



Media Release

16 January 2017

Palliative Care Australia acknowledges Sussan Ley's work in end-of-life care

Palliative Care Australia CEO Liz Callaghan thanks Sussan Ley for her leadership in medicinal cannabis reform and for putting end-of-life care on the COAG health agenda.

"Sussan Ley worked hard over the past two years as Health Minister to legalise access to medicinal cannabis for people with serious illness," Ms Callaghan said.

"Minister Ley also showed national leadership by putting end-of-life care on the COAG Health Council agenda to improve access to culturally appropriate care for all Australians.

"She was a strong advocate for Australians to discuss their end-of-life wishes with their loved ones and PCA was privileged to have her launch our [Dying to Talk Discussion Starter](#) in Albury during National Palliative Care Week last year.

"Minister Ley will be remembered for the introduction of the Health Care Homes trial. This trial will provide the opportunity for coordinated care and early referral to palliative care for people with chronic illnesses when needed.

"Patients with serious chronic illnesses can benefit from palliative care which provides pain and symptom management. Far from being just care at the very end of someone's life, palliative care can work with patients and families over many years to ensure better quality of life.

"We know Minister Ley had plans to focus on palliative care and end-of-life care in 2017, and PCA look forward to working closely with the new Health Minister to continue this important work," Ms Callaghan said.

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