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for Clinical  
Innovation

# Building a Blueprint for Improvement in NSW

Palliative Care: Fit for the Future :: 4 Sept 2015

Dr Rob Wilkins | Program Manager | Agency for Clinical Innovation

Collaboration.  
Innovation.  
Better Healthcare.

# The Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI)

- The ACI works with clinicians, consumers and managers to design and promote better healthcare for NSW.

# The ACI

- 40 Networks
  - Specialty specific and medically defined ones
  - System-oriented
- Acute Care Taskforce
- Emergency Care Institute



# Why Networks?

...[they] engage stakeholders in negotiating agreements about what is necessary, desirable, feasible...and elicit people's commitment to realising those agreements in practice.

Iedema, R., Verma, R., Wutzke, S., Lyons, N. and McCaughan, B. (under review)

A network of networks? Novel governance of collaborative approaches to healthcare reform and improvement. *Journal of Health Services Research & Policy*  
[submitted for review in Sept 2014]



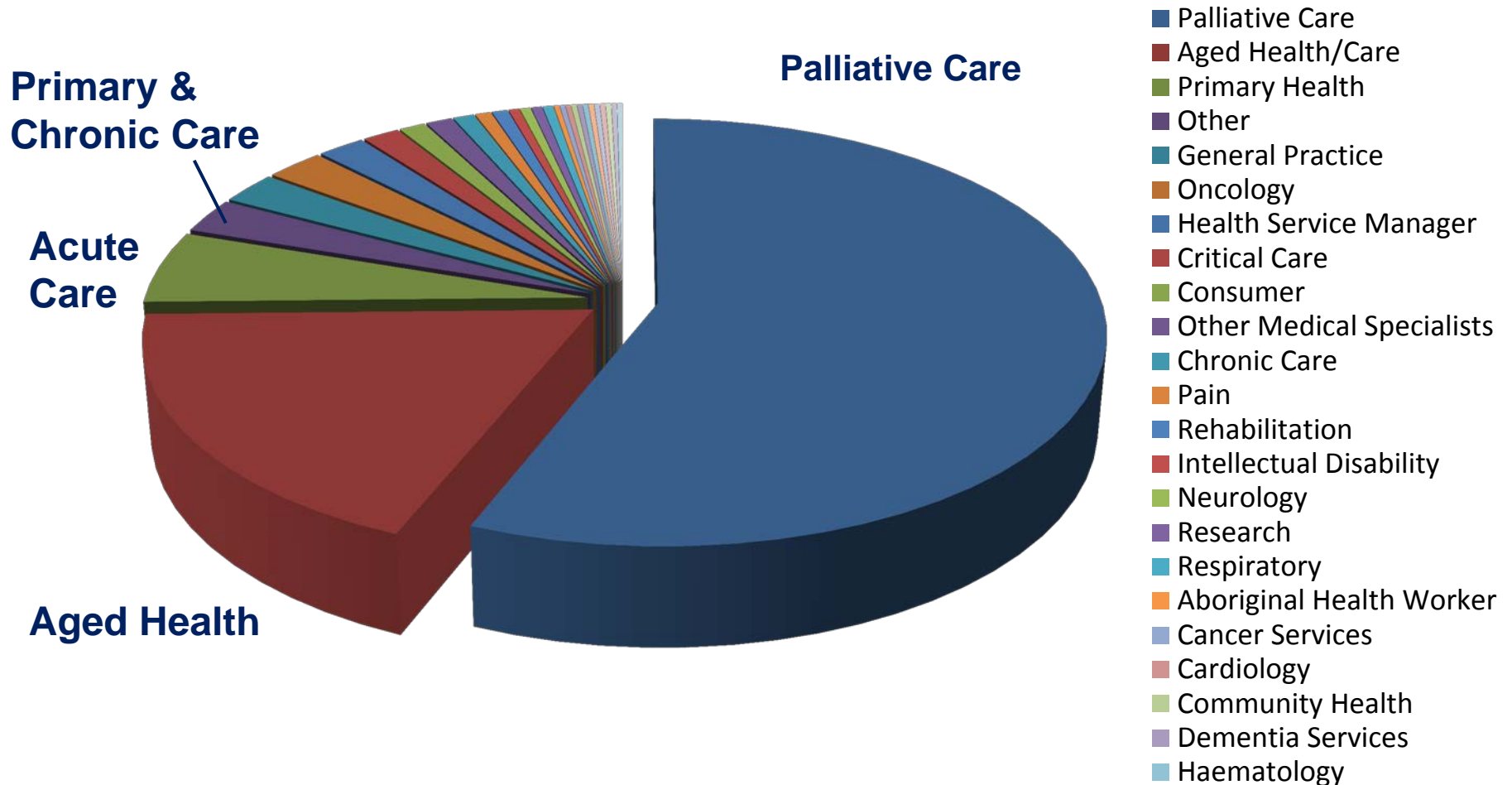
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# Who are we?



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**N= 470**



# Authors

Dr Ghauri Aggarwal

Dr Andrew Broadbent

Mr Joshua Cohen

Dr Craig Lewis

Ms Jenny McKenzie

Ms Stephanie Williams

Ms Joanne Russell

Dr Emily Saurman

Ms Liz Hay

Mr Jason Bentley

Ms Kate Russell

Ms Sue Hanson

Dr Richard Chye

Ms Janeane Harlum

Dr Liz Lobb

Dr Yvonne McMaster

Mr Nick Goryl

Dr Michael Tan

Ms Michelle Shiel

Ms Joanne Hann

Ms Patricia Correll

Ms Catherine Knight

Mr Geoffrey Berry

Mr Peter Cleasby

Dr Theresa Jacques

Ms Coral Marks

Ms Sarah Ramsay

Dr Rob Wilkins

Mr Collin Begg

Dr Sarah Wenham

Ms Jennifer Parkin

Ms Kim Lim

Mr Chris Shipway





# Authors

470 +

clinicians, researchers, carers,  
consumers, health service managers,  
advocates





# Vision

- To ensure that all NSW residents have equitable access to quality care based on assessed need as they approach and reach the end of life.



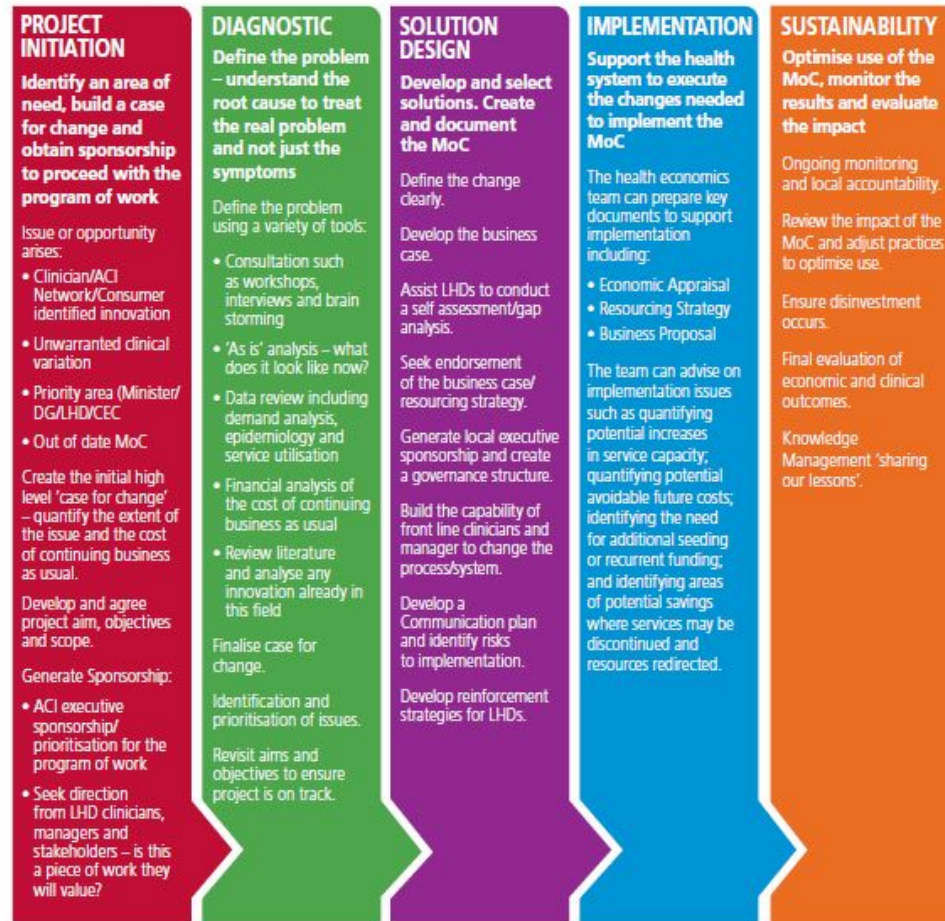
# Wicked Problem

- Socially complex - no clear solutions
- Differing perspectives
- Multiple, interrelated factors
- No single source of responsibility
- Affects everyone



## Diagram 1: Process Flow Chart for developing a Model of Care (MoC)

This document is used to illustrate the process for developing a Model of Care. It encompasses the work owned by the project manager and the functions that the Clinical Redesign and Implementation Team assist with.



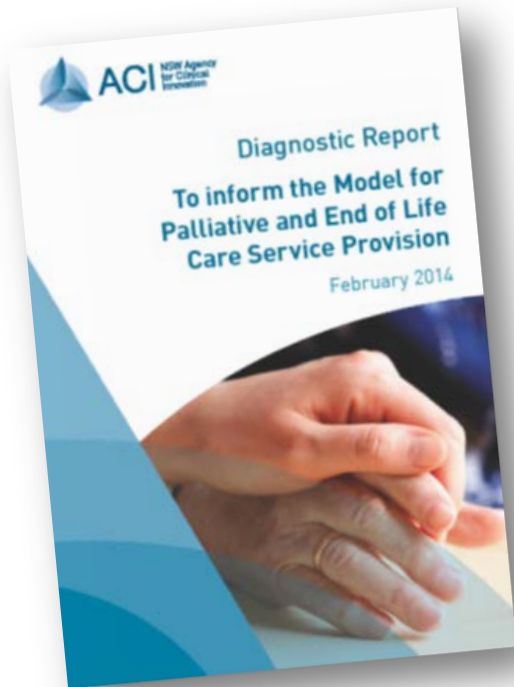
# Improvement journey



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# Methodologies

- 1200 semi-structured individual and group interviews
- Fact of Death Analysis
- Grounded Theory Analysis
- 12 Key Learnings
- Proposal of architecture
- Modified Delphi Technique with the Network
- CareSearch sourced Tools and Resources



# Fact of Death Analysis

- An exploratory analysis of the use of NSW public hospital services by people who died in 2011/12 and were hospitalised and/or presented to ED a year prior to their death



Analysis undertaken by the Health Economics and Evaluation Team, ACI using NSW Combined Admitted Patient Epidemiology Data and ABS population estimates (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health



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# Headline Findings

- There were around 38, 282 deaths relevant to this analysis
- 164,794 hospitalisations
- Relatively intense use of admitted acute hospital services
- 76% of all people who died in 2011/12 presented to ED in the year prior to the persons' death
- Average length of stay considerably higher (13 days when day only admissions excluded)





# Headline Findings - costs

**\$977.4 million** for inpatient admitted care (1.4 million bed days)

**\$32.5 million** for non-admitted presentations to ED

Analysis undertaken by the Health Economics and Evaluation Team, ACI using NSW Combined Admitted Patient Epidemiology Data and ABS population estimates (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health



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# Headline Findings

**Total cost of hospitalisations and non-admitted emergency presentations was about \$1 billion**

Analysis undertaken by the Health Economics and Evaluation Team, ACI using NSW Combined Admitted Patient Epidemiology Data and ABS population estimates (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health



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# What we learned?

- Myths
- Gaps
- Goodwill and passion
- Risk
- Scepticism and disagreement
- Innovation and pride
- Language is confusing



# Rural

*'We're very good at thinking outside the square. We cobble together a service that is appropriate for the patient – try to help, rather than explain to people why we can't help.'*

**Rural Remote Palliative Care Specialist**

*'We provide a good, flexible service for our community, often reaching after hours, but as long as we do this there will be a feeling that all is fine with the way we're resourced and supported – and it's not okay. Some staff work 7 days a week or well into the evening.'*

**Rural Palliative Care Specialist**



**ACPC**

# Communication

*A big issue with clinicians is not knowing how to communicate with families. One of the biggest issues for the clinicians is the family's expectations. They don't expect to have an end of life conversation...*

**Intensive Care Nurse**

*I try to work with families on the wards. It takes a lot of time talking to families and defining the limitations of care...*

**Rural Intensive Care Liaison Nurse**



# 12 Key Learnings – hooks to hang our concepts from

People's needs change

Geography matters

Hospitals are the 'default' carers for many

Language can be confusing

Leadership and collaboration is needed



# Developing a Blueprint for Improvement

**10 Essential Components & their  
Intended Beneficial Outcomes**

**Principles**

**Enablers**

**Vision**





# 10 Essential Components

1. Informing community expectations and perceptions
2. Discussions...and planning future goals
3. Access to care providers across all care settings
4. Early recognition
5. Care is based on assessed needs
6. Seamless transitions across all care settings
7. Access to specialist p.c. when needs are complex



# 10 Essential Components

8. Quality care during the last days of life
9. Supporting people through loss and grief
10. Quality care is supported through access to reliable, timely clinical information and data



# Sourcing tools and resources

- CareSearch sourced local, national and international tools and resources (n=62)

# A Blueprint for Improvement

- Flexible online guide for health services
- Whole of system, integrated approach
- Sharing Platform
- Structure based on the Vision, Principles, Enablers, and 10 Essential Components
- Self-assessment
- Tools and resources to implement the Components
- Capability development





## Palliative & End of Life Care

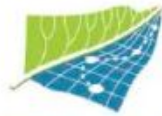
A Blueprint for Improvement

**Everybody has a role to play**

**Everything starts with the patient, family and carer**



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## Our Vision:

To ensure all NSW residents have access to quality based care on assessed needs as they approach End of Life...

Joanne Russell - Nurse Practitioner - Sir Moses Montefiore Jewish Home

## Palliative and End of Life Care – A Blueprint for Improvement

### “The Blueprint”

This Blueprint was developed and informed by research based evidence and developed in consultation with over 450 members of the ACI Palliative Care Network to provide guidelines for best access to quality care in any location, including rural locations, aged care facilities, hospitals and in the home.



This online resource aims to guide services and Local Health Districts in constructing their own, localised models of care. It emphasises that everyone can have a role to play in supporting or providing care to people approaching and reaching the end of life.

Palliative and End of Life Care – A Blueprint for Improvement (‘the Blueprint’) has been developed to provide a flexible guide for health services to meet the needs of people approaching and reaching the end of life, their families and carers. The Blueprint is for everybody in NSW and will benefit care providers as well as those approaching end of life and their loved ones.

To find out more watch the film.



Level 4, Sage Building  
67 Albert Avenue, Chatswood NSW 2067

PO Box 699  
Chatswood NSW 2057

T + 61 2 9464 4666  
F + 61 2 9464 4728

[aci-info@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:aci-info@health.nsw.gov.au)  
[www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au)

**Dr Rob Wilkins**  
A/Manager, Primary and Chronic Care  
Program Manager  
9464 4637  
[Rob.Wilkins@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Rob.Wilkins@health.nsw.gov.au)



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