



From the Director

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre (ACSC) is based at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (Peter Mac) in East Melbourne. It receives funding from The Pratt Foundation, the Victorian Department of Health 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 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 information and delivery of education for both survivors and health professionals. We also provide advice regarding models of care delivery and opportunities for research in cancer survivorship.

In this newsletter ACSC celebrates Cancer Survivorship Week (30 May to 5 June 2016). Read more about how we acknowledged the week, a reminder about the upcoming Community of Practice event and important information about our upcoming move.

For more information or to explore opportunities to collaborate, please email contactacsc@petermac.org or phone (03) 8559 6220

Associate Professor
Michael Jefford

Survivorship Week 2016: 30 May - 5 June

Each year the ACSC recognises Cancer Survivorship Week. The week has its origins in the US based National Cancer Survivors Day (first Sunday of every June). It is a week to recognise everyone, whether they are a survivor, family, friend or health professional. The week provides an opportunity for all people living with a history of cancer to connect, celebrate milestones and recognise those who have supported them along the way.

This year ACSC started the week with a special event in the new Peter Mac home within the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre building. The event offered 30 survivors a sneak peek into the hospital before it opens. During the morning we recognised and thanked our survivors for their support for ACSC and Peter Mac.

Survivors had the opportunity to speak to the Victorian Minister for Health, The Hon Jill Hennessy MP, Peter Mac Chief Executive, Dale Fisher, and hear from ACSC consumer representative Meg Rynderman. Meg celebrated the improvements in cancer outcomes for survivors, and shared the personal impact cancer has had on her. She spoke about her work in creating the Survivor

Stories which has reinforced that while each survivorship experience is unique, there are common elements. Life is changed in ways big or small, fear arises during annual checkups or with new symptoms, but there is also the simple fact of waking up each morning to embark on a new day. Meg concluded with these remarks:

'My sense and my real hope is that with time we will see change come to the treatment of cancer patients, their follow up care and their ongoing survivorship.'

'Innovative patientcentered models of care, incorporating supportive care screening, needs assessments and care plans are currently being trialled and introduced.'

'Survivors voices need to champion these measures, agitating too for the creation of seamless communication between the cancer hospitals and GP's. This will ensure that all survivors feel their progress is being monitored and managed efficiently, with concern & empathy.'

'I am indeed lucky to have been given the opportunity to find my voice as a survivor hopefully to use that voice to assist other survivors find theirs and help to change the system to make their ride on the roller coaster a smoother one than mine has been.'

Read more about the event in the [Herald Sun](#)





Wellness and Life after Cancer Consumer Forum

The Wellness and Life after Cancer forum is a free program run for patients who have recently completed curative cancer treatment, their carer's and friends. The program covers a number of different topics relevant to those attending and allows participants to develop practical strategies for managing life now and moving beyond recovery to wellness.

The most recent forum was held by ACSC on May 31st at the Mercure in East Melbourne attracted over 30 participants. Those who attended stated that they found the day a great way to receive information and but most importantly as seen by the feedback received an opportunity to speak and share with others.

Some comments from attendees:

'An event like today allows us to connect with others and somewhat feel normal and understood'

'A terrific opportunity to share and realise that you are not alone. People are going through similar difficulties'

'I feel this is a must for everyone completing treatment for cancer'

Wellness and Life after Cancer is an initiative of [Cancer Council Victoria](#). The program was developed in partnership with the Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre – A Richard Pratt Legacy. The program is run biannually by the ACSC. For more details please contact Georgina Wiley 03 8559 6222 or Georgina.Wiley@petermac.org

We are moving - important information

Peter Mac will shortly relocate its main site in East Melbourne to its new home within the brand new Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) building.

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre will also move into the new building. The ACSC moves on 1 August 2016.

Please note the main hospital (including all clinical care delivery) will move on the 24th June.

We ask you to please share this information with relevant people in your team or organisation, and we look forward to welcoming you to Peter Mac's new home.

The new address will be:

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
305 Grattan Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Our mailing address remains unchanged:

Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Locked Bag 1
A'Beckett Street
Melbourne VIC 8006

Planning your next visit:

Our new home can be found at the intersections of Grattan Street, Elizabeth Street and Flemington Road, Melbourne VIC 3000.

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre will be located on level 1 of our new home from 1 August 2016.

If you require further information on our move, please contact Amanda Piper on 03 9656 5207 (up until 1 August 2016) or email contactusacsc@petermac.org

More information on our new home is available at www.petermac.org

Save the date

The next Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program Community of Practice event will be held in July.

Date: Thursday, 21 July 10am-4pm

Venue: Marriott Hotel, corner of Exhibition and Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Vic

ACSC acknowledges the support of the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services.

To register to attend, please contact Adelle Van Der Linden on 03 8559 6220 or email Adelle.Vanderlinden@petermac.org

Upcoming events

- American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) 2016 Annual Meeting (Chicago, USA)
3-7 June 2016
<http://am.asco.org>
- 8th Biennial Cancer Survivorship Research Conference (Washington DC, USA)
16-18 June 2016
<http://www.cancer.org/subsites/survivorship2016/>
- MASCC/ISOO Annual Meeting - (Adelaide)
23-25 June 2016
<http://mascc2016.kenes.com/landing/Pages/default.aspx>
- 11th Conference of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (Alice Springs)
30 August - 2 September 2016
<http://www.dconferences.com.au/acnp2016/>
- International Conference on Cancer Nursing (ICCN) (Hong Kong, China)
4-7 September 2016
<http://www.isncc.org/?page=ICCN2016>
- The European Cancer Rehabilitation & Survivorship Symposium (ECRS) (Copenhagen, Denmark)
19-20 September 2016
<http://www.cancer.dk/ecrs>
- The VCCC Survivorship Conference and the Victorian Psycho-oncology Research Conference (Melbourne)
13-14 October 2016
<https://www.victorianccc.org.au/events/the-inaugural-vccc-survivorship-conference-and-the-victorian-psycho-oncology-research-conference/>
- World Cancer Congress (Paris, France)
31 October - 3 November 2016
<http://www.uicc.org/convener/world-cancer-congress>

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A Richard Pratt Legacy



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