



Dr Rosemary Panelli has worked with Australian epilepsy services for 16 years, and has championed the inclusion of peer support workers in epilepsy care teams, especially first seizure clinics and surgery programs. The Australian National Health and Medical Research Council supported her study into the psychosocial outcomes for first seizures patients, and the effect of peer support. Her research demonstrates the potential of the model to enhance epilepsy care. She has persistently worked to raise community understanding of epilepsy especially in regard to Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP), leading her to instigate the biennial Australian epilepsy memorial service. Her drive to ensure that quality epilepsy information is accessible at all levels has been the catalyst for the development of valuable programs and resources, including the publication *Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy: a global conversation* (2005, 2011) which has encouraged international discussion and collaborative responses.