

Patient outcomes in palliative care – a national perspective on malignant and non-malignant diseases

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13th Australian Palliative Care Conference: Palliative Care - Fit for the Future
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

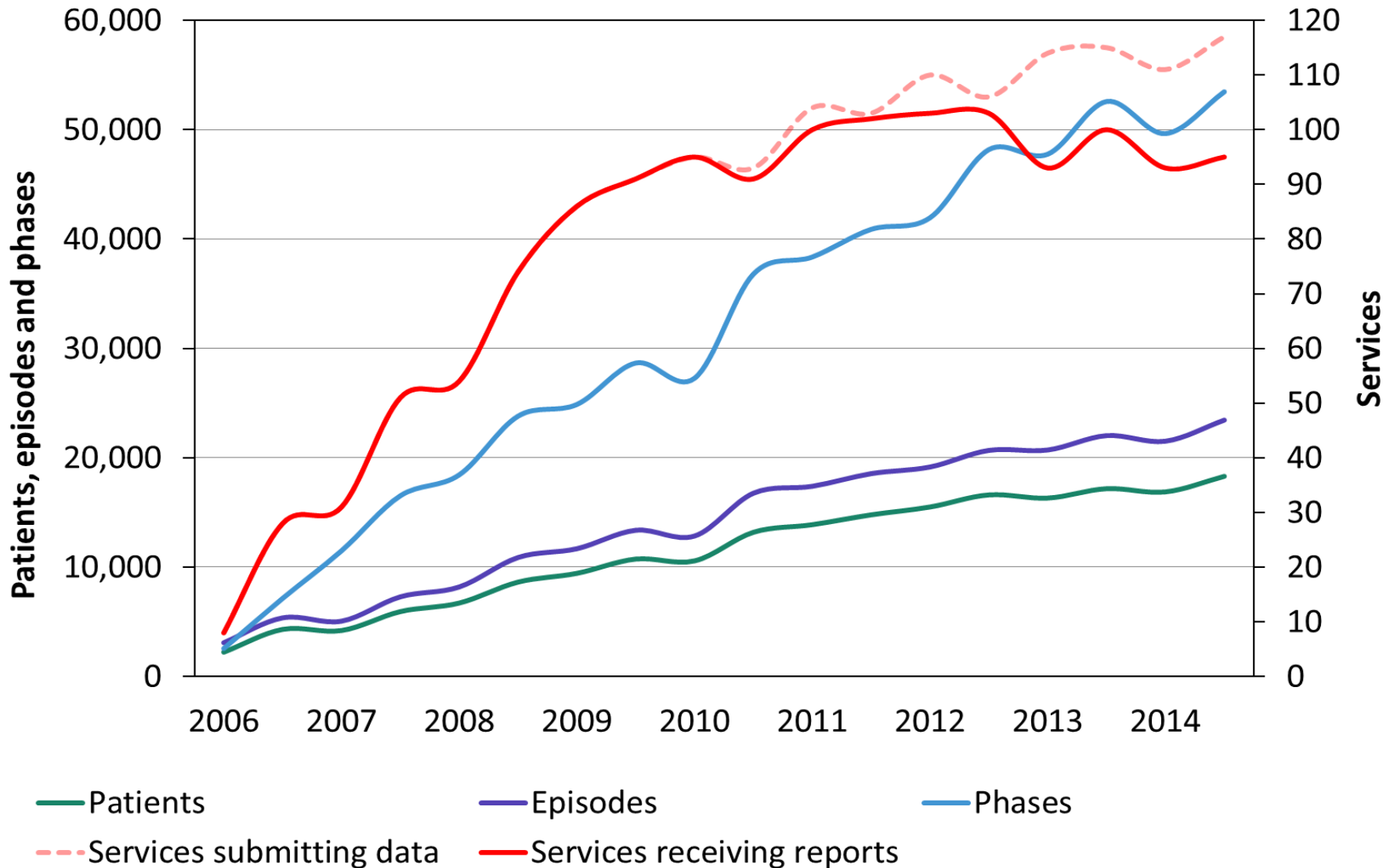
4 September 2015

Background about PCOC

The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC) aims to **improve patient outcomes** through:

- routine clinical outcome measurement
- periodic surveys and
- benchmarking.

Trends in volume of PCOC services and activity



Levels of analysis

- Patients
 - who have one or more
- Episodes of care (inpatient, community, consult)
 - Consisting of one or more
- Phases
 - Stable
 - Unstable
 - Deteriorating
 - Terminal
 - Bereaved

The analysis being presented today

- July 2013 – June 2014
- 26,382 patients
- includes patients who received care as:
 - inpatients
 - hospital and hospice
 - in the community
 - patient's home including residential aged care facility

Statistical analysis

- Mantel-Haenszel Chi-squared tests used to investigate differences in age and function (Australia-modified Karnofsky Performance status) profiles of the malignant and non-malignant cohorts.
- Logistic Generalised Estimating Equation (GEE) models used to compare symptom profiles

Overall patient profile

Female - 46%

Indigenous - 1%

Born in Australia 64%

Two cohorts

- ‘Malignant’ category consists of all patients with a primary diagnosis of cancer (79%).
- ‘Non-malignant’ category consists of all other patients (21%).

Two cohorts – top 3 diagnoses

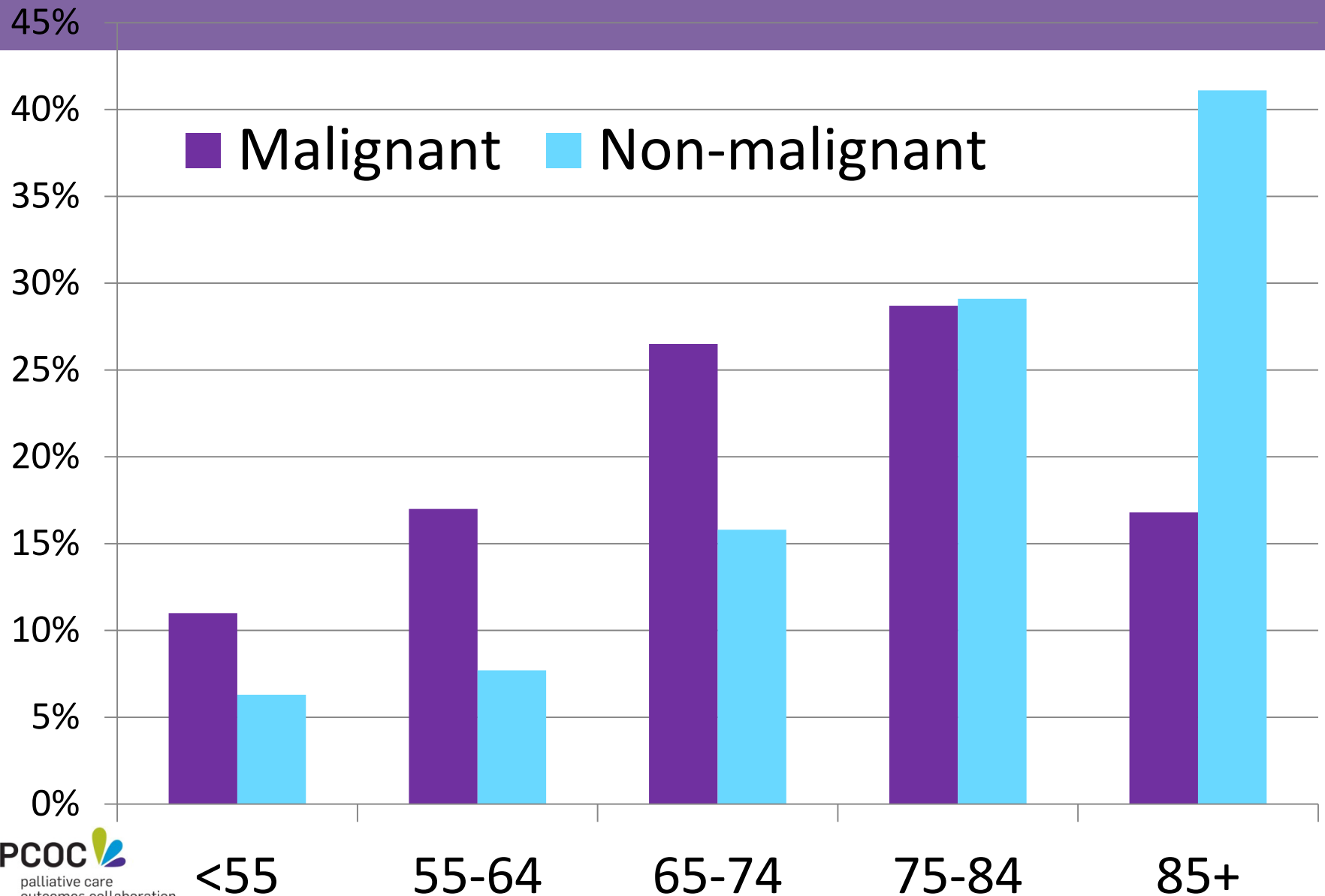
Malignant

1. Respiratory
2. Colorectal
3. Other gastrointestinal tract

Non-malignant

1. Cardio vascular disease
2. Respiratory failure
3. End stage kidney disease

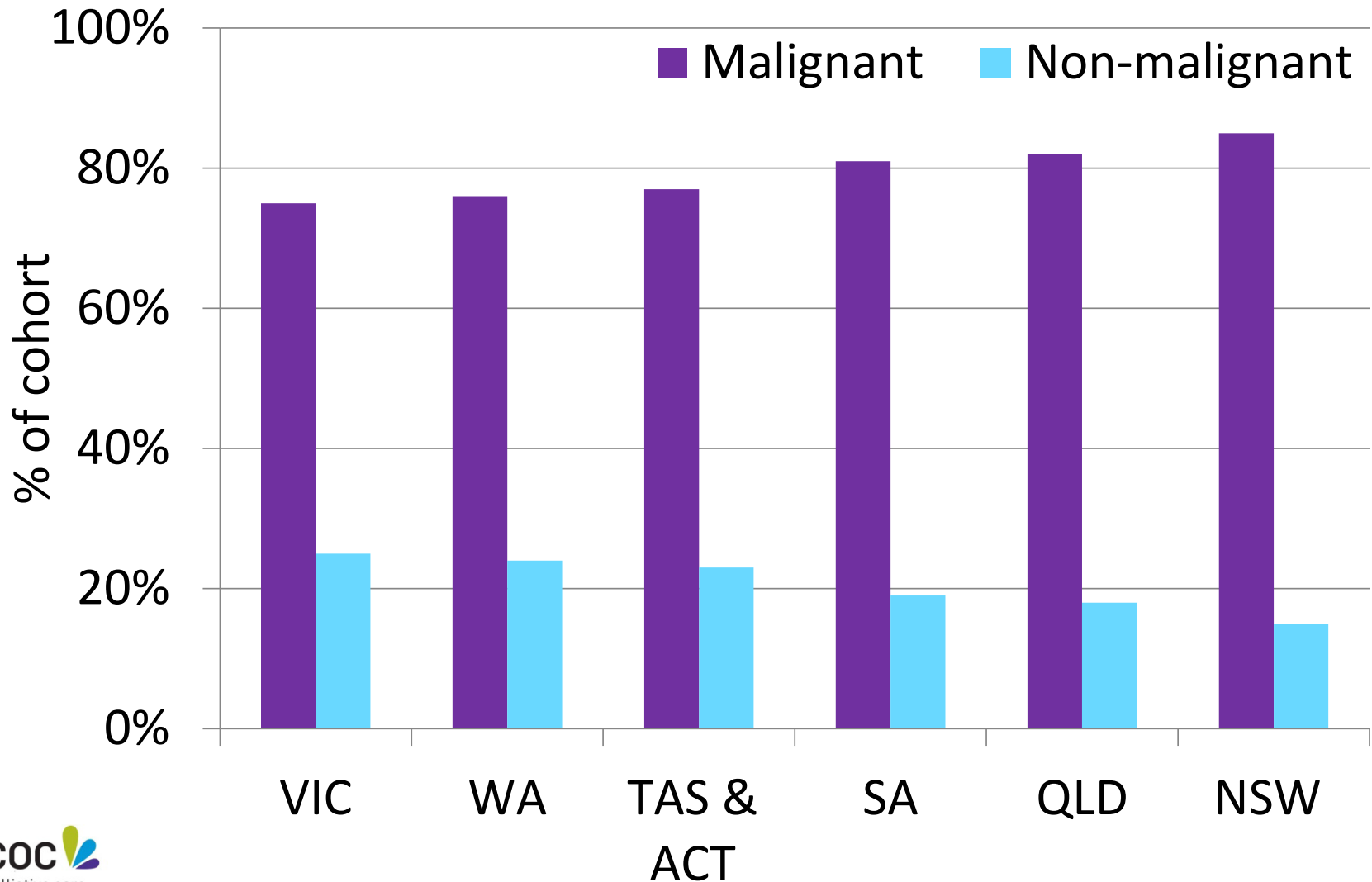
Age profile - % of each cohort



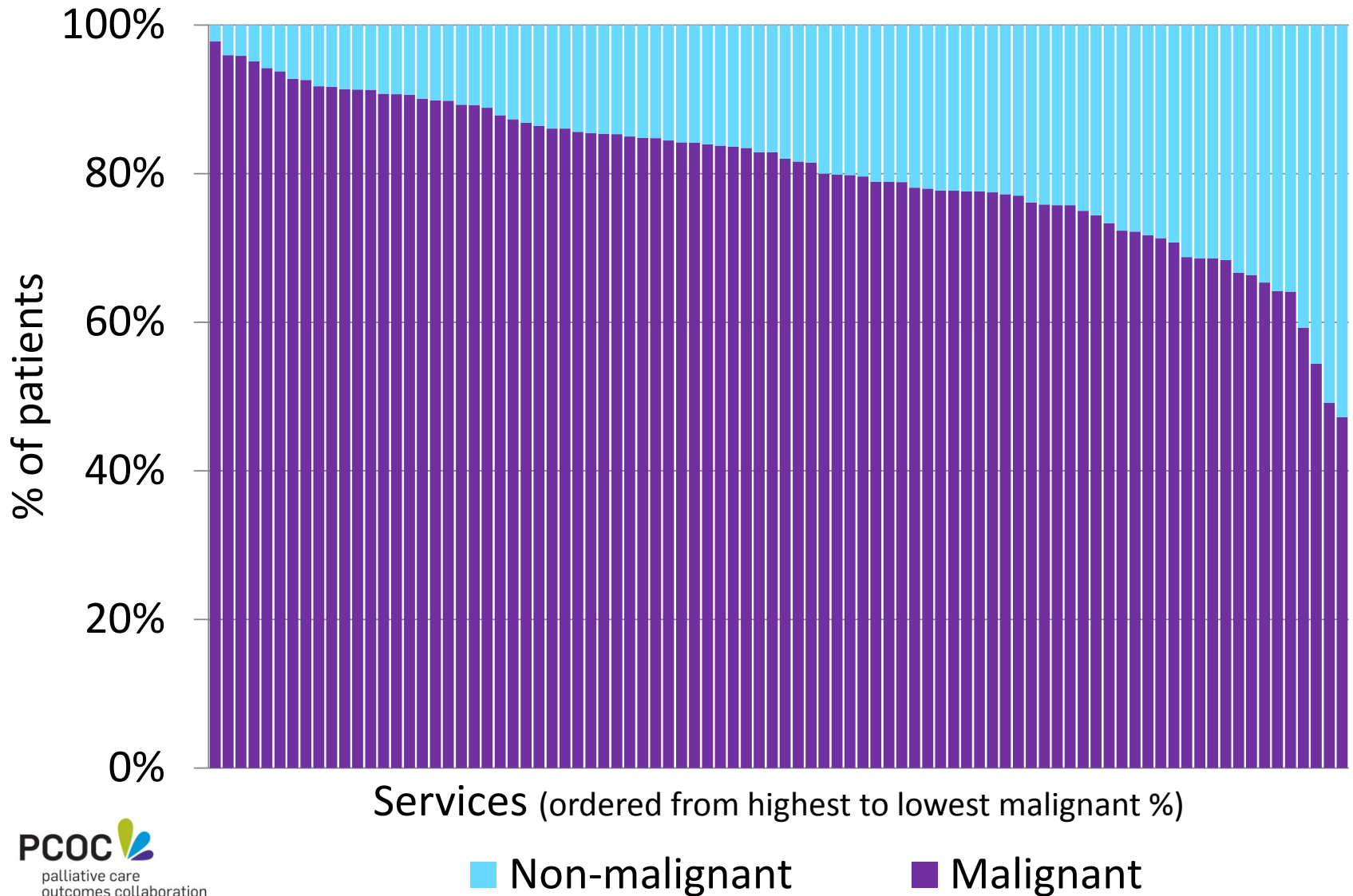
Profile by setting

- Inpatient episodes
 - 80.4% malignant
 - 19.6% non-malignant
- Community episodes
 - 82.5% malignant
 - 17.5% non-malignant

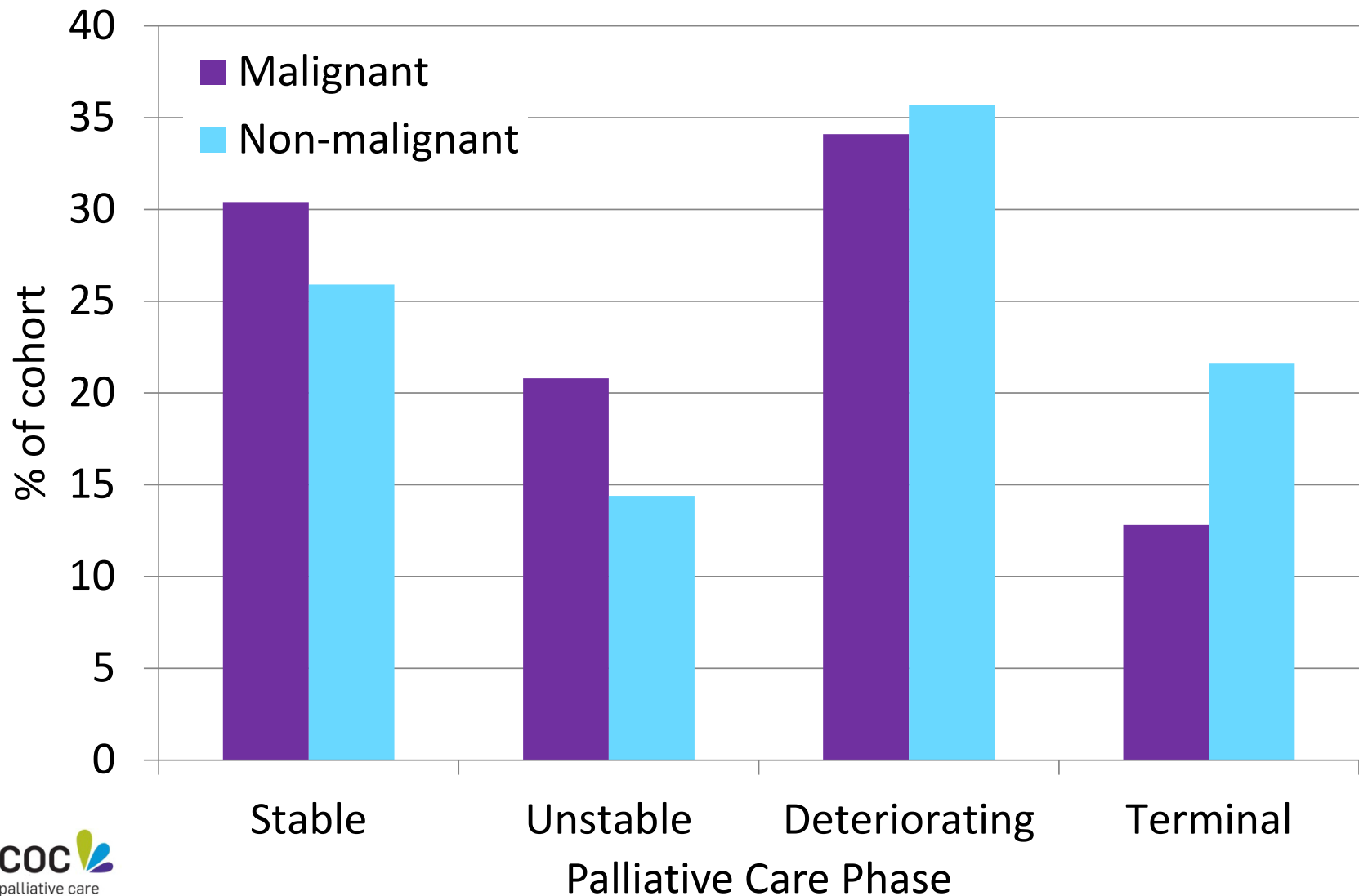
Demographic profile



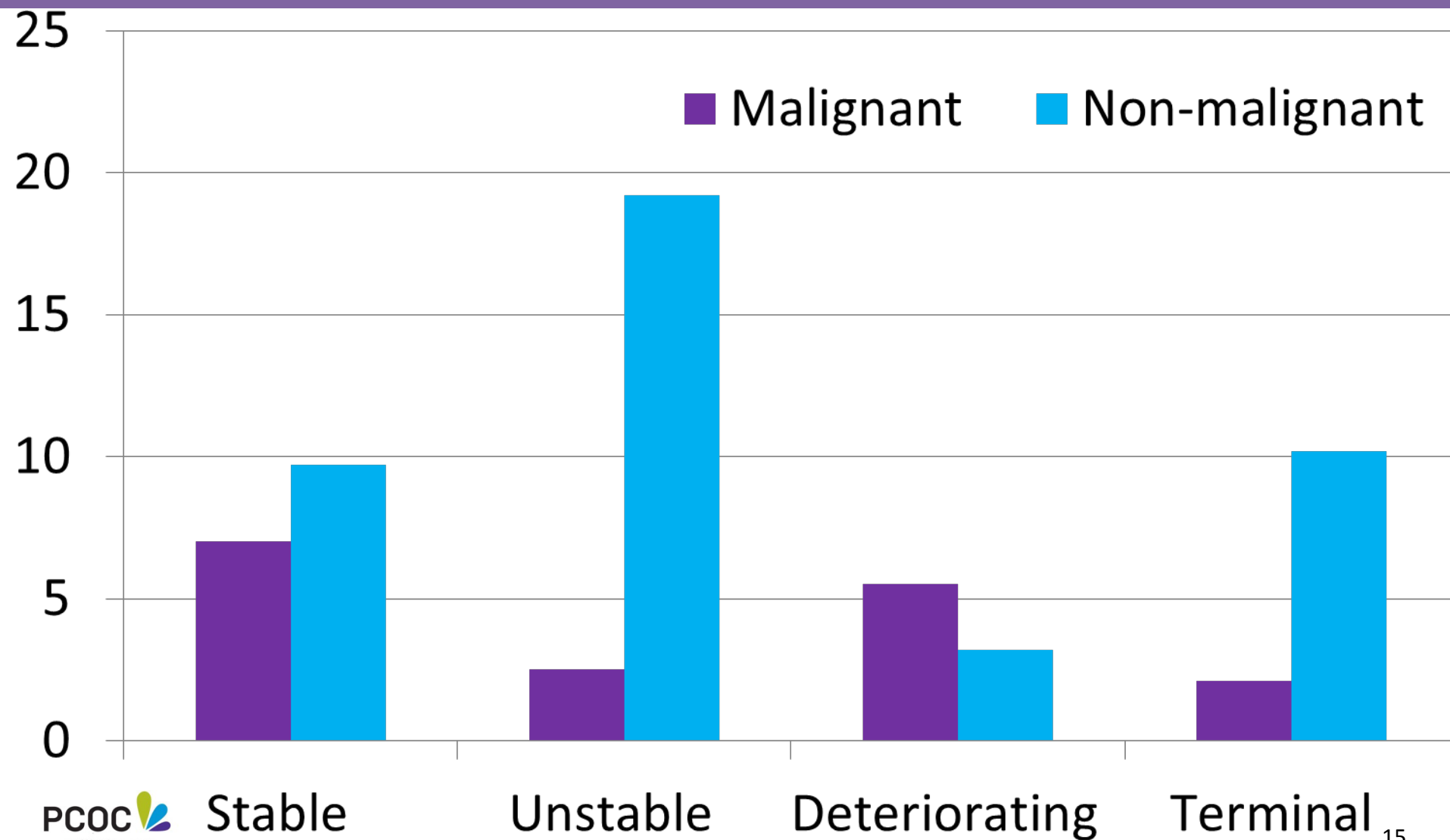
Diagnosis profile by service



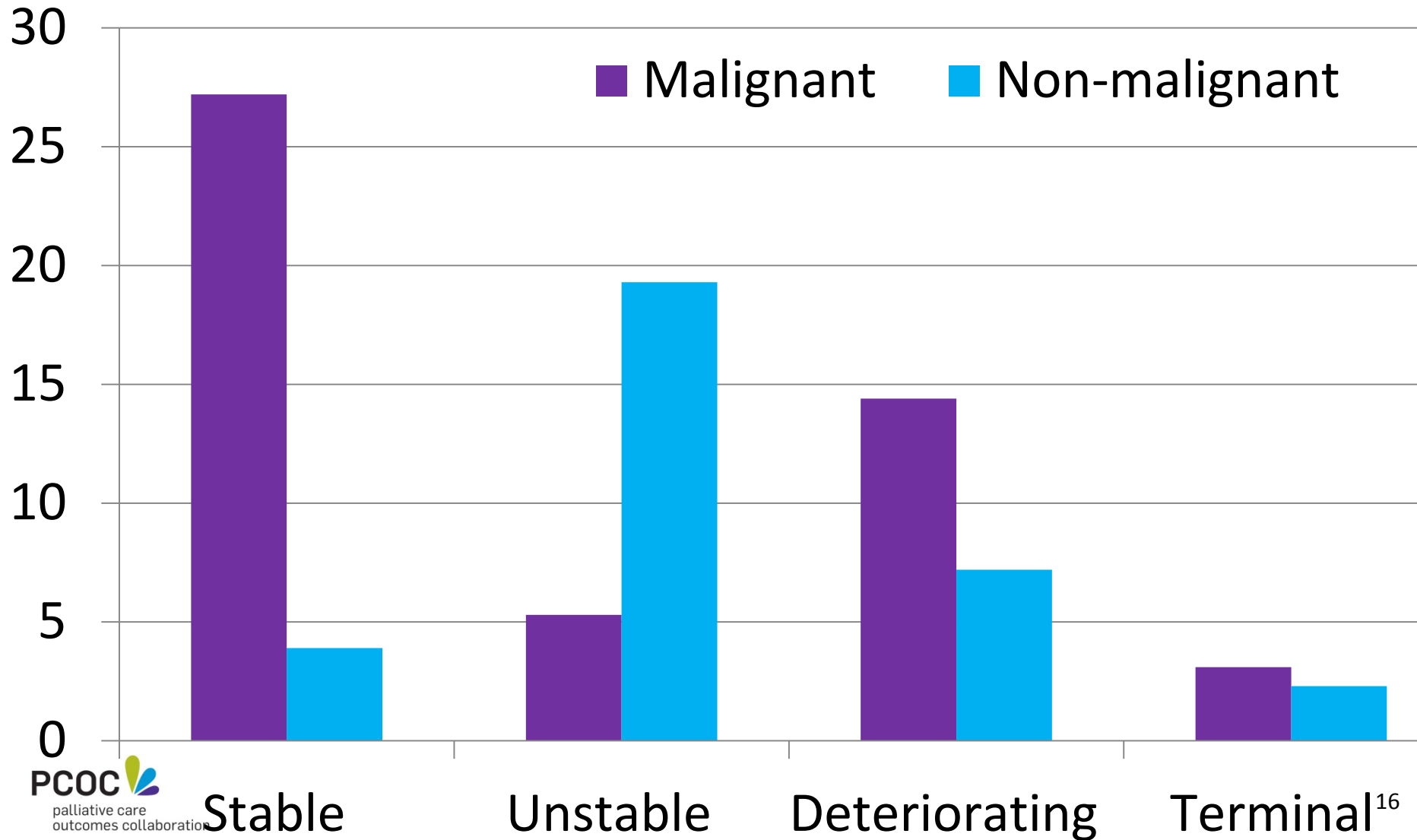
Phase profile by diagnosis



Average length of phase - inpatient



Average phase length – community (lapsed days)

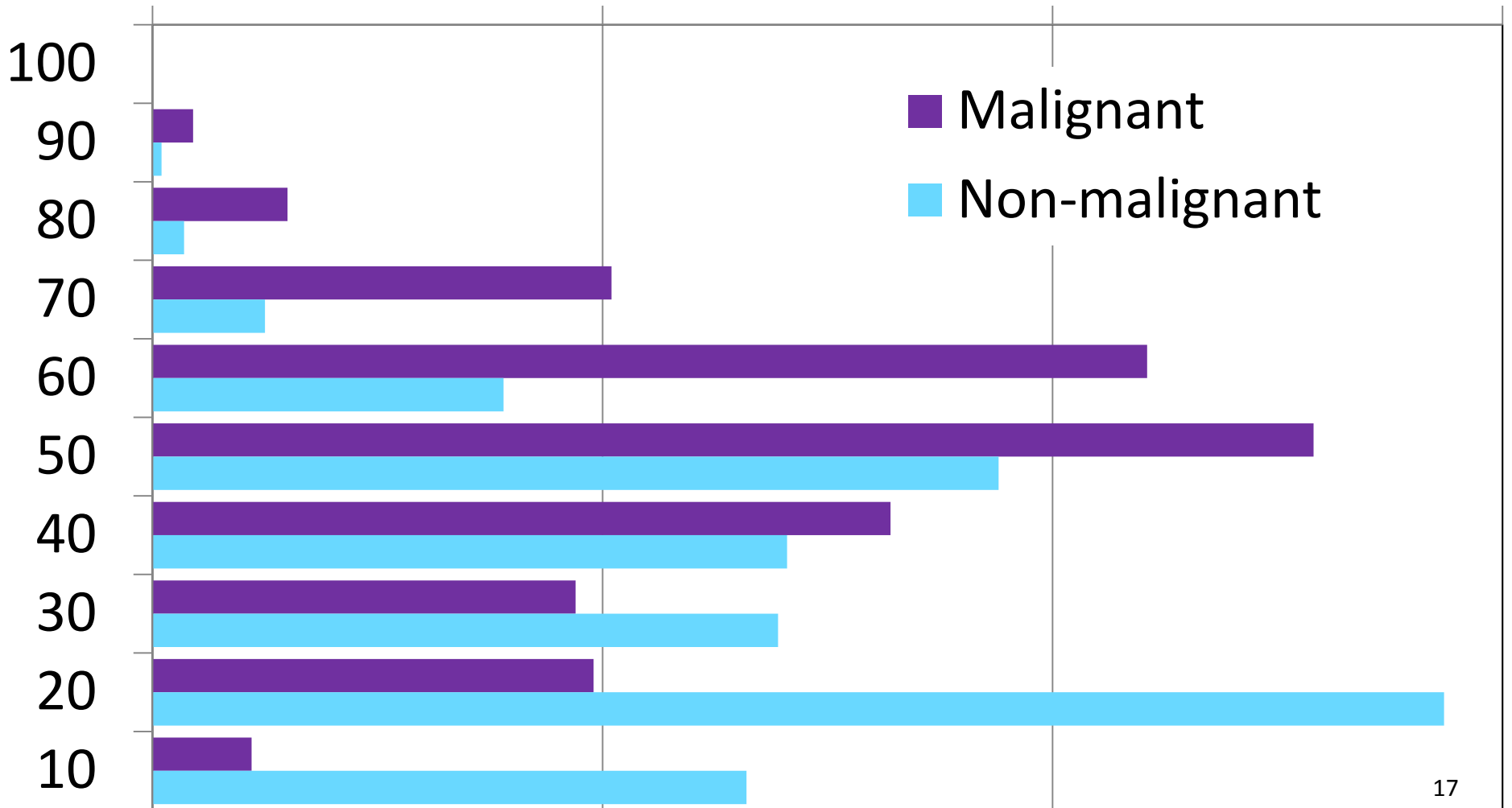


Performance status (Karnofsky)

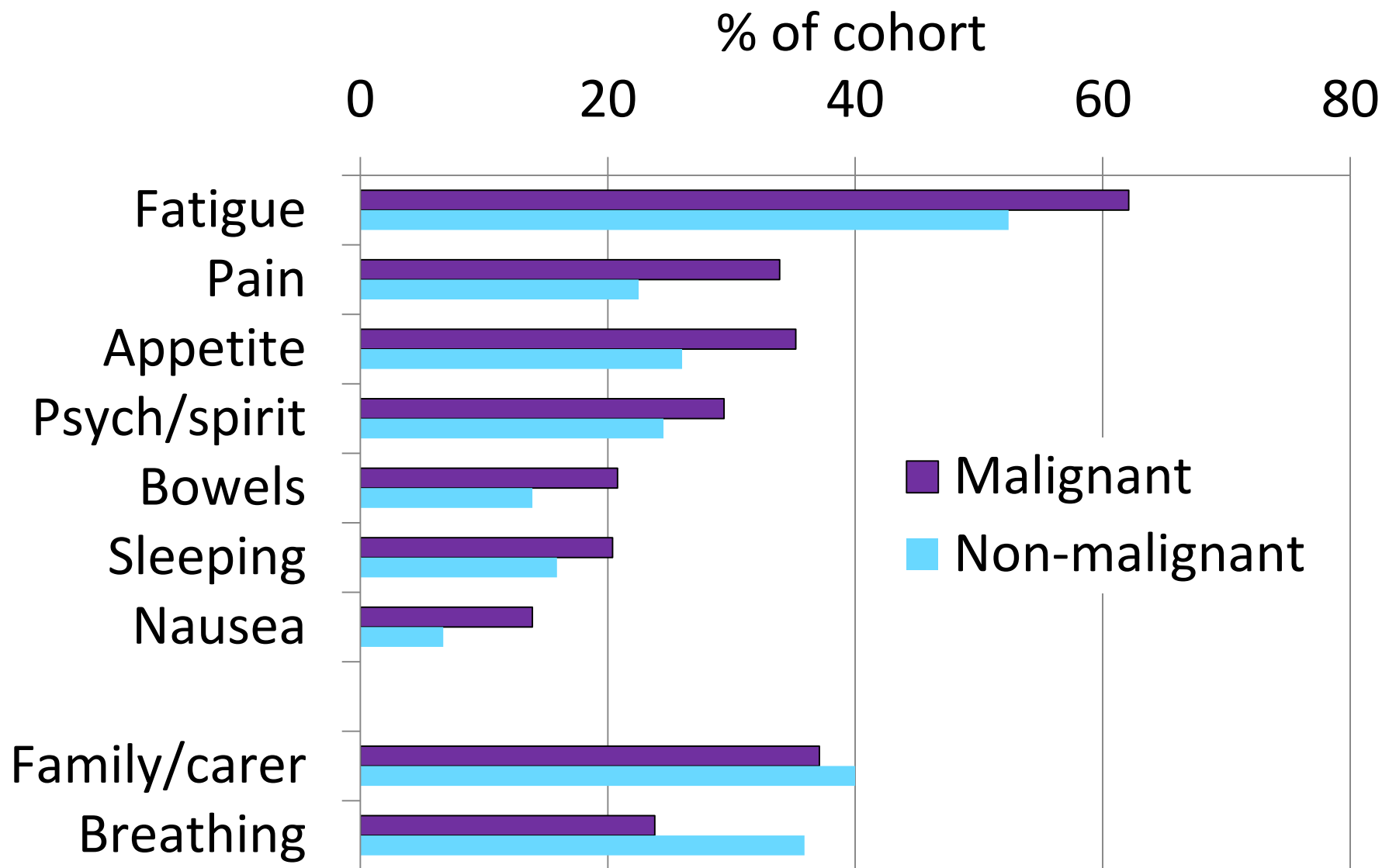
(100 is normal, 10 is comatose)

% of cohort

0 10 20 30



Moderate severe symptoms/problems



Conclusions

The non-malignant cohort represents 21.2% of all patients

- % is slowly increasing each year, up from 18.8% in 2008

Compared to patients with malignant conditions, the non-malignant cohort:

- Older (41% over 84 years compared to 17%)
- Poorer function
- Different symptom profile
- Referred later (shorter episodes, higher % in terminal phase, including at referral)

Acknowledgements

The Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration is a national palliative care project funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

The Centre for Research Excellence in End of Life Care is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council