

End-of-Life Essentials 2026

End-of-Life Essentials (EOLE) is a National Palliative Care Project funded by the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, and delivered by Flinders University.

Welcome

- EOLE Project proud to sponsor the Acute Care Concurrent Session at the PCNA conference.
- Welcome the opportunity to support and recognise the amazing work being undertaken by health services and teams across Australia to support the delivery of high-quality end-of-life care to patients



EOLE education and resources



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End-of-Life Essentials

Our free education modules are designed to assist doctors, nurses and allied health professionals working in acute hospitals in delivering end-of-life care.

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Education for Health Professionals



Training Resources for Educators



Accreditation Essentials for Managers

EOLE education and resources recommended by:



Department of
Health

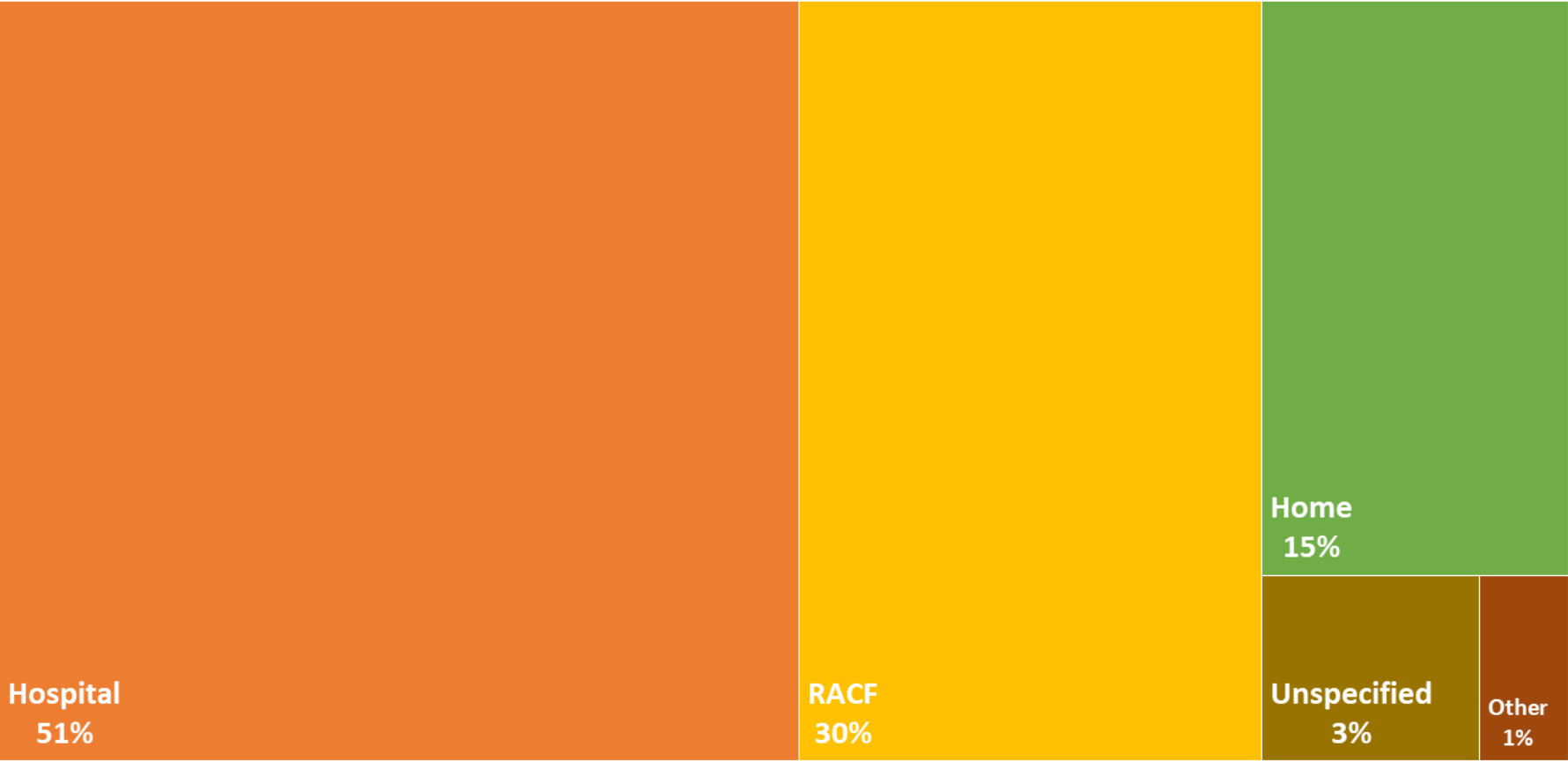


Agency for
Clinical Innovation



Australians die in health care settings

PLACE OF DEATH 2021 ABS



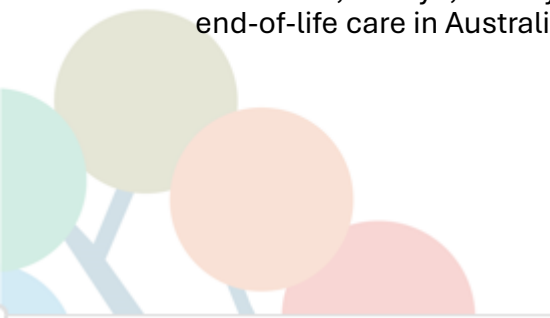
On average 1-4 hospital admissions in the last year of life

The largest Australian study of hospital deaths (1693 inpatients) revealed only 12% of patients have existing advance care plans, **recognition of death is predominantly within the last 48 hours of life**, with 60% receiving investigations and interventions during this time with late symptom relief.

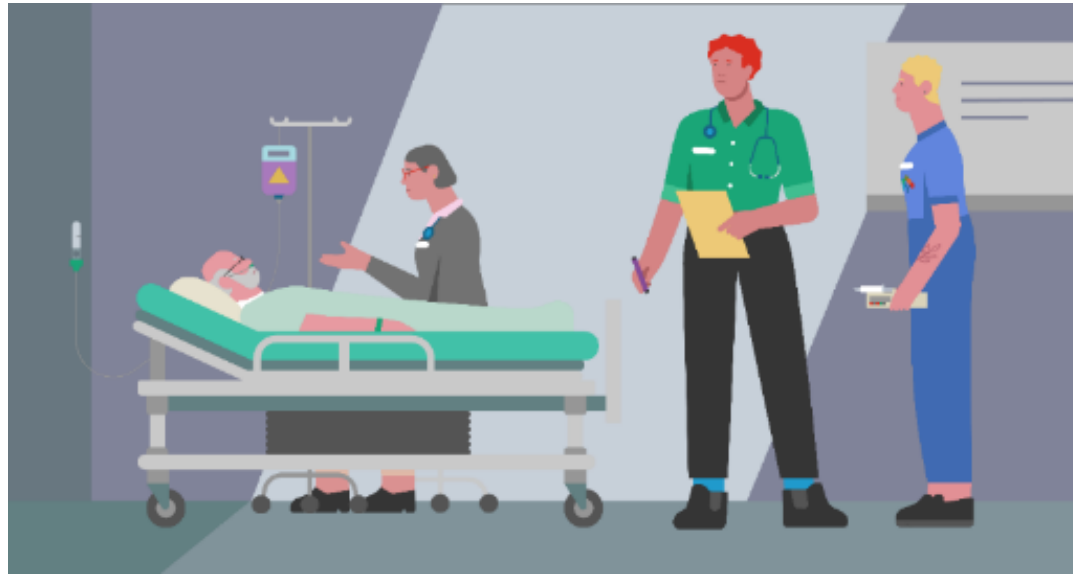
Decisions to involve palliative care or start conversations about supportive care often happened in the last 48 hours of life. Recognition of dying happened hours or days prior to death *

Enormous opportunities to recognise end of life, meet needs, and develop goals of care.

*Mitchell I, Lacey J, Anstey M, Corbett C, Douglas C, Drummond C, Hensley M, Mills A, Scott C, Slee JA, Weil J, Scholz B, Burke B, D'Este C. Understanding end-of-life care in Australian hospitals. Aust Health Rev. 2021 Jun 2. doi: 10.1071/AH20223.



End-of-life conversations

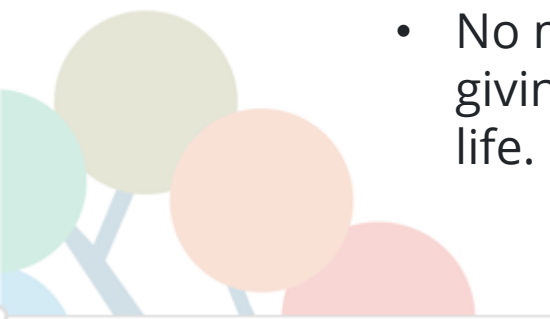


“Clinicians don't like talking about dying. They're there to be positive, to keep you alive. To a certain extent, I think they see death as a failure on their part.”⁶



Summary

- Most Australians will predictably die at a very old age in hospital.
- Patients and families often are unprepared for health care choices at the end of life.
- Well-coordinated, high-quality end-of-life care begins with early conversations with patients about their wishes, preferences and goals. If these conversations are postponed, patients are unable to express preferences or access high quality end-of-life care.
- End-of-Life Essentials education and resources are designed to support health professionals in delivering end-of-life care to patients.
- No matter your role or where you work, you can make a huge difference by giving patients and their families the chance to talk and prepare for the end of life.



Education Modules

Orientation to End-of-Life Care

- Recognising Dying
- Imminent Death
- Communication and Decision-Making

Collaboration and Coordination of Care

- Teamwork and Escalating Concerns
- Coordinating Patient Care
- Voluntary Assisted Dying in Acute Hospitals

Specific EoL Care

- EoL Care for Diverse Populations
- Emergency Department EoL Care
- Paediatric EoL Care



Comprehensive Care

- Goals of Care at the End of Life
- Chronic Complex Illness EoL Care
- Bereavement Care

Patient Mental Health

- Understanding Patient Mental Health at the End of Life

Accreditation and Management

- Meeting the Standards
- Clinical Change Management



www.endoflifeessentials.com.au

Email us: eolessentials@flinders.edu.au

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