



Media Release

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Palliative Care Australia welcomes new Health Minister

Palliative Care Australia (PCA) CEO Liz Callaghan today welcomed the announcement by Prime Minister Turnbull that Greg Hunt MP will be the new Minister for Health.

“PCA is looking forward to working with Minister Hunt to maximise quality of life for Australians right until the end of life,” Ms Callaghan said.

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

“Far from being care right 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.” Ms Callaghan said.

“To improve care at the end of life, we need to get people talking about their end-of-life care wishes, and ensure people can access high quality care when needed, including access to timely and affordable specialist services and medications.

“We also need an integrated information system that addresses the needs of patients, carers and health workforce in the provision of palliative care.

“It is important to maintain the current government focus on end-of-life care, including through making this a key priority for the COAG Health Council agenda” Ms Callaghan said.

PCA also congratulates The Hon Ken Wyatt MP on his appointment as Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health.

“Ensuring provision of high quality palliative care and end-of-life care in aged care is a key area of focus for Palliative Care Australia in 2017. We look forward to working with Minister Wyatt to progress this important work,” Ms Callaghan said.

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