



# Quarterly Newsletter

1 August 2024

## Here's what has happened in the last little while and what's to come.

Kia ora koutou, welcome to the first PCCA newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments in our mission to advocate, lead and advise for a better and more accessible palliative care for all people in our community.

PCCA was formed to give a collective voice on the need for more equitable care across all of New Zealand. We bring together all the specialist palliative care organisations in Aotearoa. We meet regularly and share our work. We advocate together with politicians, and government organisations such as Te Aho a Te Kaho and Pharmac.

We have identified six key areas where access and equity in palliative care can be improved, detailed on our website.

This issue highlights various educational sessions including webinars, conferences and regional hui, that have taken place in Aotearoa this year.

**Dr Catherine D'Souza**  
Chair PCCA

We are excited about the upcoming ANZSPM annual update in Auckland, the compassionate communities national hui in Rotorua, ANZSPM conference in Adelaide in September, the bi-annual PCARN hui in November, and the Hospice New Zealand Palliative Care Conference in November in Wellington. These events offer interactive ways to support our cause. We hope to see you there!

Currently, we are working to review the Statutory Access to Palliative Care Bill.

Last week, Hospice New Zealand submitted an Official Information Act request on behalf of the PCCA regarding the End of life Review Committee.

Thank you for your continued support!

Ngā mihi nui

In this newsletter you can expect updates from:

ANZSPM

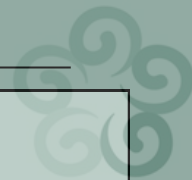
Hospice New Zealand

Hospital Palliative Care

Palliative Care Nurses (PCNNZ)

Paediatric Society:  
Paediatric Palliative Care Clinical Network

NZ Palliative Care Pharmacists (NZPCP)



## News from ANZSPM

A few highlights of the ANZSPM Aotearoa projects, include the completion of the palliative care paramedic curriculum in Auckland and Whitireia. We are looking forward to further projects to evaluate the outcomes and our first paramedicine/palliative care education day next year.

Our educational offerings include our annual update in Auckland which includes updates in medical management of palliative patients and Rongoā Māori sessions. We continue with bi-monthly webinars and warmly welcome all our colleagues to attend.

The public health palliative care (compassionate communities) online course has just finished but we are excited to be sponsoring and supporting the national Compassionate Communities Hui on the 2nd of August.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/compassionate-communities-hui-2024-tickets-907250218827>

Every year we support 1 or 2 students in palliative care research through our medical schools. In addition we provide 2 palliative care essay prizes for students.

We are also proud to sponsor and support the next National PCARN research day on the 3rd of November 2024

<https://PCARN.eventbrite.com.au>

We continue with advocacy with the RACP, Pharmac and Te aho a te kao (the cancer control agency). Please reach out to us for ideas and collaboration with our work.

## Hospice New Zealand

Check out the latest news from [Hospice New Zealand](#).

Understanding what it's like living in Aotearoa while dying is the aim of [Dying Reviews](#). This world-first online reviews system gives a voice to Kiwis dying from a terminal illness and their whanau so that as a society, we can learn and improve how to be more compassionate. [Write a Review](#).

Details of the Hospice New Zealand conference on the 4-5 November 2024 can be found [here](#).

## Palliative Care Nurses

Palliative Care Nurses New Zealand held their bi-annual conference this year in March in Wellington this year. Approximately 100 delegates attended and there were some wonderful international speakers along with the dedicated and motivated speakers from Aotearoa. We are grateful to all those who helped make the conference such a success.

The PCNNZ is made up of members from around the country and we continue to meet monthly via Zoom. We are always keen to hear from nurses who might be interested in collaborating with palliative care colleagues on this committee. An AGM will be held later this year and we welcome nominations to join in this work.

Check out our website at <https://pcnznz.co.nz/> or follow the Facebook page to keep up with the news and education opportunities.



## Paediatric Society: Paediatric Palliative Care Clinical Network

The Paediatric Palliative Care Clinical Network's mission is to raise awareness, focus on equity and accessibility of PPC, escalate the voice of the child and prioritise Te Tiriti in everything we do.

We have partnered with Health NZ, Te Whatu Ora to form a working group to complete the Model of Care for paediatrics. This is almost complete.

We are continuing to run our monthly (third Tuesday) education sessions for all clinicians. Please email [ppccn@paediatrics.org.nz](mailto:ppccn@paediatrics.org.nz) to be placed on the email list for more information.

We are looking forward to collaborating with Palliative Care Australia to update our NZ PPC clinical guidelines.

## Hospital Palliative Care Aotearoa (HPCA)

Hospital Palliative Care Aotearoa (HPCA) is honoured to be part of PCCA.

Our 22nd annual conference was held on June 14th in Whanganui a Tara with 40 attendees. Our program included rural hospital palliative care, pharmacists role in hospital, simulation in teaching palliative care, paediatric hospital palliative care plus viewing of new documentary 'Te Whakahemohemo-The Way We care' (accessible on Whakaata Maori+).

We are preparing a document on the important unresolved issue of out-of-hours hospital palliative care provision which we will submit to Adult Models of Palliative care working group through our representative Dr Evelyn Gerrish.

Our two webinars in 2024 are on 31 July 4pm Dr Alex Psirides on death and dying in ICU and October 23 rd , 4pm Tissue Donation Team, Wellington hospital.

## NZ Palliative Care Pharmacists

This is the group for clinical pharmacists working in hospices and those with a specialist interest in palliative care in New Zealand.

For more information please contact Selena Chiu at [selenachiu@gmail.com](mailto:selenachiu@gmail.com) or visit the Clinical Advisory Pharmacist Association (CAPA) website for information, peer support and latest meeting minutes.

Current projects include examining areas of New Zealand with pharmacy aseptic contracts, conducting doctoral research on community pharmacies providing palliative care, addressing the recent Controlled Drug shortage, and investigating preventable medicine incidents.

## Updates from the committee

- We are seeking EOI's for Māori representation to ensure a strong Te Tiriti voice in our advocacy work.
- We are seeking EOI's for General Practice representation. General practice provides palliative care to many in our community and we want to recognise this in the work that is done.
- Please do not hesitate to reach out to us on [admin@pcca.nz](mailto:admin@pcca.nz) or the Paediatric Palliative Care Clinical Network [ppccn@paediatrics.org.nz](mailto:ppccn@paediatrics.org.nz) if there is anything you want to share or collaborate!

Ēhara tāku toa i te toa takatahi, engari he  
toa takitini.

Our strength is not made from us alone, but  
from the collective.