

END OF LIFE CARE PROJECT

RICHMOND VALLEY

December 2016



Health
Northern NSW
Local Health District



ACI
NSW Agency
for Clinical
Innovation



CLINICAL
EXCELLENCE
COMMISSION

NEWS

- In 2012, NSW Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, the Honourable Jillian Skinner MP launched the NSW Government plan to increase access to palliative care 2012 – 2016. The Plan calls for new models of care that foster partnerships and linkages across sectors to develop an integrated network.
- End of Life Project Officer for 12 months
- CEC Last Days of Life Toolkit pilot launched on the 28th November within Lismore Base Hospital Adult wards.
- Collaboration with the Primary Health Network in improving awareness and use of Advanced Care Directives.
- Facilitating Community Engagement of End of Life Discussions
- Facilitating Clinician education in end of life conversation.

END OF LIFE CARE PROJECT: AN INTEGRATED CARE INITIATIVE

The End of Life Care (EOL) Project aims to improve the care we provide for our community in the Richmond Valley. The project will work in collaboration with acute and primary care services.

This is an important initiative for this area as it will improve the quality of patient/carer end of life experience.

The project will look at 4 main areas which are outlined in this newsletter.

The goal is to work with existing services to improve the end of life care provided by clinicians in the Richmond Valley. These projects will be in collaboration with NNSW Integrated Care, NNSW Local Health District, NCPHN, Agency for Clinical Innovation and the Clinical Excellence Commission.



Improving End of Life Care in the Richmond Valley.



Area #1

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

To improve the knowledge, awareness and use of Advance Care Directives in the Richmond Valley.

- 2 pilot groups initially will work to streamline patient/carer/health worker use of Advanced Care Directives.
- Once the process is working effectively for these two groups we will introduce to a wider group of patients.



Area #2

HEALTH CARE CLINICIAN EDUCATION

To provide regular education to primary and acute care providers to optimise end of life care delivered

- Covering all topics from End of Life planning to Transitioning to End of Life Care and Dying.
- Suitable for acute and primary health care providers.

Area #3

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

To provide adequate education to key groups in the community.

Work with the community on:

- What is end of life care planning about?
- Advanced Care Directives
- Enduring Guardian and Power of Attorney.

Area #4

AMBULANCE AND ACDs

To have a smooth communication flow between Ambulance, Primary and acute health care and patients/carers/family.

- Develop processes to facilitate transition to End of Life

INTEGRATED CARE—END OF LIFE CARE PROJECT OFFICER

With the assistance of funding from the ACI, Northern NSW Integrated Care has been successful in recruiting Anna Law who has been appointed as the Integrated Care – End of Life Care Project Officer.

Anna brings with her extensive experience as a registered Nurse including work as a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in Intensive Care – Portfolio End of Life Management. Her previous role was as Clinical Risk Resource Nurse (CNS 2) at Lismore Base Hospital.

Northern NSW Integrated Care (NNSW IC) and the Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) look forward to working closely with Anna to support her in this dual role.



*Last Days
of Life*

Last Days of Life Toolkit (CEC pilot)

The Last Days of Life Toolkit is a pilot currently being run by the CEC to improve last days of life care provided within acute facilities.

The Last Days of Life toolkit has been launched in Lismore Base Hospital adult wards in late November.

Lismore Base Hospital is piloting 2 forms:

1. **Initiating Last Days of Life Management Plan — Adult**
2. **Comfort Observation and Symptom Assessment Chart — Adult.**

The toolkit also has the additional Medication Management charts to aid in appropriate medication charting for the dying patient.

Please contact Anna for any information for the pilot program.



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