About the PCRN

The purpose of the Palliative Care Research Network (PCRN) is to develop a platform for sustainable research collaboration. The PCRN is currently funded by the Victorian Cancer Agency and the Department of Health and Human Services, Victoria, Australia. The Centre for Palliative Care (a Collaborative Centre of St Vincent’s Hospital and The University of Melbourne) is the administering organization.

Highlights from recent PCRN Event

PCRN Research Advisory Group 2017 Welcome Reception

The PCRN hosted an informal reception drinks on 29 March 2017 to welcome the newly appointed members of PCRN Research Advisory Group (RAG) 2017. The welcome reception drinks provided RAG members with the opportunity to meet and socialize with their fellow members. For a full listing of current PCRN RAG members, please click here.

![Clockwise from left to right: Dr Deborah Lawson, Ms Ronna Moore, Ms Fiona Wiseman, Mrs Voula Kallianis, Ms Soula Ganiatsas, Ms Alfreda Soetopo, Dr Jennifer Weil, Prof Jennifer Philip](image)

Useful Resources in Palliative Care Research

Please find below a sample list of useful resources which you can subscribe to in order to keep up with the latest palliative care news and publications on evidence-based palliative care research.

- **Media Watch**, created and distributed by Barry R. Ashpole – to subscribe email: barryashpole@bell.net
- **E-Hospice** – to subscribe to e-newsletter go to the website.
- **Briefings in Palliative, Hospice, and Pain Medicine & Management** – to subscribe to table of contents go to the website.
- **CareSearch** palliative care knowledge network – to subscribe to e-newsletter go to the website.
- **All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHPC)** – to subscribe to mailing list go to the website.
Upcoming PCRN Event

PCRN Workshop – Thursday 26th October 2017

“Communicating research to a lay audience”

Have you ever been confounded on how you should communicate your research to the lay audience?

If you’re an academic in the area of health and medicine, chances are the general public has little to no idea about the unique and exciting findings of your research. This is a shame because they want to know. The Palliative Care Research Network (PCRN) is hosting a Workshop entitled ‘Communicating Research to A Lay Audience’ at the 5th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium. This workshop will provide insights on how you could communicate your research to the general public in a language that is understandable to those who don’t work in the medical field. In this interactive workshop, Sasha will take you through how to pitch your research to The Conversation (an independent source of news and views, sourced from the academic and research community and delivered direct to the public, which aims to allow for better understanding of current affairs), as well as how they edit articles there – the structure, the news pyramid and jargon busting. At the end of this process, your unique findings will have a chance to reach a much wider audience than that of academic journals.

About the Speaker

Sasha is the Deputy Editor (Health and Medicine) at The Conversation. She joined The Conversation in 2015 after working for the Centralian Advocate – a newspaper in Alice Springs – where she was the health and education reporter. Prior to that, she completed a Masters in Journalism and International Relations and wrote regular freelance pieces for various Australian publications.

PCRN Workshop Details

Date: Thursday, 26th October 2017

Time: 8:30 am - 10:30 am

Venue: Rendezvous Hotel, 328 Flinders Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia

Cost (incl. GST): AUD $25.00 (light breakfast included)

Registration: Please register online here

For additional information, please go to the Colloquium Website or contact the event coordinator, Alfreda Soetopo, on +61 (3) 9416 0000 or by email pcrn@svha.org.au
Congratulations to recipients of the 2017 PCRN Small Project Grants

We are thrilled to announce the outcomes of the new PCRN initiative that was funded by the Victorian Cancer Agency. The aim of this initiative was to increase the pool of experienced researchers that are able to conduct high quality research into palliative care in cancer patients. The response to this inaugural funding initiative was overwhelming and we received many applications across Victoria.

The PCRN awarded three grants and the successful applicants and their research projects are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Project</th>
<th>Principal Researcher</th>
<th>Administering Institution</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding patients’ and family members’ clinical trial experiences and perspectives about palliative care’s relevance.</td>
<td>Dr Justin Dwyer</td>
<td>St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping patterns of care for people with pancreatic cancer: how close are we to the Optimal Care pathway recommendations?</td>
<td>Ms Allison Drosdowsky</td>
<td>The University of Melbourne/ Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre</td>
<td>$24,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding spiritual views and requirements of caregivers of people living with serious illnesses.</td>
<td>Dr Clare O’Callaghan</td>
<td>Cabrini Health</td>
<td>$9,690</td>
</tr>
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Congratulations also to recipients of the 2017 PCRN Travel Grants

The PCRN awarded four Travel Grants in 2017. The award recipients and their respective funded conferences and presentations are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 Travel Grant Recipients</th>
<th>Conference Travels &amp; Presentations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Lillian Krikheli</td>
<td>Australian Palliative Care Conference 2017, Adelaide, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Masters by Research Student/Speech Pathologist, School of Psychology and Public Health, Palliative Care Unit, La Trobe University)</td>
<td>Oral presentation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Speech-Language Pathology in Paediatric Palliative Care: Reviewing Role and Practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Thomas Paul Moran</td>
<td>Australian Palliative Care Conference 2017, Adelaide, Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Medical Student, Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne)</td>
<td>Oral presentation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Patient and Carer Perceptions Regarding The Advanced Lung Disease Service – A New Model of Integrated Respiratory and Palliative Care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Lucy Forrest</td>
<td>15th World Congress of Music Therapy, Tsukuba, Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Senior Music Therapist, Department of Music Therapy, Art &amp; Child Life Therapy, Monash Health)</td>
<td>Oral presentation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Using music therapy research to promote social equity and access in healthcare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Marcus Sellars</td>
<td>6th International Conference on Advance Care Planning and End of Life Care, Banff, Alberta, Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(PhD Candidate, Sydney Medical School, University of Sydney)</td>
<td>Oral presentation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Confronting conversations – patient and caregiver perspectives and attitudes to advance care planning in chronic kidney disease: an interview study.</td>
</tr>
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## Upcoming Funding Opportunities 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| Bethlehem Griffiths Research Foundation | For more information visit the [website](#)  
Closing Date: 21 July 2017 |
| Jack Brockhoff Foundation – Early Career Research Grants | For more information visit the [website](#)  
Closing Date: 31 July 2017 |
| Lung Foundation Australia | (various grant opportunities)  
For more information visit the [website](#)  
Closing Date: various |
| MS Research Australia | (various grant opportunities)  
For more information visit the [website](#)  
Closing Date: various |
| Victorian Cancer Agency | (various grant opportunities)  
For more information visit the [website](#)  
Closing Date: 8 August 2017 |

## Upcoming Conferences

### International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| 19th International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) World Congress of Psycho-Oncology | Dates: August 14-18, 2017  
Location: Berlin, Germany  
[Website](#) |
| 2nd National Symposium for Academic Palliative Care Education & Research | Dates: September 28-29, 2017  
Location: San Diego CA, USA  
[Website](#) |
| 2017 Marie Curie Annual Palliative Care Research Conference | Dates: October 6, 2017  
Location: London, UK  
[Website](#) |

### National

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| 5th Australian Palliative Care Research Colloquium | **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**  
Dates: October 26-27, 2017  
Location: Melbourne VIC, Australia  
[Website](#) |
| 14th Australian Palliative Care Conference | Dates: September 6-8, 2017  
Location: Adelaide, Australia  
[Website](#) |
| 44th Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Annual Scientific Meeting | Dates: November 13-15, 2017  
Location: Sydney, Australia  
[Website](#) |

### State (VIC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</table>
| Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Leadership Development Program | Dates: July 26-28 & August 24-25, 2017  
Location: Melbourne VIC, Australia  
[Website](#) |
| Inaugural Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) Research Conference | Dates: September 17-19, 2017  
Location: Melbourne VIC, Australia  
[Website](#) |
Recent Publications Relevant to PCRN Members

In each edition we will feature some recently published articles relevant to PCRN members. If you have published in a peer reviewed journal recently and the subject matter is relevant to the PCRN community, or if you come across key publications that foster evidence based palliative care, please email pcrnv@svha.org.au with the subject ‘PCRN Newsletter’ and we will feature the publications in an upcoming edition.


Membership

The PCRN now has 297 registered members from around Australia and other countries such as Hong Kong, India, Malawi, Norway, the UK and USA. Individuals with a genuine interest in palliative care research may become individual members of the PCRN. Membership is free and some of the *key benefits* of membership include:

- An opportunity to network and collaborate with other palliative care researchers through PCRN seminars and forums;
- Apply for a range of PCRN funding including: PhD scholarship, project and travel grants;
- Assistance in developing your research idea into a grant proposal via attendance at PCRN Concept Development Workshops;
- Opportunities to provide mentorship to junior researchers.

*Please note that even though membership is open to everyone, some resources and funding may be restricted to Victorian residents only.*

To formalise your membership, please complete the online form on the PCRN website.

**Progression of PCRN membership increase in the period of Oct 2013 - June 2017**

**Forward e-news to a friend!**

Please forward this newsletter to friends or colleagues interested in palliative care research.
They can also sign up for free membership

**Contribute to the PCRN e-News**

If your work is relevant to the PCRN community, please email pcrnv@svha.org.au with the subject ‘PCRN e-News submission’ and we will feature your article or publication in an upcoming edition.

**Unsubscribe**

*If you are no longer interested in receiving correspondence from us, please unsubscribe by emailing: pcrnv@svha.org.au*