The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration is a voluntary program partnering with 116 palliative care services nationally to improve patient outcomes through benchmarking. Following is a snapshot of the key outcomes in patient care for the participating services from January to June 2015.


This national report is based on information from 100 services meeting requirements for reporting:
- 59 inpatient palliative care services.
- 28 community palliative care services.
- 13 palliative care services which provide both inpatient and community care.

### Highlights of national services reporting to PCOC

- PCOC palliative care services provided 24,180 episodes of care to 19,220 patients in this period.
- 52% of palliative care episodes occurred in the hospital (inpatient setting).
- Pain management was the most improved patient outcome for both inpatient and community patients (moderate/severe PCPSS pain).
- Two benchmarks were met in the inpatient setting (one for timely hospital admission; one for pain management).
- Patient outcomes for severity of pain, other symptoms, family and carers, psychological or spiritual problems, distress from nausea, breathing problems and bowel problems were above the national average.
- For participating services, the average length of stay for a patient in hospital was 10.9 days.
- Average length of time that care was provided for a patient in the community 38.3 days.
- 9,435 (49%) of patients from participating services died during this 6-month period, of these: 71% died in hospital; 29% died in the community.
- 78% of patients had a malignant diagnosis and 22% of patients had a non-malignant diagnosis.

Please contact PCOC if you require additional or customised information.