



From the Director

The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre – A Richard Pratt legacy (ACSC) is based at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (Peter Mac) in Parkville. It receives funding from The Pratt Foundation, the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services 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 state-wide role in the development of information and delivery of education for both survivors and healthcare professionals. We also provide advice regarding models of care and opportunities for research in cancer survivorship.

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

Associate Professor
Michael Jefford

Information and support for survivors

Wellness and life after Cancer

Our first consumer forum for 2017 was the most well attended to date, with 91 cancer survivors and carers present. The forum – for people who have completed cancer treatment, their families and friends – provides information about the post-treatment phase, including how and where to access further information and support.

Participants say the most valuable part of the program is the opportunity to connect with others going through similar experiences.

We facilitate the program at Peter Mac in partnership with Cancer Council Victoria. The next forum will be held on Friday 2 June 2017.

For information, contact Project Officer Katie.Rogerson@petermac.org

Supporting underserved cancer survivors

In 2016, the ACSC received grant funding through Cancer Australia's Supporting People with Cancer initiative. In partnership with Cancer Council Australia and Breast Cancer Network Australia, we will work to increase information and support for underserved groups.

Outcomes will include:

- an easy English resource and resources for Hindi and Tagalog speakers
- audio resources in Cantonese, Mandarin and English
- education sessions for Chinese cancer survivors
- a cancer glossary in a number of languages to help support translators.

Previous grants have enabled us to develop a suite of survivorship resources in languages other than English including Arabic, Italian, Greek, Vietnamese, and simplified and traditional Chinese.

For information or to order resources, contact Project Manager Georgina.Wiley@petermac.org

Education and training for healthcare professionals

Delivering Innovative Cancer Survivorship Care

We held our first fully subscribed Delivering Innovative Cancer Survivorship Care workshop for the year on 9 March. The event, which we have run several times a year since 2015, is an opportunity for healthcare professionals to learn about up-to-date, evidence-based practical tools, clinical guidelines, resources and relatable scenarios, to develop their knowledge of survivorship while increasing their capacity to implement survivorship care.

Participants report that the workshop is both relevant and of practical benefit to their clinical practice.

The next workshop will be held at Peter Mac on Wednesday 19 July 2017. These workshops book quickly, so please register early.

For information, contact Project Officer Katie.Rogerson@petermac.org

15th Survivorship Community of Practice

Over 70 professionals attended the 15th Survivorship Community of Practice forum in February. Led by the ACSC and supported by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, the forum is open to all working in cancer survivorship. Participants interact, share practice approaches and deepen their knowledge of survivorship care.

February's event included insights into challenges and solutions emerging from the 13 projects funded through Phase II of the Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program. Consumer Kerry O'Donnell shared her experience since diagnosis, and the lasting impact on her and her family. Attendees were briefed on the collaborative approaches taken by Dr Robert Blum in developing a breast shared care model in Bendigo and Dr Adrian Dabscheck, who led the development of the SMART clinic (symptom management, assessment and referral team) at Western Health.

The next event is on Wednesday 21 June 2017. For information, contact Acting Manager Amanda.Piper@petermac.org



New Survivorship Care Plan project

Survivorship care plans (SCPs) have been widely endorsed. Internationally, they were a key recommendation from the landmark Institute of Medicine report, *From Cancer Patient to Cancer Survivor: Lost in Transition*, and, more recently, considered essential for accredited programs by the US College of Surgeons. In Australia, the Optimal Care Pathways recommend that survivors be provided with a treatment summary and follow-up care plan after 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 about strategies to remain well. SCPs support the transition from treatment to post-treatment, and enhance patient-centred care and health during cancer survivorship. However, providing SCPs at the end of treatment is not currently a standard of clinical practice in Australia, with barriers including limited resourcing and technology.

The ACSC has received funding from the Department of Health and Human Services to develop an SCP database over the next 12 months. The project will deliver an evidence-informed, best-practice database of key components of SCPs for breast, prostate and colorectal cancers. The database could be imported into electronic medical record systems or other databases/systems to support SCP development at Victorian health services.

The project is in the establishment phase, with the ACSC commencing identifying and communicating with stakeholders and collaborators. To be involved, or for information, contact Acting Manager Amanda.Piper@petermac.org

Recently presented work

British Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference

A/Prof Michael Jefford shared Peter Mac's survivorship research at the British Psychosocial Oncology Society Annual Conference in Oxford in March.

Michael's presentation focused on 'Patient-reported outcomes in cancer survivors in Victoria, Australia: a cross-sectional survey', in line with the conference theme: 'Living with and beyond cancer: opportunities in a changing landscape'. His presentation described results from a population-based survey of cancer survivors in Victoria commissioned by the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre. The study aimed to assess quality of life in survivors of breast, prostate and colorectal cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma and melanoma one, three or five years post-diagnosis, where anxiety and depression were the most commonly reported problems. A number of symptom issues were frequently reported across cancer groups; at all time points post-diagnosis, issues included fear of cancer recurrence, trouble sleeping and fatigue. Survivors wanted more information and advice after finishing treatment for cancer. The study authors believe that strategies are required to prevent, identify and treat issues, and monitor patients at an individual and population level.

Flinders COSA Survivorship Conference

The ACSC attended the Flinders COSA Survivorship Conference on 2–3 February 2017 in Adelaide. We shared, via oral presentations, the results of our 2016 General Practice Placement Program in Cancer Survivorship and our work understanding how Peter Mac cancer survivors will use SCPs, and presented a poster on lessons learnt through developing resources with and for

cancer survivors and carers from non-English speaking backgrounds.

For information, contact project managers Georgina.Wiley@petermac.org or Nicole.Kinnane@petermac.org

ASCO Cancer Survivorship Symposium

A/Prof Michael Jefford attended the ASCO Cancer Survivorship Symposium on 27–28 January 2017 in San Diego. Michael presented a poster outlining the results of our 2016 General Practice Placement Program in Cancer Survivorship, titled 'A multi-site cancer survivorship clinical placement program for primary care practitioners'.

For information, contact Project Manager Georgina.Wiley@petermac.org

Publications

Kinnane NA, Piper A, Wiley G, Nolte L, Evans J, Jefford M. Transforming cancer survivorship care: An Australian experience. *Asia Pac J Oncol Nurs* 2017;4:91-4

Upcoming events

- 4th Primary Care & Cancer Scientific Forum (Melbourne)
10 May 2017
<http://pc4tg.com.au/activities/pc4-scientific-symposium/>
- Victorian Integrated Cancer Services Conferences (Melbourne)
11-12 May 2017
<http://vics2017.org/>
- Cancer Nurses Society of Australia Winter Congress (Adelaide)
15-17 June 2017
<https://www.cnsa.org.au/congressevents/cnsa-annual-congress>
- Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (Sydney)
13-15 November 2017
<https://www.cosa.org.au/>

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A Richard Pratt Legacy



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