

The **PALLIOH** Project

Enhancing Palliative Oral Health: A Novel **Model of Care** to Empower Palliative Care Nurses

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Background

Oral health issues are prevalent among palliative care patients, leading to life-threatening complications, accelerated functional decline, and a significant impact on their QOL.

Previous exploratory work on palliative care professionals and dentists in Sydney revealed:

- Lack of knowledge
- Physical barriers faced by the patients
- Insufficient training
- Uncertain referral pathways

Aim

To develop, and pilot test a new model of care that will capacity-build palliative care nurses to promote oral health among their patients in Australia.

Methods

Sequential mixed-methods design

- Phase I** • Literature review – supportive strategies in promoting oral health
- Phase II** • Exploratory qualitative studies with Palliative care nurses and caregivers
- Phase III** • Co-developing and pilot testing the PALLIOH model of care



An evidence-based **Model of Care** delivered through **Palliative Care Nurses** could promote oral health and QOL among **Palliative Care patients**



For Enquiry and collaboration

Approach

Transdisciplinary Action Research

Informed by the study Phases

Problem Framing



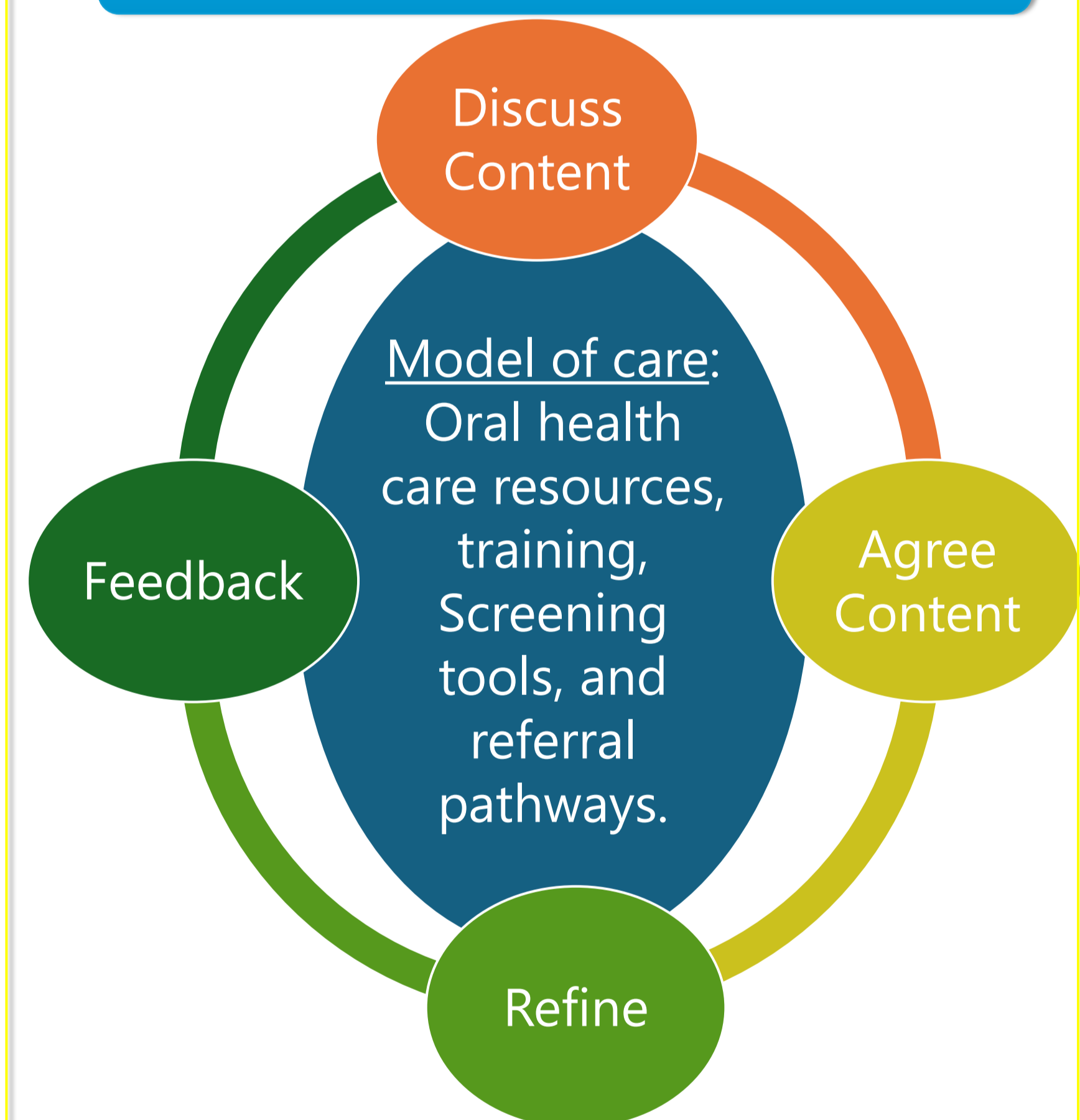
Literature Review

Consultations with Stakeholders*



Focus Groups and Interviews with Palliative care nurses and Caregivers

Co-Developing



Exploring the Impact

Palliative care Nurses from SWSLHD and SLHD

Pre – Post Survey

Acceptability, Feasibility, and Effectiveness

Feedback

Significance:

- Aligns with National Palliative Care Strategy, New South Wales.
- Potential Continuous Development Program.
- Bridge the gap between Palliative care patients and oral care delivery.
- Potential to be tailored to other palliative care providers.

Stakeholders* – Palliative Nurses and Specialists from SWSLHD and SLHD, Dental Specialists, Academics, and Caregivers.