

'Facilitating a Good Death using a Clinical Pathway'

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It is estimated that there are more than 300 deaths from life-limiting illness (i.e. expected deaths) within the RBWH per year.

Australian Best Care of Dying Study (ABCD) included an audit of 160 deaths across Queensland Health sites in 2005-including RBWH. This project arose out of a need to fill gaps in care identified in audit.

The funding for this project has been awarded through the Clinical Practice Improvement Centre(CPIC). The project will be conducted over two years.

The clinical pathway to be introduced at the RBWH is a modified version of the Liverpool Care Pathway (LCP) as supported by CPIC pathways team. The LCP is a multiprofessional document that provides a quality framework during the dying phase.

The project is lead by Dr Carol Douglas, Director of Palliative Care Service, RBWH. The appointment of Catriona Bisset in March this year to the position of Project CNC Palliative Care has moved the project forward.

The formation of the RBWH Care of the Dying Reference group ensures an inclusive process to guide the implementation across this large campus.