



Australian Government
Cancer Australia

Cancer Australia media release

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Consumers to advise national cancer agency

The Australian Government has invited people who have first hand experience of the impact of cancer as a patient or caregiver to provide advice about ways to improve cancer care and outcomes.

Cancer Australia has established a National Consumer Advisory Group to enable consumers of cancer services to identify needs and recommend actions to improve cancer efforts, from research and prevention to support and care for people living with cancer.

Cancer Australia is the new Australian Government agency established to help reduce the impact of cancer across the whole community.

The National Consumer Advisory Group includes people affected by many different cancers and health professionals from across Australia. It will meet for the first time in Sydney today.

“Consumer involvement is an important part of cancer service policy and planning. As the ultimate users of services, people diagnosed with cancer and their caregivers bring a unique insight,” said Professor David Currow, Cancer Australia’s Chief Executive Officer.

“Thinking about these issues from the perspective of a person affected by cancer enables all elements of prevention, detection, treatment, survivorship and supportive care to be planned, developed and implemented with the consumer in mind,” Professor Currow said.

The Consumer Advisory Group will provide advice across the range of Cancer Australia’s activities but will particularly focus on improvements for population groups and types of cancer where outcomes are poor.

Cancer Australia has recruited more than 40 consumer representatives via a national advertisement calling for applications, nominations from consumer groups and direct invitation to people with particular experiences and interests. In addition to the National Consumer Advisory Group members, there will be two consumer representatives on each of Cancer Australia’s other national advisory and reference groups.

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For more information about Cancer Australia visit www.canceraustralia.gov.au