

## Media Release

14<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### ELDAC boosts national aged care capacity

The ELDAC project (End of Life Directions for Aged Care), which aims to improve the care of older Australians, will launch the second phase this Friday. Additional initiatives will be announced at the launch, building on the significant response to the release of palliative care and advance care planning capacity-building resources in March.

Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt AM will launch phase two, comprising new partnerships, technology innovation and policy roundtables, to equip health service providers and build capacity in the aged care sector. These key initiatives will boost ELDAC's existing resources including five online toolkits, the ELDAC website ([www.eldac.com.au](http://www.eldac.com.au)) and ELDAC Helpline (1800 870 155).

ELDAC Project Director and QUT head of Nursing, Professor Patsy Yates, said the \$15 million ELDAC project was progressing well, and is already improving palliative care and advance care planning services for older Australians.

A major component of the second phase is to provide coordination and advisory services. ELDAC will develop communication pathways and collaborative and team working arrangements connecting aged, primary and palliative care services.

"A significant part of ELDAC being launched this Friday is our emphasis on building service partnerships. Designed to address the barriers to optimal care at the end of life, our toolkits together with our consultation and advisory services will assist providers to work across traditional boundaries of care," she said.

"The ELDAC project is improving care of aged residents and home care clients across metropolitan, rural and remote areas of Australia. This is supported by the creation of local and regional service partnerships all supported by resources including ELDAC's evidence-based Working Together Toolkit."

Technology has a key role to play in supporting system change in aged care, with phase two also including the development of a technology prototype to find and track meaningful data about care of clients and residents at the end of life.

[www.eldac.com.au](http://www.eldac.com.au)

A series of policy roundtables attended by experts in the field will examine available evidence and make recommendations on a range of issues to ensure the aged care workforce is well prepared to provide palliative care to older people now and into the future.

“These roundtables will focus on funding mechanisms, the aged care workforce and other key policy matters that will enable quality palliative care for older Australians,” Professor Yates said.

Media are welcome to attend the ELDAC launch, which will be held this Friday, 15th June at Montefiore (36 Dangar Street, Randwick, Sydney) from 1.30 – 2.30pm.

Please RSVP your attendance to Sue McDonald on (07) 3138 3199 or [sk.mcdonald@qut.edu.au](mailto:sk.mcdonald@qut.edu.au) by Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June. To find out more about the ELDAC project, visit [www.eldac.com.au](http://www.eldac.com.au).

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