REPORT OF TASK FORCE FOR PREPARATION OF AN QUALITY STANDARDS SELF AUDIT TOOL FOR IAPC - 2018

What?
Task force convened by Indian Association for Palliative Care to revise and update Standards Audit Tool (2008)

Who are involved?
Drs Anjum K Joad, Shobha Nair, Charu Singh, MR Rajagopal, Dr Firuza Patel, Odette Spruyt, Geeta Joshi, Savita Butola, Madhura Bhatwadekar, Dineshchandra Goswami, Savita Luka Arun Ghoshal.

What was done?

- Over several months of discussion, skype chats, phone calls consensus was reached on norms and aspirational standards for a preliminary draft. The standards of care as defined by EAPC, Government of Australia and APCA were used as reference materials.

- After the 8 months of deliberation and discussion a final draft of the self assessment tool and levels of care was made.

- Draft sent to 6 non task force members (palliative care experts national/ international)
  - Drs Mhoira Leng, Stephen Connors, Jenifer Mugesh, Naveen Salins, Biju R., Reena Sharma
  - Their suggestions were discussed and incorporated where possible.

Results
Standards Audit Tool (2017)

What next?
Task force meeting during IAPCON 2018
Pilot and validation studies of the tool
Dissemination of results

The standards need to be seen as aspirational standards and norms. The document is an evolving one as is our specialty and must be revised and upgraded as our services mature and needs of the country and our population change.