**Title**

Improving and understanding GP provision of end of life care

**Author and affiliations**

Mitchell G1

Rhee, J2,4

Grant M3,4

1 Primary Care Clinical Unit, Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland, QLD, Australia

2 School of Medicine, University of Wollongong, NSW, Australia

3 VCCC Palliative Medicine Research Group, St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne, VIC, Australia

4RACGP Cancer and Palliative Care Network

**Background**

 End of life care (EoLC) is a fundamental role of general practice, which will become more important as the population ages. Worldwide at this time, it is estimated that specialist palliative/ EoLC services are used by only 14% of the people who require them(1). Hence GPs are participating in their care at the end of life, whether they realise it or not.

 It is essential that general practice’s role and performance at the end of life is understood in order to maximise the skills of the entire workforce.

**Aims**

 This session will provide a comprehensive description of the role and performance of GP’s at the end of life, focusing on barriers, expectations and models of care delivery. It will be presented as an educational session exploring the findings of a five part systematic review exploring the role of GP’s in end of life care.

**Method**

 Systematic literature review of papers from 2000 to 2017 examining the role of GP’s in end of life care. These first of these papers is published, and the subsequent papers are in the submission process(2).

**Results**

This session will have an education focus exploring: models of care, patient and care expectations, advance care planning, place of death, and barriers to engagement.

**Conclusion**

 Understanding the role, performance of, and facilitators and barriers to engagement of GPs in end of life care is vital towards improving clinical practice.

**References** (If applicable)

1. World Health Organization. Global atlas of palliative care at the end of life. London: Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance. 2014.

2. Mitchell GK, Senior HE, Johnson CL, Fallon-Ferguson J, Williams B, Monterosso L, et al. Systematic review of general practice end-of-life symptom control. BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care. 2018:bmjspcare-2017-001374.