

Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification Review 2019

[Via online submission at: <https://www.research.net/r/ANZSRCReview>]

7 June 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

ANZSPM submission to ANZSRC Review

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine (ANZSPM) appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to the ANZSRC Review (the Review).

ANZSPM believes the Field of Research codes should reflect the key areas of health care and health concerns in Australia. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data shows that there is a rise in the proportion of the Australian population who are living with advanced illness, and this number is projected to rise as the population ages. A suitable Field of Research or sub-category (group or field) for research in palliative care, relating to people with a life limiting illness and including end of life care is critical to ensure. The absence of a suitable code means that research in the field of palliative care is not on an equal footing with other fields of research endeavour.

ANZSPM recommends the introduction of a Palliative Care Field of Research. This will lead to several benefits including:

- Access to Palliative Care Field of Research data to foster collaboration of researchers active in this area;
- Allow accurate classification and reporting of research and development in this area, to inform universities, clinical services, human research ethics committees and policy makers;
- Sends a clear message that research to improve outcomes for people living with advanced illness is on equal footing as other research endeavours;
- Ensure that grant funding priorities and application processes can clearly identify palliative care research foci;
- More clearly identify the required expertise on grant panels to review the work, facilitating a more fair, objective and consistent assessment.

We note that the Review aims to ensure it reflects current practice and is sufficiently robust to allow for long-term data analysis. We strongly request consideration of a Palliative Care Field of Research as one of the outcomes of this Review.

Yours sincerely,



Prof Meera Agar
President



Simone Carton
Chief Executive Officer