

Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme

Funding Partners and Research Priorities for 2012 Round



Australian Government
Cancer Australia



www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au



beyondblue
the national depression initiative
www.beyondblue.org.au



Cancer Australia

Improving outcomes through:

- Prevention of cancer
- Improving screening programs
- Early detection of cancer
- The application of emerging new treatments and/ or technologies
- Coordination, integration or delivery of treatment and care using a multidisciplinary approach

Cancer Australia's research priorities aim to reduce the burden of cancer on all Australians.

Research undertaken should have a specific emphasis on populations with poorer cancer outcomes, such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and particular consideration will be given to health service and health economic research, and the translation or implementation of research.

Given their burden of disease and mortality across the community, research addressing cancers of the colon and rectum, lung, pancreas, stomach, cancer of unknown primary, and lymphoma are strongly encouraged.

Cancer Australia: gynaecological cancers

- Research into follow-up, supportive care, quality of life and survivorship outcomes during and/or following treatment, for women with gynaecological cancers. Research into quality of life and survivorship outcomes with a specific emphasis on younger women is encouraged.
- Research into the translation of evidence into clinical practice, policy or further research that will optimise outcomes for women with gynaecological cancers by addressing areas such as prevention, diagnosis, treatment, management, and/or referral to multidisciplinary specialist gynaecological oncology care.

Cancer Australia: lung cancer

- Research identifying barriers to timely and appropriate initial diagnosis and referral of people with suspected or definite lung cancer.
- Research with a specific emphasis on addressing the diagnosis and impact of lung cancer on:
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples,
people from regional, rural and remote locations, and
people from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds
is strongly encouraged.

- Research towards demonstrating the clinical utility of potential biomarkers for lung cancer in a prospective validation collaborative multi-site study.
- Research relevant to identify issues relating to occupational hazards associated with lung cancer incidence

beyondblue: the national depression initiative

In 2012, *beyondblue* will support clinical and applied research with a primary focus on anxiety and depression in cancer survivors across the course of the cancer trajectory.

In the last few decades there has been a significant reduction in mortality rates for the majority of cancers as a result of earlier detection, changes in risk factors and improved treatments. Overall, the cancer survival in Australia is as good as or better than anywhere in the world. Around 65 percent of people diagnosed with cancer are alive five years later. The psychological morbidity associated with cancer is significant, with evidence suggesting that 15%-23% of cancer patients experience clinically significant anxiety and 20%-35% experience depression.

This raises questions about responding to patients' anxiety and depression, and to the anxiety and depression that may be experienced by their carers who are part of the cancer journey in the months or year following a cancer -diagnosis and/or treatment. Studies suggest that psychological support for anxiety and depression following a cancer diagnosis or treatment may assist psychosocial adjustment and improve quality of life. While there is growing evidence for the effectiveness of interventions for anxiety and depression in assisting the as a result of the cancer experience, these interventions are not routinely offered by cancer services.

***beyondblue* will support research into evidence based interventions and/or service models aiming to improve short and long term mental health outcomes in cancer survivors with co morbid anxiety and depression, their families and carers. Interventions should be wide scale, cost-effective and short or long term.**

Cancer Council Australia

Multi-state clinical or epidemiological studies of cancers of poor prognosis

Definitions:

Multi-state: involving patient or participant recruitment from at least two States / Territories.

Studies:

Any study design is acceptable, but any clinical trials must be industry-independent cancer clinical trials. Industry-independent clinical trials are defined as investigator-initiated clinical trials where collection, analysis and ownership of data, together with dissemination of findings, lies within the control of the research collaborative.

Cancers of poor prognosis:

These are those cancer sites with a 5-year survival of less than 50%. This is not stage-specific survival but survival overall.

Evidence of the current survival rate, using national data, must be provided.

Cancer Council New South Wales

Pre-clinical trials of treatment targeting novel molecular pathways, with an emphasis on cancers of the upper-gastrointestinal tract

Cure Cancer Australia Foundation

Project grants will be awarded in any field of research (including basic laboratory, epidemiology, psychosocial, translational, and clinical) into malignant disease, to provide “start-up” funding to support post-doctoral researchers with less than 7 years post-doctoral or less than seven years post-MBBS experience at the time of application. Cure Cancer Australia Foundation funds early-career researchers as sole Chief Investigator of their project, in order to advance their research and to increase their competitiveness for funding from other granting agencies in the future. The funding may be used for the applicant's own salary, or the salary of a research assistant, and/or research materials for the specified project. This funding cannot be used to provide a salary or other support for the post-doctoral researcher as part of a larger PdCCRS project grant application. Cure Cancer Australia Foundation wishes to fund innovative, high-achieving, early-career researchers, and will be assessing the applicant's track record and publications.

Leukaemia Foundation

The Leukaemia Foundation invites expressions of interest for the funding of clinical trials research into haematological malignancies commencing in 2013.

- Projects must be initiated by Australian investigators.
- Projects should address issues with strong potential to significantly impact clinical practice in the management of people with leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma, or other blood or bone marrow cancers and disorders.
- Projects may include therapeutic or psycho-social intervention trials.

National Breast Cancer Foundation

Applicants requesting funding from the NBCF are advised to consider the following NBCF research priorities in their applications:

- Research into prevention and/or early diagnosis of breast cancer
- Research addressing the social and public health needs of all individuals, and their families living with a diagnosis of breast cancer. This also includes underserved populations such as women aged less than 50 years, women over 70 years, Indigenous women and women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Research addressing all aspects of advanced breast cancer
- Research encompassing translational research, with the potential to deliver outcomes that are clinically relevant or otherwise ready to be implemented to facilitate prevention or to improve the care of those with breast cancer
- Multidisciplinary research, which encourages research across disciplines and academic boundaries
- Research into novel health service delivery

Particular consideration will be given to projects that are innovative, non-duplicative of other efforts and have the potential for national application.

Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia

- **Discover and validate through clinical trials:**
 - novel molecular targets for chemotherapy of locally-invasive or metastatic prostate cancer, including androgen-independent cancers;
 - new, non-invasive tests to detect prostate cancer, and/or to determine whether a patient's cancer is surgically curable;
 - new biomarkers that predict the future clinical course of prostate cancer and/or the response to future chemotherapy;
 - develop new treatment strategies for prostate cancer, especially locally-invasive or metastatic cancers.
- **Discover the genetic and cellular factors which initiate and/or perpetuate prostate cancer.**
- **Provide immediate improvements in the quality of life of patients with prostate cancer.**

Australian Rotary Health

Australian Rotary Health will help fund the top ranking tumour-specific research grant in any of the priority areas identified by Cancer Australia, Cancer Council Australia, Cancer Council NSW, Leukaemia Foundation, National Breast Cancer Foundation or the Prostate Cancer Foundation Australia.