



CARING FOR THE CARER DURING PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

National Palliative Care Week runs from **Sunday 24th - Saturday 30th May 2015**. This year's theme is: Dying to talk; talking about dying won't kill you.

During National Palliative Care Week, Palliative Care Australia (PCA) is encouraging Australians to break the last taboo and talk about dying - by normalising death and dying. Australians need to be comfortable and confident to ask for the care they want as they approach end of life.

At Bethesda Health Care, this important week will be celebrated throughout the hospital. Bethesda Health Care is a leading provider of palliative care, through their 24 bed in-patient Palliative Care Unit (PCU), and Palliative Ambulatory Service North (PASN)- a mobile consultancy service based at the Hospital and funded by the WA Health Department.

A special morning tea will be held in the PCU on Wednesday 27 May, recognising the amazing support and key role that all of the family and carers for palliative care patients provide.

There will also be a display in the hospital foyer, recognising Palliative Care Week, and the national message from PCA.

Ms Glenys Thomas, Nurse Manager of Palliative Care at Bethesda Health Care said that “including patients and families in decision making and care planning is central to providing the right care at the right time at what can be a very challenging and difficult time for all those involved”.

Bethesda Health Care is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont who has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for more than 70 years.

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