



Northern Queensland Primary Health Network

Activity Work Plan

PHN Pilots and Targeted Programs

2019/20 – 2023/24



NQPHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Nation Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of this land. We respect their continued connection to land and sea, country, kin, and community. We also pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging as the custodians of knowledge and lore.



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PP&TP-GCPC1 – Greater Choice for At Home Palliative Care (GCfHPC) program

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Other – Palliative Care

Aim of activity

The overall aim of this activity is to increase awareness of, and facilitate and coordinate access to, safe and quality palliative and end-of-life care at home across the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) catchment.

Description of activity

NQPHN's Health Needs Assessment 2022-2025 references are:

- Demand for palliative care is increasing in the NQPHN catchment. Palliative care is not limited to specialist care services but includes primary and community service providers. About 70 per cent of palliative care is delivered outside the specialist and hospital settings and is delivered by primary care providers such as general practitioners (GPs), health and community services, aged care services, and community and volunteer organisations and groups (page 41).
- Some groups have more difficulty accessing palliative care that is appropriate for their needs, including:
 - people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or intersex (LGBTI)
 - people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
 - people with a disability
 - people experiencing homelessness
 - veterans
 - refugees
 - prisoners
 - care leavers (which includes Forgotten Australians, Former Child Migrants, and Stolen Generations) and people affected by forced adoption or removal.
- Even though most people want to die at home, more than 75 per cent die in hospital or residential aged care (page 41).
- Over the next 20 years, the number of people who die each year will double with proportion of older people in the population growing faster than the population growth. Rates of admissions to public hospitals for palliative care have increased overall across northern Queensland Hospital and Health Services (page 41).
- Publicly available datasets which reliably capture community-based palliative care service delivery is lacking (page 41).



PP&TP-AHPGPE1 – Allied Health Aged Care COVID-19 Response – COVID Allied Health Package GP Education

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Population Health

Aim of activity

The aim is to provide an education package to general practitioners (GPs), practice nurses, and other primary care providers in the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) catchment regarding importance of providing allied health services to people in residential aged care facilities experiencing dementia and/or other complex medical needs and on the availability of new temporary Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) allied health and mental health items for residents of aged care facilities and how these can be used to support the residents.

Description of activity

NQPHN will support the delivery of GP education package sessions. Sessions will be delivered in the most appropriate mode at the time, including face-to-face or interactive webinars. Sessions may be recorded to enable wider dissemination to maximise update, reach, and potential impact.

This activity will be completed by 30 June 2022.

Alignment with the Health Needs Assessment 2022-2025

NQPHN's Health Needs Assessment 2022-2025 references is:

- Population Health (page 117).

