National Palliative Care Grant Recipients’ Forum

**7-8 April 2016 | Vibe Hotel, Canberra Airport**

**Project Information Form**

**Project:** Paediatric Palliative Care National Education & Quality Improvement Collaborative Quality of Care Collaborative Australia (QuoCCA)

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| **Key objectives** | * Improvement in skill, knowledge and confidence of health professionals through Australia at all levels involved in delivery of paediatric palliative care enabling them to provide best practice care for children and families * Improvement in timely and appropriate access to, and quality of, paediatric palliative care in national acute and community settings * Improved processes for care planning in local communities * Increased community and health professional awareness of death and dying as a normal part of life limiting conditions in childhood and the need for family centred and developmentally and culturally appropriate services |
| **Key outcomes**  *(e.g. resource development, education and training)* | * Deliver the prescribed pop-up and scheduled education events as detailed in Performance Indicator description (Total Pop-ups = 42, Scheduled = 36 during project period) * Percentage of participants overall from project commencement to 30.6.2017 who identified as having improved their knowledge and/or skills in paediatric palliative care = 85% * Service provider skill development through frontline worker education and training to build and enhance capacity within the palliative care sector * Service quality improvement in acute and community health settings * Research and benchmarking to improve sector knowledge and increase community awareness and across the sector * Strengthen linkages with adult palliative care service providers particularly in regional and remote communities * Develop Education packages relevant to allied health staff for use throughout Australia. Develop inter-professional resources that would be of benefit to multi-disciplinary services looking after children. * Improve collaboration and linkages with all Government palliative care activities * Ensure sustainability and leave a legacy of project activities (e.g. website, training modules, phone App) |
| **Target audience**  *(e.g. who is the target audience/s for your project activities?)* | * Health and community professionals throughout Australia including regional rural and remote communities * Health professionals in acute and community health settings in Australia * Health professionals in Indigenous and Islander communities throughout Australia * Other community professionals involved in the care of patients and families of children with life limiting conditions and at end of life phase (eg. respite providers, pastoral carers, funeral providers, schools, personal carers, etc) |
| **Outcomes to date** | From project commencement to date we have achieved the following education events throughout Australia by the collaborative member states   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Scheduled education events | Pop-up education events | Incidental education events | Other education events | | 16 | 17 | 7 | 11 |   Scheduled event – Planned education event  Pop-up event – Education linked to a patient (education is undertaken close to where the patient lives – often in a regional or rural setting, and responds in a timely way to the patients’ needs)  Incidental – Linked to another education event to promote awareness of Paediatric Palliative Care  Other – Any other event/opportunity to educate on Paediatric Palliative Care |
| **Challenges & lessons learnt**  *(e.g. were there any difficulties which may assist others?)* | * Pop-ups can be difficult to achieve as the offer of and delivery of the education requires a high degree of sensitivity. Acknowledging the good work already being done by local teams whilst offering opportunities to up-skill and improve the quality of outcomes needs to be balanced and not interpreted as a remote team trying to take over. An “empowerment” model is helpful in this context. * After delivery of sessions, particularly pop-up’s, there have been follow up requests for scheduled education * Many local services not aware of support that can be provided from State-wide services * Education events are a good opportunity to bring stakeholders working in the same area together to learn about each other’s services and roles with an emphasis on teamwork to achieve the best outcomes for patients and families * There is a thirst for paediatric palliative care education and an interest in holistic and multi-disciplinary aspects of care * Paediatric Palliative care can be confronting and highly emotive for participants * Hands on education with real paediatric cases is very meaningful * Junior medical officers and medical students are very interested in paediatric palliative care * Parent experiences and feedback provide valuable lessons for Health Care Professionals |
| **Plans for 2016 and 2017** | * Continue to deliver pop-up, scheduled and incidental education events through Australia as per our key performance indicators * Develop and App for Health Professionals to support their work in urban, regional and remote areas (where networks exist) * Undertake research through Ethics approved activities with a view to publishing in selected journals * Develop a suite of education resources that can be used across Australia * Develop a website to host education resources in collaboration with Caresearch * Strengthen linkages with universities and peak bodies to promote and support education and quality outcomes for paediatric palliative care patients and families * Develop Allied Health education networks through Australia * Develop an on-line communication training communication package * Jointly develop care pathways |