



From the Director

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre, a Richard Pratt legacy (ACSC) is based at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (Peter Mac) in Parkville. Our primary funders are the Victorian Government, The Pratt Foundation and Peter Mac.

The ACSC aims to improve outcomes for people affected by cancer. We work with clinical providers (medical, nursing, allied health) at Peter Mac, our clinical partners in Parkville and throughout Victoria, as well as survivors and a range of organisations to enable improved care for survivors, their families and carers. The ACSC has a statewide role in the development of education and resources for both survivors and health professionals. We provide advice regarding models of care. While our focus is not primarily on research, we strongly support and collaborate in research relevant to cancer survivorship.

For more information or to explore opportunities to collaborate, please email contastacc@petermac.org or phone +61 3 8559 6220.

This Year in Review summarises highlights from 2017.

Associate Professor Michael Jefford

Year in Review 2017



Attendees at the first Victorian Cancer Survivorship Conference

Trialling novel models of care

Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program

Following the success of the 2011–14 round of Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program (VCSP) funding, the Victorian Government introduced a second phase of grants funding, for 2016–19. In 2016, 13 applications were successful, and in 2017, a further six 'type 1' capacity-building grants were supported through an additional funding round. The funded projects cover a range of tumour types and innovative models of care, and are delivered across metropolitan and regional health services, including through community care.

Further information is available at: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/health-strategies/cancer-care/cancer-projects/victorian-cancer-survivorship-program>

The ACSC provides support to the VCSP by developing resources for survivors and health professionals and by convening and facilitating a Community of Practice. The Community of Practice brings together staff working on VCSP-funded projects and many others committed to improved post-treatment care.

Further information is available at: <https://www.petermac.org/services/support-services/australian-cancer-survivorship-centre/health-professionals/victorian>



Survivorship care plans

Survivorship care plans (SCPs) have been widely endorsed. They were a key recommendation of the landmark Institute of Medicine report, *From Cancer Patient to Cancer Survivor: Lost in Transition*. In the US, delivery of SCPs is a required element for accreditation by the American College of Surgeons. In Australia, the Optimal Care Pathways recommend that survivors be provided with a

treatment summary and follow-up care plan after completing initial treatment.

SCPs generally comprise a summary of a person's cancer diagnosis and treatment, as well as plans for follow-up, and information and resources to help the person to remain well. SCPs support the transition from treatment to post-treatment. However, providing SCPs at the end of treatment is not a current standard practice in Australia, with barriers including limited resourcing and technology.

The ACSC has received funding from the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services to develop an SCP database, over a 12-month period. The project will deliver an evidence-informed, best-practice database of key components of SCPs for survivors of breast, prostate and colorectal cancer. The database could interface with electronic medical record systems or other systems to support SCP delivery. We hope to develop a web-based 'front end' to link to the SCP database.

Educating health professionals

Early ACSC work indicated a need for more education and training for health professionals about survivorship care. International reports also underscore the need for education of healthcare providers. We provide a number of education and training activities. Here we highlight some of our work in 2017.

Primary care placement program

In recognition of the critical role of general practice (primary care) in all stages of cancer care, the ACSC conducted a clinical placement pilot project in 2015, which brought together general practice and cancer specialist teams at Peter Mac to encourage bidirectional learning, strengthen links and build partnerships of care. General practitioners (GPs) and primary health care nurses attended multidisciplinary team meetings and multidisciplinary clinics.

In 2016, the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services provided further funds to expand the placement program. The ACSC developed a toolkit and videos to support the placement program and promote the role of primary care and shared care. The program was feasible across multiple sites and considered clinically and professionally valuable. GPs and nurses reported improved knowledge and confidence regarding survivorship care.

We have recently launched a further phase of the Clinical Placement Program in Cancer Survivorship. The program aims to improve survivors' access to quality cancer survivorship care by enhancing the confidence and capability of primary care practitioners (PCPs—including GPs, practice nurses and allied health practitioners). Participation in the program aims to:

- improve PCPs' knowledge and confidence regarding cancer survivorship care

- improve understanding of the discipline-specific roles required for shared care
- enhance links between PCPs and hospital-based professionals.

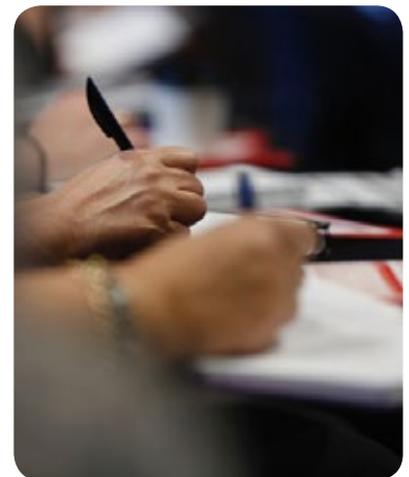
A minimum of eight Victorian public hospitals offering cancer services will provide placements from November 2017 to April 2019. More than 100 PCPs will attend clinical placements (of 7–10 hours duration) and/or educational sessions. The program is supported by the Victorian Government.

Further information is available at: <https://www.petermac.org/education/survivorship-education>

Updated online Cancer Survivorship course

The ACSC developed an online Cancer Survivorship course in 2014 in collaboration with Queensland University of Technology, the University of Sydney and Cancer Australia. In 2017 the content was refreshed and the course moved to the eviQ platform. The modules present up-to-date information on the experiences and needs of cancer survivors, as well as evidence-based guidance, strategies and tools designed to help healthcare professionals provide the best care for patients during and after cancer treatment. The course is intended for any healthcare professional with an interest in cancer survivorship.

The online learning is available at: <https://education.eviq.org.au/courses/cancer-survivorship-introductory-course>



Delivering Innovative Cancer Survivorship Care

We continue to run the 'Delivering Innovative Cancer Survivorship Care' workshops. These events provide an opportunity for healthcare professionals to learn about current evidence, clinical guidelines, resources and practical tools, and consider their own clinical context to develop their knowledge around cancer survivorship and increase their capacity to implement survivorship care. Participants report the workshops to be relevant and of practical benefit. In 2018 we will consider opportunities to extend face-to-face training opportunities.

Information and education for survivors

We develop and deliver resources to meet the information and support needs of survivors, often in collaboration with other organisations. Here we highlight examples from our 2017 work.

Information in other languages

Migrants with cancer report worse quality of life, higher levels of distress and greater levels of unmet needs, compared with English-speaking, Australian-born survivors. They also report a need for culturally appropriate information written in their own language.

With funding from Cancer Australia, the ACSC has worked with partners—including Peter Mac’s Cancer Experiences Research group, the Psycho-Oncology Co-operative Research Group and several Cancer Councils—to develop new information materials for people who speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Arabic, Greek and Italian.

We are currently completing a third project, in partnership with Cancer Councils and the Breast Cancer Network Australia. We have recently completed draft written resources for people who speak Hindi and Tagalog; audio resources in English, Cantonese and Mandarin; a low-literacy written resource; and a cancer glossary, which will be available in 15 languages. These resources will soon be finalised and will be available from April 2018.

These projects are funded by the Australian Government through Cancer Australia’s Supporting People with Cancer grant initiative.

Existing resources are available at: <https://www.petermac.org/services/support-services/australian-cancer-survivorship-centre/survivors-and-carers/resources>

Wellness and Life after Cancer

In collaboration with Cancer Council Victoria, the ACSC provides regular face-to-face sessions for survivors, their family members, carers and friends. Held at our

main site in Parkville, these sessions provide an opportunity for people to share their experiences, learn strategies to manage their health and wellbeing, and link to a range of supports and services. In 2017 we also asked survivors about their preferences for other information and support sessions. In 2018 we will build on our partnerships with consumer groups, cancer charities and other organisations to better support cancer survivors.

Survivors’ stories

In 2017 we built on our collection of survivors’ stories. Included in each story are different survivorship experiences as well as details of services or supports that have assisted people in their treatment and recovery. Survivors report these stories to be interesting, helpful and inspirational.

The survivors’ stories are available at: <https://www.petermac.org/services/support-services/australian-cancer-survivorship-centre/survivors-and-carers/resources>

Collaborating with and learning from others

The ACSC has played a major role in supporting the 2nd Victorian Cancer Survivorship Conference, presented by the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre and Peter Mac, to be held in February 2018. We look forward to a stimulating conference. Further information is available at: <http://www.survivorshipconference.com.au/>

In 2017 ACSC staff presented work at a number of national and international meetings:

- Cancer Survivorship Symposium in San Diego (January)
- 2017 Clinical Oncology Society of Australia Cancer Survivorship Conference in Adelaide (February)
- British Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference in Oxford (March)
- 3rd Victorian Integrated Cancer Services Conference in Melbourne (May)



The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre team

- Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Colorectal Conference in Melbourne (August)
- National Cancer Research Institute Conference in Liverpool (November).

We continue to learn from and collaborate with groups with shared objectives, including a number of consumer and professional organisations, cancer charities and government agencies.



New strategic plan

We recently published our new strategic plan, which will guide our work through to June 2020. This ambitious plan builds on our strengths and past achievements and is responsive to national and international practices. The plan is also informed by results from an independent evaluation of the ACSC conducted in 2016. The evaluation found that the ACSC has been successful in raising awareness around cancer survivorship and supporting improved models of care, and recommended that the ACSC continue its current work, but deepen and extend it.

We have refreshed our online content to align with the new strategic plan. Visit our new webpages to see the summary strategic plan:

www.petermac.org/cancersurvivorship

Published work

-  Kinnane NA, Piper A, Wiley G, Nolte L, Evans J & Jefford M, 2017, 'Transforming cancer survivorship care: An Australian experience', *Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs*, Apr-Jun;4(2):91-4. doi: 10.4103/2347-5625.204498.
-  Lai-Kwon J & Jefford M, 2017, 'Improving care for cancer survivors', *Expert Rev Qual Life Cancer Care*, 2(5):251-62.
-  Jiao M, Hall AE, Nolte L, Piper A & Jefford M, 2017, 'A rapid review of needs assessment tools for post-treatment cancer survivors', *Eur J Cancer Care (Engl)*, Sep 18. doi: 10.1111/ecc.12764.
-  Wiley G, Piper A, Butow P, Schofield P, Douglas F, Roy J, Nolte L & Jefford M, 2017, 'Developing written information for cancer survivors from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds: Lessons learnt', *Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs*. doi:10.4103/apjon.apjon_63_17.

Related work from the Cancer Experiences Research group

-  Jefford M, Ward AC, Lisy K, Lacey K, Emery JD, Glaser AW, Cross H, Krishnasamy M, McLachlan SA & Bishop J, 2017, 'Patient-reported outcomes in cancer survivors: A population-wide cross-sectional study', *Support Care Cancer*, Apr 22. doi: 10.1007/s00520-017-3725-5. [Epub ahead of print]
-  Lisy K, Emery JD & Jefford M, 2017, 'Provider roles in survivorship care: Moving beyond surveys of patient preference', *J Clin Oncol*, 35(34):3890. doi: 10.1200/JCO.2017.75.7187.
-  Jefford M, Emery J, Grunfeld E, Martin A, Rodger P, Murray AM, De Abreu Lourenco R, Heriot A, Phipps-Nelson J, Guccione L, King D, Lisy K, Tebbutt N, Burgess A, Faragher I, Woods R & Schofield P, 2017, 'SCORE: Shared care of colorectal cancer survivors: Protocol for a randomised controlled trial', *Trials*, 18(1):506. doi: 10.1186/s13063-017-2245-4.

Planning ahead

Some of our work in 2018 will include:

- hosting a forum, Cancer Survivorship in the NGO Sector, in February 2018
- supporting and participating in the 2nd Victorian Cancer Survivorship Conference in February 2018
- expanding education and support programs for survivors, including new face-to-face programs in Mandarin and Cantonese to be held in March 2018
- finalising, promoting and distributing new information materials for underserved cancer survivors including those who speak Hindi, Tagalog, Cantonese and Mandarin, and those with low health literacy
- finalising the SCP database, and supporting SCP implementation at Peter Mac and Parkville partner hospitals
- expanding the Clinical Placement Program in Cancer Survivorship across Victoria
- working with the VCSP, the Survivorship group of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia, Cancer Australia and other agencies to support improved cancer survivorship care
- expanding education and training opportunities for health professionals
- publishing results from completed projects in the peer-reviewed literature.

Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre

A Richard Pratt Legacy



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