

Oral presentation- 20 minutes

Stream

Clinical practice: Delivering all aspects of care

Core focus areas

Community

Medications/Pharmacy

Primary care/General practice

Presenter

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Title

Supporting patient choices for home based end-of-life care using *caring@home* resources

Abstract (250 words allowed – currently 250)

caring@home, a national palliative care project funded by the Australian Government, aims to improve the quality of palliative care service delivery across Australia. This project has produced and is currently promoting resources for organisations, health care professionals and carers to support carers to help manage breakthrough symptoms safely to use subcutaneous medicines.

The project is being conducted by a consortium led by Brisbane South Palliative Care Collaborative.

The resources, which are applicable to all jurisdictions in Australia, were released on 29 October 2018 and include:

- Guidelines for the handling of palliative care medicines in community services
- A template example policy and procedure

- palliMEDS app
- Online education modules for nurses about how to use the *caring@home* resources
- A comprehensive package for carers containing step-by-step guides, a diary, videos, a practice demonstration kit and a colour coded labelling system.

The promotion of the resources is ongoing. Preliminary indications show initial successful engagement with the sector. Over 1,200 *caring@home* packages have been disseminated to all states and territories in Australia; over 600 to specialist palliative care services. Over 180 nurses have completed education online.

The outcomes of the project and its resources are being evaluated by University of Technology Sydney as part of the project. Preliminary data analysis indicates that nurses evaluated the modules positively and showed a statistically significant increase in knowledge and skills after completing the education.

The *caring@home* resources support palliative care providers to support patients who wish to be cared for, and to die at home, and their carers.