



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP

**Minister for Aged Care
Minister for Indigenous Health
Member for Hasluck**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Online resource for end-of-life care

The Federal Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt, today launched a new website containing important evidence-based medical and practical information to support the provision of palliative care to older people at the end of life.

Speaking at a function at Parliament House to mark Palliative Care Week, Minister Wyatt said civilisation can be measured by how it treats its older people.

“This is even more meaningful when it comes to caring for the aged and vulnerable at the concluding stages of their lives,” he said.

“This new online resource, www.palliAGED.com.au, collects under one umbrella a wide range of valuable research data and information.

“palliAGED is funded by the Australian government and managed by Flinders University through the CareSearch website.

“It features new medications, medical practise, models of care, advice on cultural and other considerations, symptoms and treatment decisions, risk analysis, ways to support people and their families and public and consumer experience.

“All of this will help health professionals, aged care staff, family and friends, to provide the best possible care for older people at the end stage of their life.”

Minister Wyatt said the new resource is both timely and hugely beneficial, because care for older people is becoming ever more important as the number of older Australians grows.

“Last year, 15 per cent of the Australian population, or 3.7 million people were aged 65 and over,” he said.

“By 2026, it is estimated that 18 per cent of the population will be aged 65 years and over (5.0 million people) and 2.3 per cent (644,000 people) will be 85 years and over.

“Today, thanks to advances in medical science and care, Australians are living longer and healthier lives. We look forward to longevity.

“When we require palliative care this should become the centre of comfort and compassion towards people, their families and the wider community.

“I congratulate Flinders University and the CareSearch team on this outstanding community initiative,” Minister Wyatt said.

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