

ANZSPM Member eNews – 12 March 2021

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- [NEXT WEDNESDAY 17/03] ANZSPM 2021 Webinar Series: register for our first webinar with Professor Geoff Mitchell
- ANZSPM submission to NSW rural health inquiry
- New professional training and development opportunities

ANZSPM updates

ANZSPM 2021 Webinar Series: Professor Geoff Mitchell on 'Palliative Care for all'



ANZSPM members are invited to join the first webinar of our ANZSPM 2021 Webinar Series next Wednesday 17 March 2021 at 12.30pm – 1.30pm (AEDT). We are delighted to have **Professor Geoff Mitchell, Emeritus Professor of General Practice and Palliative Care at the University of Queensland, speaking about “Palliative care for all: managing the deaths specialist palliative medicine will never see.”** The webinar will be hosted by Dr Anna Keedwell and includes a 15min Q&A session at the end of the presentation. To register in advance for this webinar, please [click here](#).

Postponement: ANZSPM Aotearoa Niche Drugs Series Lidocaine with Dr Lana Ferguson

Our next webinar for ANZSPM Aotearoa's Niche Drug Series has been postponed to Wednesday April 28 at 7.00pm NZDT. To register for this webinar, please [click here](#).

ANZSPM NSW rural health submission now available

ANZSPM recently made a submission to the *Inquiry into Health outcomes and access to health and hospital services in rural, regional and remote New South Wales*. ANZSPM thanks our Rural & Remote Special Interest Group for their contributions. To read the submission, please [click here](#).

Government News

AUS: Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety

Royal Commissioners, the Honourable Tony Pagone QC and Lynelle Briggs AO, have presented the Final Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety to the Governor-General, His Excellency, General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd). The Final Report is the culmination of 28 months of work, including 23 public hearings involving 641 witnesses. Over 10,500 public submissions were received. The Final Report is available [here](#).

Other updates

RACP Evolve Webinar Series: Considering equity in reducing low-value care | Tuesday 16 March

As physicians act to reduce low-value care through implementing Evolve and Choosing Wisely recommendations, they must take care that these recommendations do not increase existing inequities for Māori, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Join Professor David Tipene-Leach and Dr Derek Sherwood as they discuss key findings from the Choosing Wisely Means Choosing Equity report, including why considering equity in this context is so important and messages for physicians on their role in reducing healthcare inequities. To register for this webinar, [click here](#).

IAHPC Scholarships to EAPC 2021 Online

The European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC) board has generously given the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC) **10 complimentary registration passes** for the upcoming 17th World Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care Online to be held on October 6-8, 2021. The deadline to apply for the IAHPC Scholarship is June 30, 2021. Results will be announced mid-July 2021. For more information, please [click here](#).

ARTICLE: A national collaborative to spread and scale paramedics providing palliative care in Canada: Breaking down silos is essential to success

Progress in Palliative Care | Online – 4 March 2021 – A national collaborative has been launched in Canada to spread and scale up the Paramedics Providing Palliative Care model. This builds on the knowledge that paramedics in the 9-1-1 (emergency/unscheduled) and scheduled models of care are both historically and currently asked by the public to provide urgent symptom relief within the context of a palliative approach, and that approximately 40% of dying people visit the emergency department in the last two weeks of life despite 70% wishing to die at home. A model of care including a palliative care (PC) clinical practice guideline or protocol, specific training, and a mechanism for sharing of goals of care, has been proven to improve the palliative and end-of-life experience for patients with PC needs and their families. It increases the comfort and confidence of paramedics and has benefits to the broader health system. Meaningful and very broad stakeholder engagement and intersectoral collaboration is absolutely essential to the success of this innovative approach to care. **Full text:** <https://bit.ly/3uVk8XB>

ARTICLE: “A silent epidemic of grief”: A survey of bereavement care provision in the U.K. and Ireland during the COVID-19 pandemic

BMJ Open | Online – 3 March 2021 – Bereavement care is a central aspect of the work of a wide range of health and social care professionals yet remains a low priority within healthcare policy. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted this important area of patient care, creating both major challenges to bereavement support provision and opportunities for practitioners and policymakers to address this neglected aspect of clinical care. Bereavement is one of the long-term impacts of COVID-19: if left unaddressed it may lead to significant physical and mental health morbidity and create a further burden on health and social care services. This study highlights the profound impact of the pandemic on bereaved people, yet much remains unknown about how individuals, communities, and the health and social care system will respond. While further research is urgently needed in this area, we already know that action is needed now to ensure equity of provision across ethnic groups, ages and marginalised groups, and equity of care for all bereaved people whether

from COVID-19, from other conditions or those bereaved prior to the pandemic. **Full text:** <https://bit.ly/3ret88f>

ARTICLE: Effectiveness of a family-caregiver training program in home-based pediatric palliative care *Children* | Online – 26 February 2021 – Caretakers of children with life limiting conditions show high skills and knowledge in the tasks that are needed to develop their role. An educational program may strengthen these capabilities and improve levels of confidence. This study shows that the provided intervention had a particularly positive effect in caretakers' self-perception and confidence about the outstanding caring skills they already had. Although the number of out-of-hours telephone calls from the caregivers to the pediatric palliative care (PC) team after the intervention did not decrease, they were more focused on the description of symptoms. A high level of commitment of the caregivers was found. Psycho-educational space emerged in the authors' school for parents of children with complex healthcare needs in the setting of home-based PC that allowed them to share their experience of daily care for their children. In addition, they have seen that they are not alone and that they can help each other. **Full text:** <http://bit.ly/3bgfYSJ>

Cancer Council podcast: *The Thing About Advanced Cancer*

Cancer Council has launched five new episodes of its podcast focused on supporting carers and families of people who are in their last months of life. The episodes feature interviews with respected cancer and palliative care experts covering the practical and emotional aspects of the carer's role. Each episode also includes deeply personal insights from people who have cared for someone at the end of life. For more information, please click here.

Professional training and development opportunities

NZ: University of Otago: HEALTH PROFESSIONALS COURSE: Application of the Hui Process / Meihana Model to Clinical Practice | online modules and one day course on 27 July 2021 | Christchurch, NZ

Open to the anyone working in the health community, this course comprises online learning modules and one on-site training seminar held in Christchurch on 27 July 2021. The course objective is to support health practitioners to feel informed and confident in the development of Hauora Māori competencies, with a special focus on the application of the Hui Process and Meihana Model. For more information and to register, please click here.

RACP: New Online Course – Chronic Breathlessness in Advanced Illness

The RACP has developed a new online course focused on the knowledge needed to better identify, assess, and manage chronic breathlessness in advanced illness. Click here to watch a video from the online course, which explores answering sensitively and truthfully when a patient wants to know how they're going to die. For more information and to register, please click here.

Centre for Palliative Care: Virtual Masterclass on Communication Skills | April 7 2021

This advanced practice Masterclass will provide an opportunity to learn evidence-based communication skills and frameworks that you can use in your clinical practice. This training has a strong experiential component, which includes you practicing the use of communications skills and frameworks during 'clinical interactions' with a simulated patient. Experienced facilitators will provide 'real time' feedback enabling a safe environment for you to 'wind back' and try again or try

something new. Please be aware that places are restricted to 15, and registrations close March 31. For more information and to register, please click here.

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross Foundation: Education Series 2021 - Compassionate Bereavement Approaches | Eleven Online Sessions from March 18, 2021 - May 27, 2021

Divided into eleven sessions, this introductory course aims to be an immersion in the thoughts of Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, making connections between the past and the future, between students and members of the former staff. A wide exposure to knowledge and experiences by eleven international experts from across the world including Dr. Ira Byock, Dr. William Worden, and Dr. Joanne Caciatore who work in the fields of hospice, palliative care, and grief today. For more information and to register, please click here.

Upcoming Events

Please note: In light of the evolving situation around the current COVID-19 pandemic, many events previously promoted in our eNews may have been postponed, cancelled or moved to a virtual format. ANZSPM recommends members check this directly with event organisers!

2021 EVENTS

Advanced European bioethics course “Suffering, Death and Palliative Care”, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, 16-19 March 2021

This course is organized by the section of Healthcare Ethics, IQ healthcare (Radboud University Medical Centre). More information at: <https://bit.ly/2eqVZ4A>

Australian Pain Society 41st Annual Scientific Meeting | 18-21 April 2021 | National Convention Centre, Canberra

More information at dconferences.com.au/aps2021/

Mary Potter Hospice Symposium 2021: Whetū i te Rangi: A symposium for enhancing care towards the end of life for Māori | 3 May 2021 | Wellington, NZ

For more information and to register, please click here.

7th Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium | 24-25 May 2021 | Alice Springs, NT

More information at <https://www.ruralhealth.org.au/7rrhss/>

2021 Oceanic Palliative Care Conference | 7-10 September 2021

Early Bird Registrations and the Call for Abstracts will open on 27 January 2021. More at: <https://oceanicpallcare.com/>

European Association for Palliative Care (EAPC): 17th World Congress | Online | 6-8 October 2021

The EAPC Congress will be held online on 6 - 8 October 2021. More at: <https://industry-eapc21.interplan.de>

COVID-19 updates

ANZSPM COVID-19 Special Interest Group (COVID-19 SIG) guidance documents

ANZSPM guidance documents developed by the COVID-19 SIG relating to palliative care in the COVID-19 context are available here. ANZSPM members are encouraged to use and distribute these

documents at their workplace.. New guidance documents on medication access and symptom management will be available on the website shortly!

National COVID19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce

Following a well-earned break, the Taskforce team has now returned to full capacity. Latest guidance on caring for people with COVID-19 includes tocilizumab, sofosbuvir-daclatasvir, sulodexide, and expression of interest request has been issues for the Taskforce Consumer Panel. The Taskforce looks forward to continuing to keep Australian clinicians armed with the latest evidence-based guidance. You can review the Taskforce Living Guidelines [here](#) .

NZ Taskforce on COVID-19

COVID-19 related resources for NZ health care professionals can be found hosted on the Hospice NZ website [here](#).

Australian COVID-19 Palliative Care Working Group (ACPCWG)

ANZSPM continues to work with the ACPCWG on supporting the palliative care response to COVID-19 in partnership with Palliative Care Australia (PCA), Palliative Care Nurses Australia (PCNA), the Australasian Chapter of Palliative Medicine (AChPM) of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP), and the End of Life Directions for Aged Care (ELDAC) program.

Other ACPCWG-related updates and resources are below:

- Latest ACPCWG newsletter (16 December 2020)
- Previous ACPCWG newsletter (21 October 2020)
- An online hub of resources can be found on the [CareSearch](#) website.

AUS: Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for the health and aged care sector

The Australian Department of Health regularly provides up-to-date and authoritative information and advice on COVID-19 for the health and aged care sector [here](#).

NZ: Health advice and latest updates on COVID-19

The Ministry of Health in New Zealand provides regular updates, information and health advice on COVID-19 on its website [here](#).

Careers

For the latest positions advertised on the ANZSPM website – visit the ANZSPM [Careers](#) page!

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