

# MEDIA RELEASE



**Palliative  
Care  
Australia**

## Palliative Care Australia Inc.

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Connect with Palliative Care Australia

29 May 2014

## 25% funding boost for palliative care programs

Speaking at the launch of National Palliative Care Week this morning, Minister for Health the Hon. Peter Dutton MP announced \$52 million in funding over three years for the National Palliative Care Program.

‘This is fantastic news to receive during National Palliative Care Week,’ said Dr Yvonne Luxford, Chief Executive Officer of Palliative Care Australia. ‘It confirms the future of these important quality improvement and educational programs for a further three years.’

The figure of \$52 million represents an increase of 25% from the last triennium, although at this stage the guidelines for allocating these funds is not finalised.

‘This funding boost is most welcome,’ said Dr Luxford. ‘Palliative Care Australia looks forward to receiving further details about the mechanisms for allocating these funds and working with the government to ensure that these valuable national programs are well supported to grow and develop.’

The theme for National Palliative Care Week (25-31 May) is *Palliative care is everyone’s business – let’s work together*. The week celebrates the diverse range of people who work in palliative care and the important role they play in ensuring quality care at the end of life for all.

‘Many of these programs are in workforce support and development, and this announcement fits well with the theme of National Palliative Care Week which has a workforce focus,’ said Dr Luxford.

Today’s announcement follows last week’s news that the World Health Assembly unanimously passed a [resolution](#) on palliative care which, among other things, calls for countries to ensure that palliative care is embedded in the basic and continuing education and training for all health workers and becomes a core component of health systems.

‘We thank the government for their commitment to palliative care and building a workforce that is able to meet the needs of dying Australians, their families and carers,’ Dr Luxford said.

For more information on National Palliative Care Week visit: [www.palliativecare.org.au/nationalpalliativecareweek](http://www.palliativecare.org.au/nationalpalliativecareweek)

**Ends**

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PCA is the peak national organisation representing the interests and aspirations of all who share the ideal of quality care at the end of life