

Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service

Palliative Medicine - RMO and Registrar Campaign 2025

Public / private	Public												
Service name	Supportive & Specialist Palliative Care Service, Gold Coast Hospital & Health Service												
Service type	Inpatient, Community and Consultation-Liaison Service												
Patient referral groups	<p>Adults within GCHSS catchment, including RACFs (SPACE) plus Rural and Remote (SPARTA) for Darling Downs and South West Queensland HHS.</p> <p>Kidney Supportive care (KSC) is based in the renal department. Pediatrics have a separate service through GCUH and the Children's Hospital, with some supplementary pop-up model in from the community</p> <p><u>Casemix:</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>PCU</td> <td>cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Consults</td> <td>cancer 70%, non-cancer 30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community</td> <td>cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SPACE (RACF)</td> <td>cancer 55%, non-cancer 45%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SPARTA (Rural)</td> <td>cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospice</td> <td>Cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%</td> </tr> </table>	PCU	cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%	Consults	cancer 70%, non-cancer 30%	Community	cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%	SPACE (RACF)	cancer 55%, non-cancer 45%	SPARTA (Rural)	cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%	Hospice	Cancer 80%, non-cancer 20%
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Annual no. of referrals	<p>More than 1250 for community</p> <p>More than 1200 for consult liaison</p>												
Inpatient bed numbers	20 beds at Robina PCU, 8 beds Hopewell Hospice, capacity for inpatient beds at GCUH												
Inpatient annual admissions	More than 400 for inpatient unit												
Staffing & Supervision	<p>7.0 FTE consultants including Medical Clinical Director, plus more than 2.0 FTEs in KSC/SPARTA/SPACE positions further below</p> <p>All have FRACP and/or FACHPM.</p> <p>Up to Seven registrar posts which will be shared between advanced trainees in Pall Med or other specialty or Clinical Foundation of Pall Med candidates. Term Availability will vary from year to year. Options for terms in radiation oncology and persistent pain (when available)</p> <p>Two interns at Robina PCU.</p> <p>1.5 resident at GCUH.</p> <p>1 BPT shared between GCUH and Robina Hospital</p> <p>there will be in addition:</p> <p>1) exposure to KSC service (based in Renal) with 0.5 Palliative Medicine staff specialist</p>												

	<p>2) exposure to the statewide telehealth program (SPARTA) - our focus being provision of services west of Toowoomba.</p> <p>3) exposure to the statewide SPACE program (Specialist Palliative Care in RACFs)</p>
RACP accreditation –define category(ies)	<p>RACP accredited for advanced training for Robina and GCUH Inpatients, Community (local rural and RACFs) and GCUH and RH Consultation/liaison modules</p> <p>Accredited for Clinical Foundation in Palliative Medicine.</p>
Service Benefits (drawcard)	<p>Our service won Queensland Palliative care Service of the year in 2019.</p> <p>The Consultants all have special interests in teaching including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A/Prof Andrew Broadbent in consultant management issues and models of care. He is one of the co-chairs of the Queensland Palliative Care Network. ○ A/Prof Jo Doran in communication, compassion and holistic care ○ A/Prof Nicola Morgan in the GP interface and RACFs. She is state lead for the statewide SPACE program. ○ A/Prof Graham Grove in bedside Ultrasound and radiology in palliative medicine. He is the Queensland medical director of SPARTA ○ Dr Joanne Cerni in Kidney Supportive Care ○ Dr Shantona Bag in education (registrar) and audits. ○ Dr Elise Maehler in education (students) and ethics. ○ Dr. Mario Mateus in education (registrar and students). <p>Telehealth consultations via multiple platforms as part of normal practice (telehealth portal, teams and facetime).</p> <p>Teaching in point of care ultrasound is routine and will be one of a few units in the world to do this.</p> <p>Weekly Pain MDT involving Palliative Medicine Interventional Radiology, Radiation Oncology and Persistent Pain.</p> <p>The service is developing a research arm. Support will be offered for registrars wanting to commence a local research project.</p> <p>The service is fully PCOC integrated across PCU, community and consults, and is one of the few national services to have all 3 arms integrated into the national benchmarking system</p> <p>The service runs a needs-based specialist model of service consistent with national best practice guidelines that is holistic, multidisciplinary and integrated across the consult, community and PCU.</p> <p>The specialist community service works closely with generalist palliative care providers such as GPs and NGO Nursing services across the region to maximise care at home.</p>

	<p>We have strong medical teaching links to both Griffith & Bond Universities with integration into the last two years of both courses. Students are rostered routinely during the year.</p> <p>The PEPA program has become one focus of teaching for the generalist providers and week-long attachments occur for local GPs, RNS or Allied health as well as the local ambulance service.</p> <p>The service has a community team based at Robina Hospital, with consult teams at GCUH and Robina. There are 4 beds at GCUH and 20 single rooms at Robina in a purpose-built Inpatient facility. We also medically supervise the 8 bed Hopewell Hospice.</p>
<p>Service Highlights / benefits</p>	<p>The Palliative Care Service is closely integrated into the clinical life of the hospital and community with links to all services and especially Oncology(s) and General Medicine. The hospitals are developing a very strong culture of end-of-life care that reflects growing awareness of the issues of patient participation in decision making about appropriate care. We also participate in community care of dying children and neonates. The community care service works closely with GPs and NGO Nursing services across the region to maximise care at home by delivering nursing care and essential equipment to people at home, as well as Specialist Pall Med consultant visits when needed on a triage basis.</p> <p>There is a culture of education in the service, along with an established education program for junior doctors, medical students, allied health workers and more senior doctors in the community and the hospital, which includes weekly registrar tutorials, and weekly 'Whole of service education'.</p> <p>The service emphasizes staff/patient/family wellbeing. This is facilitated through a recreational officer who organizes events as well as "scone therapy." There are also weekly Zumba sessions as well as a quarterly bake off, among other events throughout the year.</p>
<p>Hospital Web link</p>	<p>https://www.goldcoast.health.qld.gov.au/our-services/palliative-care</p>