The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration is a voluntary program partnering with 22 palliative care services across Victoria 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 Victorian report is based on information from 21 services meeting requirements for reporting:
- 11 inpatient palliative care services.
- 8 community palliative care services.
- 2 palliative care services which provide both inpatient and community care.

**Highlights of Victorian services reporting to PCOC**
- PCOC palliative care services provided 7,476 episodes of care to 5,910 patients in this period.
- 60% of palliative care episodes occurred in the home or aged care facility (community setting).
- Pain management was the most improved patient outcome for both inpatient and community patients.
- Two benchmarks were met in the inpatient setting only (one for timely hospital admission; one for pain management).
- Patient outcomes for family and carers, psychological or spiritual problems, breathing problems and bowel problems were above the national average.
- Areas for improvement include severity of other symptoms and distress from nausea, as patient outcomes were below the national average.
- For participating services, the average length of stay for a patient in hospital was 11.8 days (national average 10.9 days).
- Average length of time that care was provided for a patient in the community was 39 days (national average 38.3 days).
- 2,595 (44%) of patients from participating services died during this 6-month period, of these: 64% died in hospital; 34% died in the community.
- 74% of patients had a malignant diagnosis and 26% of patients had a non-malignant diagnosis.

Please contact PCOC if you require additional or customised information.