

Program overview

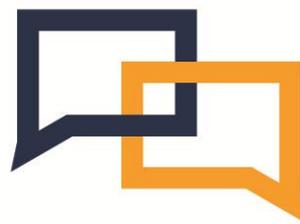
Decision Assist: A program to help deliver palliative care and advance care planning in residential and community aged care. This will help to meet a vital need as the population ages.

Delivered by a consortium including Austin Health, Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA), the Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine, CareSearch, Leading Age Services Australia (LASA), Palliative Care Australia, Qld University of Technology, and the University of Qld.

The program includes:

- A **national telephone advisory service** - **1300 668 908** - for GPs and aged care staff to call for advance care planning advice (8am - 8pm) and palliative care advice (24/7)
- An **aged care training program** for aged care staff to enhance their palliative care and advance care planning expertise (comprises e-learning and free workshops throughout Australia until December 2015)
- An **education package for GPs** on palliative care and advance care planning for the elderly (being delivered in collaboration with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine)
- A **Linkages Project** to strengthen links between palliative care and aged care
- **Easily accessible information** on palliative care and advance care planning for the elderly through a website - www.decisionassist.org.au - and other technological innovations. This includes online modules, videos and web-based broadcasts to enhance access to clinical guidance
- **Evaluation** of existing resources and the impact of the decision assist program.

For further information, visit www.decisionassist.org.au



Advance Care Planning and Specialist Palliative Care Phone Advisory Service

Decision Assist: A program to help deliver palliative care and advance care planning in aged care. This includes a telephone advisory service on **1300 668 908**.

The **telephone service** is:

- For GPs **and** aged care staff around Australia, nurses, allied health professionals **and** personal care workers
- Available **seven days per week**
- For **palliative care advice** 24-hours a day - registered nurses specialising in palliative care are on the line to answer and triage inquiries. Specialist doctors are also available as required
- For **advance care planning advice** from 8am until 8pm.

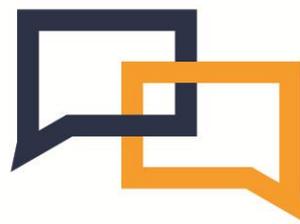
What? This service provides expert advice for:

- Inquiries on the **palliative approach**, ranging from medication, symptom management, psychosocial support and bereavement advice to information about education
- **Advance care planning**- the ethics, local laws, how to discuss, specific cases, support, education and training, as well as referral to other services as required.

Why? People with palliative care needs beyond those provided by a general service deserve access to appropriate expert care. This advisory service does not require the patient to be registered with a specialist palliative care service.

The phone advisory service is available for the cost of a local call anywhere in Australia - mobile calls are charged at mobile rates.

For more information, phone **1300 668 908** or visit the website www.decisionassist.org.au



GP education on advance care planning and palliative care

General practitioners (GPs) play a pivotal role in delivering care to the elderly at the end of life, both in the community and in aged care facilities. Decision Assist will support GPs to provide this care.

GPs and aged care staff will have access to a **national phone advisory service - 1300 668 908** – to call for advance care planning advice (8am-8pm) and palliative care advice (24/7).

Decision Assist offers education and training to GPs on:

1. Advance care planning (ethics, legalities, discussions, documentation). Educational opportunities include:

- Interactive 2 hour workshops, organised through Medicare Locals and GP conferences
- E-learning modules.

These **activities are accredited** (for CDP points) with the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

Enquiries: Email GPadvancecareplanning@austin.org.au

2. Palliative care. By applying a framework of care, based on prognostic trajectories and using key clinical processes, GPs can identify the palliative care needs of the elderly. Educational opportunities include:

- A case-based interactive workshop conducted at national and state GP conferences and by Medicare Locals and specialist palliative care services – accredited for 3 QI&CPD points with RACGP and 2 core points with ACRRM
- A case-based E-learning module (as an alternative to the workshop) available through RACGP and ACRRM online platform – similarly accredited to workshop
- A clinical audit for GPs – accredited for 40 QI&CPD points with RACGP and 30 PRPD with ACRRM
- An Active Learning Module (ALM) – accredited for 40 QI&CPD points with RACGP and 30 PRPD with ACRRM.

Enquiries: Email Project Manager, Karen Cooper at karencooper.ANZSPM@bigpond.com

To find out more about the range of GP educational opportunities, including workshop times and locations, visit the Decision Assist website www.decisionassist.org.au



Caring for Older Australians Living in the Community – A Framework for Palliative Care

The Australian and New Zealand Society of Palliative Medicine (ANZSPM) is pleased to offer this clinical audit for GPs during the 2014-2016 triennium as part of Decision Assist.

Why undertake this clinical audit?

- GPs are the primary health care providers for older Australians living in the community including residential aged care facilities.
- As the number of older Australians with cancer, progressive chronic diseases and frailty continues to grow, GPs face new and complex clinical, legal and ethical challenges in providing safe, high quality, coordinated and timely palliative care for these patients.

Expected learning outcomes

Participation in this clinical audit will enable you to:

- Implement evidence-based changes in your clinical practice to improve your delivery of care to older Australians.
- Use a framework of palliative care, based on estimated prognosis, to prompt proactive clinical management of older Australians living in the community.
- Recognise the scope of contemporary palliative care as it applies to the clinical management of older Australians living in the community.
- Use and integrate services offered by other providers (e.g. specialist palliative care services) into your clinical management of older Australians living in the community.

Accreditation

This clinical audit has been accredited by The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM) for the 2014-2016 triennium.

RACGP QI&CPD Category 1 Points = 40

ACCRM PRPD Points = 30

Contact

For further information and/or to register for this clinical audit contact:

Dr Karen Cooper, Clinical Audit Facilitator

E: karencooper.anzspm@bigpond.com

T: 0428 422 818

**An opportunity for GPs to review
their approach to managing
the care of older Australians,
living in the community with
advanced chronic conditions,
to achieve best practice outcomes**

Elements of the Clinical Audit

