

MEDIA RELEASE

29 June, 2015

Public lecture to focus on end-of-life issues

Toowoomba Hospital's public lecture series 'Twilight Talks', will continue on Thursday 2 July with Dr Luke Gaffney, Director of Medicine, scheduled to give a presentation on end-of-life care.

The free presentation, entitled 'Dying at Home', will examine the various aspects of advance care planning that need to be considered to ensure people get the care they want in the closing stages of their lives, particularly when they have chosen die at home.

"Advance care planning includes deciding how you want to be looked after towards the end of your life, and a major consideration for patients with a chronic life-limiting illness can be choosing where they wish to die," Dr Gaffney said.

"Many patients decide they would prefer to die at home in familiar surroundings, rather than in a hospital setting so the presentation will explain what's required to make that possible.

"Talking about death and dying has been a long-standing taboo subject, but it is a situation that will visit all of us sooner or later, so I'll also talk about things such as getting your affairs in order, nominating an enduring power of attorney, getting a legal will done – all of those common sense things that many of us neglect to do.

"The focus will be on providing the information needed to make the provision of end-of-life care as stress-free as possible for the patient and their family."

The lecture will be held at the hospital's Unara Conference Centre, 6pm to 7pm, Thursday 2 July. No bookings are required and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Free parking is available and a light supper will be served. For more information please call 4616 5563.

Ends

MEDIA: Contact Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service Media Team 4699 8725, 0448 996 296 or DDHHS_media@health.qld.gov.au

Subject	Public lecture series		
Due date (expiry date for release)			
Written by	Lee Jenson	Approved by	Name Dr Peter Bristow Position HSCE Division/Area Date
For release by	<input type="checkbox"/> Minister <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Executive <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)	Communication & Engagement contact	
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