

WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE?

Palliative care is person and family-centred care provided for a person with an active, progressive, advanced disease, who has little or no prospect of cure and who is expected to die, and for whom the primary goal is to optimise the quality of life.

Palliative care is care that helps people live their life as fully and as comfortably as possible when living with a life-limiting or terminal illness.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2019-2021

1

Promote palliative care as a human right for all Australians

- a. Identify palliative care as a national health priority, and promote development of appropriate legislation, regulations and standards to embed access to quality palliative care.
- b. Promote a whole of government approach to the adequate funding of palliative care services.
- c. Ensure health professionals have appropriate funding mechanisms, streamlined referral pathways, use innovative technologies and have access to palliative care education and training.
- d. Promote Australia as a world-class leader in palliative care provision.

2

Inform community to contribute to the call for palliative care

- a. Strengthen the public dialogue on palliative care, end of life, dying, grief and bereavement through a national awareness campaign.
- b. Provide high-quality and evidence-based information that is accessible, relevant and understandable.
- c. Assist in the creation of supportive environments for communities to take greater responsibility in providing care and support for individuals and their families and carers.

3

Lead the palliative care sector by being a viable and effective peak palliative care organisation

- a. Make a significant contribution to the policy agenda, and ensure governments are informed about, and respond appropriately to issues that are important to palliative care provision to a quality standard.
- b. Strengthen partnerships across the government, corporate and philanthropic sectors to achieve our mission.
- c. Promote and employ contemporary governance structures and maintain strong relationships with Member Organisations.
- d. Foster beneficial relationships with other organisations to share skills and knowledge to improve the research agenda, develop innovative models of care that are readily translatable across settings, and facilitate appropriate data collection to measure the quality of life, dying and bereavement support.