website members' area yesterday, for your consideration ahead of the meeting.

Thanks to those who have RSVP'd for catering purposes. If you haven't yet but would like to attend, please get in touch as soon as possible by emailing our Administration Officer Alina Murphy: info@anzspm.org.au.

Don't forget that if you are unable to attend in person, you can still participate by submitting a proxy form indicating how you wish to vote on the **special resolutions** to be considered at the meeting. Members are welcome to nominate the meeting chair, ANZSPM President Prof Meera Agar, as your proxy or any other member attending the meeting. The proxy form can be found in the ANZSPM website Members' Area Noticeboard together with the notice of meeting documents or you can also email Alina to request a copy.

As a reminder, the special resolutions to be considered are:

Special Resolution 1:

that the name of the Association be changed from 'Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine, Inc' to 'Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine Limited'.

Special Resolution 2:

that the ANZSPM's type of corporate entity be changed from an association to a company limited by guarantee.

Special Resolution 3:

that with effect from the date of confirmation of the registration of Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine Limited by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, the constitution attached to the notice of meeting and marked 'A' be approved and adopted as the constitution of Australian & New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine Limited, and all previous constitutions are repealed and no longer have force or effect.

The purpose of the special resolutions is to facilitate the conversion of ANZSPM from an Incorporated Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee and adoption of a new constitution. The new constitution aims for consistency with the model constitution published by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission for companies limited by guarantee and includes updates to address some issues identified with the current constitution.

Members are reminded that background information on the proposed change and the differences between the current and new constitution can be found in the Members Area tab: Corporate resources. This includes a table of changes between the two constitutions, which we encourage you to consider before the meeting! If you have any questions about the process and the reasons we have proposed this change, please feel free to contact CEO Simone Carton (simone.carton@anzspm.org.au) or reach out to her while in Perth. As mentioned by email yesterday, if there is sufficient member interest, Simone will also host a Zoom meeting at 12.30pm on Monday 9 September to run through the changes with members. Please email info@anzspm.org.au ASAP if that interests you.

Palliative Care Australia: updated VAD position statement

Palliative Care Australia (PCA) has today released an updated Position Statement on Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD), following the VAD Symposium conducted earlier in the year and the release of its VAD Guiding Principles for those providing care to people with a life limiting illness.

The position statement can be found on the PCA website at http://palliativecare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2019/09/2019-VAD-position-statement-Final.pdf.

The media release can be found at http://palliativecare.org.au/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2019/09/2019-VAD-position-statement-.pdf.

Reminder: ANZSPM Membership expired 30 June – RENEWALS NOW DUE!

It's renewal time. Your ANZSPM membership provides access to the following benefits:

- **Biennial conference and other major ANZSPM events:** attend at a reduced registration fee.
- **ANZSPM Newsletter:** three editions per year with detail of ANZSPM's activities and a range of interesting and educational articles relevant to our members.
- **Reduced subscription fees on select journals**
- **Regular member email updates:** providing timely and current information about news and events of interest to palliative medicine practitioners.
- **At least two trainee days per year:** providing trainees with a much needed opportunity for sharing training experiences and educational materials.
- **Member-only content:** the Members' area of the website includes a member contact list, member notices, presentations from past events and other resources.
- **Trainee awards:** for best presentation at nominated conferences.
- **Network and get involved:** opportunity to connect with fellow members, contribute to events and policy development, and join committees and special interest groups.

- **EAPC membership:** access to membership (and associated benefits) of the European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC) via ANZSPM's national association membership.

Thank you to the **472 members who have already renewed** their ANZSPM membership for 2019-20! If you haven't renewed, please note that your current membership expired on 30 June 2019 and after 30 September 2019 you will no longer be a financial member of ANZSPM. Please contact our Administration Officer Alina Murphy on info@anzspm.org.au with any membership queries (please note Alina is in the office Monday-Wednesday 9.30 to 2.30pm AEST).

Don't forget to check your membership type and update it if your circumstances have changed, particularly members currently holding a Trainee Membership.

Upcoming ANZSPM Events

ANZSPM Half-Day Trainee & New Fellows Workshop, Tues 10 September 2019 | Perth, WA

ANZSPM is holding a half-day Trainee & New Fellow workshop during the Oceanic Palliative Care Conference in Perth on the morning of Tuesday 10 September. Join us to hear from:

- Dr Lisa Miller – Distinguishing Distress, Depression and Demoralisation in Palliative Care
- Dr Frank Brennan – Renal Supportive Care: An Overview
- Dr Sarah Wenham – Challenges and Rewards of Rural/Remote Palliative Medicine
- Dr Sarah Wenham – Repatriation Home to Country at the End of Life

ANZSPM Webinar 4 – Supporting palliative care practice, Tues 24 September 2019 | Online

The next webinar in our series is now open for registration, initially to ANZSPM members only – registrations will be opened to non-members closer to the event to enable members to have first priority. Members are requested not to share the link outside the membership at this stage.

Supporting palliative care practice - Liese Groot-Alberts

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Sep 24, 2019 5:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Topic: ANZSPM- Supporting palliative care practice - Liese Groot-Alberts

Register in advance for this webinar:

<https://racp.zoom.us/webinar/register/1f60f9dc637325ebdc2040ba88984b7b>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

This webinar is part of the Specialty Society Webinar Service pilot that is being undertaken by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in partnership with its affiliated specialty societies.

Save the date: ANZSPM Conference 2020, 17 – 20 September 2020 | Auckland, NZ

The ANZSPM Conference 2020 will be held at the Pullman, Auckland from 17 to 20 September 2020. A call for EOIs to join the conference organising committee went out to members recently and we thank you for those members that responded.

More details to come: www.anzspm.org.au/anzspm20.

Other Upcoming Events

Other upcoming events that may be of interest to members:

Mental Capacity Law Conference 2019 | 10, 12, 13, 18, 19 Sep 2019 | NZ (various locations)

The conferences are aimed at lawyers, health professionals and others working with people who may have capacity to make certain decisions. To request further information, or to register for the conference see www.mentalcapacitylaw.eventbrite.co.nz, email athenaeducationlimited@gmail.com or phone Iris Ruevecamp on 021869361

Oceanic Palliative Care Conference, 10-13 September 2019 | Perth WA

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.

Members can indicate ANZSPM as their member organisation when [registering online](#), for a member discount. This is strictly for current financial ANZSPM members only.

End of Life Law for Clinicians, Wednesday 9 October 2019 | Online Webinar

The End of Life Law for Clinicians is excited to announce a free, online webinar on the evening of Wednesday 9 October 2019 (6.30-8.00pm AEST; 7.30-9.00pm AEDT; 7.00-8.30pm ACDT; 6.00-7.30pm ACST; 4.30-6.00pm AWST).

Improving your knowledge of end of life law can enhance your capacity to manage legal issues in end of life decision-making, leading to improved quality of care and practice. This webinar will explore end of life law in the context of a **clinical case study about an older person in residential aged care**. Topics that may be explored include:

- Capacity and consent to medical treatment;
- Withholding and withdrawing life-sustaining medical treatment;
- Advance Care Directives;
- Substitute decision-making;
- Providing palliative medication;
- Futile or non-beneficial treatment; and
- Emergency treatment.

The webinar will be delivered by [Professor Ben White](#) and [Associate Professor Shih-Ning Then](#), Australian Centre for Health Law Research, Queensland University of Technology, with clinical co-presenter [Dr Peter Saul](#), Senior Intensive Care Specialist, John Hunter Hospital, Newcastle.

The webinar is open to all clinicians. CPD points and certificates of completion are available. To access the webinar, you require a computer with sound and video capabilities.

To register visit the [registration page](#). RSVPs close Monday 7 October 2019.

Dying to Yarn: Palliative Care for ATSI Communities Symposium, 1 Nov 2019 | Brisbane QLD

An undignified death leads to emotional and spiritual distress for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, families and communities. In raising the awareness of Palliative Care and a good death, the Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach and Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education present *Dying to Yarn – Palliative Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*.

There is a significant gap in Palliative Care Services for our Communities, potentially leaving loved ones to pass off Country, away from family and in pain. While the topic of death and dying is considered taboo for some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and are not comfortable conversations to have, education and knowledge shared in this area can assist loved ones on their end-of-life journey, ensuring it is one of comfort, dignity, cultural respect and fulfilled wishes.

'A good death' can be defined as free from avoidable distress and suffering, in general accord with the patient's and family's wishes, and reasonably consistent with clinical, cultural, and ethical standards. Yarning allows one to express the preferred care for their end-of-life journey, reflect on memories, attend to unfinished business and live well during their final footprints.

Registrations are open nationally to all Indigenous Health Professionals, Elders and Community members. Non-Indigenous and Culturally Linguistically Diverse Health Professionals caring for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients are encouraged to register. This event will be held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. Cost is \$249 and registrations close 13 October 2019.

For further information, please contact Aurora Hodges or Eliza Munro on 07 3646 6216/07 3646 5251 or at DyingToYarn@health.qld.gov.au.

2019 Tasmanian Palliative Care Conference, 14-15 November 2019 | Hobart

This event will bring together the leaders in palliative care from across the State and nationally, for a two-day discussion on the future of the sector and how we can work together to ensure the best possible services for all Tasmanians with a life-limiting illness. Register [here](#).

World Congress on Itch, 17-19 November 2019 | Sydney NSW

This is the first time this Congress has been held in Australasia and is an excellent opportunity to gain a greater understanding of pruritus. Registration and details are at www.ifs2019.com.au/.

Renal Supportive Care Masterclass | 29 November 2019 | St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne

The aim of the 1-day RSC Masterclass is to provide clinicians with an educational event using the highest level of evidence drawn from the national and international literature combined with local experience in Renal Supportive Care. The target audience is Nephrology and Palliative Care Physicians, advanced trainees, nursing, management and allied health professionals with an interest in Renal Supportive Care.

Registrations are now open [here](#). There will be 10% off for trainees, students and Renal Society of Australasia members (enter 10PCOFF in the Promocode box)

For further information please email centre.palliativecare@svha.org.au

MND NZ Research Conference, 9 December 2019 | Auckland NZ

MND NZ are excited to announce that MND New Zealand, in association with the NZ MND Research Network, will be hosting the Inaugural MND New Zealand Research Conference on the 9th December in Auckland. This is your opportunity to learn more about the latest developments in MND research and advances in the clinical management of MND. Speakers at the MND New Zealand Research conference are international experts in their field and key members of the New Zealand research community.

Early bird pricing is available until November 4th with discounted pricing for students, people with MND and their carers. Click here ([link=https://events.mnd.org.nz/research-conference/](https://events.mnd.org.nz/research-conference/)) to register or find out more.

Please contact claire.reilly@mnd.org.nz with any queries or questions.

Building Palliative Care Clinical Research in NZ Workshop | 14 February 2020 | Wellington NZ

IMPACCT (University of Technology) in conjunction with Capital and Coast District Health Board (NZ) and Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative (PaCCSC) are running a workshop to introduce clinical research to new or experienced researchers in New Zealand.

Who should attend? Anyone with an interest in learning more about PaCCSC and conducting clinical research in palliative care. The workshop will be multi-disciplinary in focus.

Symptoms of Focus – Pain, Fatigue, Breathlessness, Appetite & Cachexia, Nausea, Cognitive & Neurological Disorders, Gut Dysfunction

A call for new study concepts will open in November 2019. Online registration will open soon via Eventbrite. Contact PaCCSC@uts.edu.au for more information

2020 Australian Pain Society 40th Annual Scientific Meeting | 5-8 April 2020 | Hobart TAS

This is the only multidisciplinary conference in Australia offering insights into the complex nature of pain management from a variety of medical, nursing and allied health perspectives.

The Australian Pain Society continues to align their conference theme with the IASP Global Year; in 2020 this is, 'The IASP Global Year for the Prevention of Pain'. The program will be full of inspiring national and international speakers who will provide a veritable glance at the most complex, challenging, provocative and indeed interesting topic: Pain.

Further information is at www.dconferences.com.au/aps2020/

Careers

New positions have recently been advertised on the ANZSPM website – visit the ANZSPM [Careers](#) pages for details!

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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