Title: Inquiry into end of life choices

Date 30 July 2015

SouthWest Healthcare





South West Healthcare (SWH) is committed to providing a comprehensive range of health care services to enhance the quality of life for people in south west Victoria. SWH provides extensive medical, nursing, mental health, allied health and community health services.

SWH's vision: To be a leader in providing innovative and quality health services

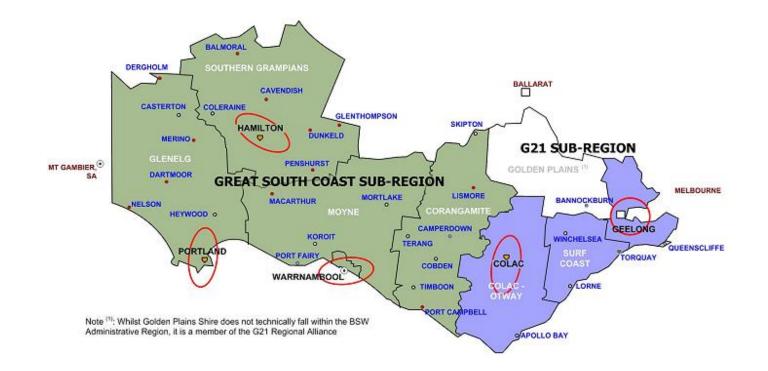
SWH's mission: We are committed to provide a comprehensive range of healthcare services to enhance the quality of life for people of South West Victoria.

An integral service provided by SWH is Palliative Care.

Palliative Care is provided for people of all ages who have a life-limiting illness with little or no prospect of cure.

Palliative Care is provided through the Community Program, the Palliative Care Inpatient Unit & Paediatric Unit at Warrnambool Campus.







Community Team Members:

- Nurse Consultant Coordinator
- Nurse Consultants
- Medical Director
- Medical Intern
- Palliative Care counsellor
- Palliative Aged Care Support Nurse
- Coordinator of volunteers
- Volunteer Pastoral Care Worker
- Cancer Link Nurse



Community Service delivery

July 1 2014 to 30 June 2015

Referrals to service:	146
Total Contacts:	3849
Discharges:	24
Patient Deaths:	122



Palliative Care Inpatient Unit

- 6 single rooms
- Multidisciplinary team approach
- All phases of care
- End of life Pathway
- Length of Stay



Paediatrics & Palliative Care

- Demographics
- SWH Service Delivery
- End of life care
- Specialists involved



Governance Structure:

- Department of Health Strengthening palliative care: Policy and strategic directions 2011-2015. Strategic directions 1 to 7
- Department of Health Advance care planning strategy: Advance care planning: have the conversation A strategy for Victorian health services 2014-2018
- Accreditation: EQuiP National standards 1-10
- Barwon South Western Region Palliative Care Consortium
- Cancer and Palliative Care Governance Committee
- Advance care planning committee
- Palliative Care working party





Respite Services:

Limited Respite Support Services available depending on patient location

Gap in service provision for patients aged under 65 years of age

Gap in service provision for patients not eligible for Home and Community Care Funding

In home respite minimal except for Terminal phase care for Warrnambool City clients through the newly established hospice in the home.



After hours support:

All patients receive 24 hour phone support from combined SWH Nursing staff and after hours from Caritas Christi Melbourne.

Patients in the SWH Warrnambool District Nursing Service Catchment receive 24 hour call out support.



Advance Care Planning

- Internally SWH has a project worker who is funded for .5 eft
- Externally SWH works in partnership with the Public Health Network. Currently there is no service being provided in this area.
- SWH is on target with the timelines and requirements outlined in the strategy



End of Life Care

Pathway:

Currently the end of life care pathway is used in the inpatient unit and will be reviewed for use in the community setting.

Currently 13 aged care facilities within the region utilise end of life care pathways.

Choice of place of death:

At home Inpatient setting Unsure



Carer Support

- Introduction of the CSNAT at SWH
- Support is currently dependant on :

Patient demographic location

Financial situation

Services and Resources available

Family support available



From around the region...

- SWH Camperdown Campus
- SWH Lismore Community Health Service
- Oncologists
- Consumer feedback
- A positive patient story...



Identified Gaps in Service:

- Medical
- Paediatric
- Community
- Inpatient



Moving forward...

