

# Budget 2020-21

# Aged Care – Greater Choice for At Home Palliative Care

Australians needing palliative care – and their loved ones – will have more choice when it comes to their care at this difficult time. Palliative care services across health, aged care and primary care will benefit from the extension of the Greater Choice for At Home Palliative Care program. This will support access to end-of-life care for Australians, regardless of where they live, including in residential aged care facilities.

Implementation of the program will be extended through 11 Primary Health Networks in rural, regional and metropolitan trial sites across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

## Why is this important?

The demand for palliative care is growing with an ageing population and increasing burden of chronic disease. It is estimated between 80,000 and 140,000 people could benefit from palliative care each year.

Australians will have improved access to safe, quality palliative care at home, which will reduce unnecessary hospitalisations and distress – for themselves and their families.

This investment will help support Australians needing palliative care, allowing more choice and better coordination.

### Who will benefit?

This measure will help people who need palliative care, their family and carers.

### How much will this cost?

This will cost \$3.6 million in 2020–21.