



## Cancer malnutrition point prevalence study 2018: initial results

The biennial cancer malnutrition point prevalence study (PPS) has now been conducted four times, in 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018. The aim of the PPS is to determine the prevalence of malnutrition within the cancer population in acute Victorian health services and to identify areas requiring improvement, with the long-term goal of reducing cancer malnutrition prevalence and burden. This summary displays the key results from the 2018 PPS compared to the three previous PPS results.



	2012	2014	2016	2018
No. patients	1677	1913	1340	1462
No. inpatients	337	350	321	319
No. ambulatory patients	1340	1563	1019	1143
No. participating sites	17	27	16	19

### Overall patients at risk of malnutrition (%)



### Overall malnutrition prevalence (%)



### Malnutrition prevalence – inpatients (%)



### Malnutrition prevalence – ambulatory patients (%)



### What does this mean?

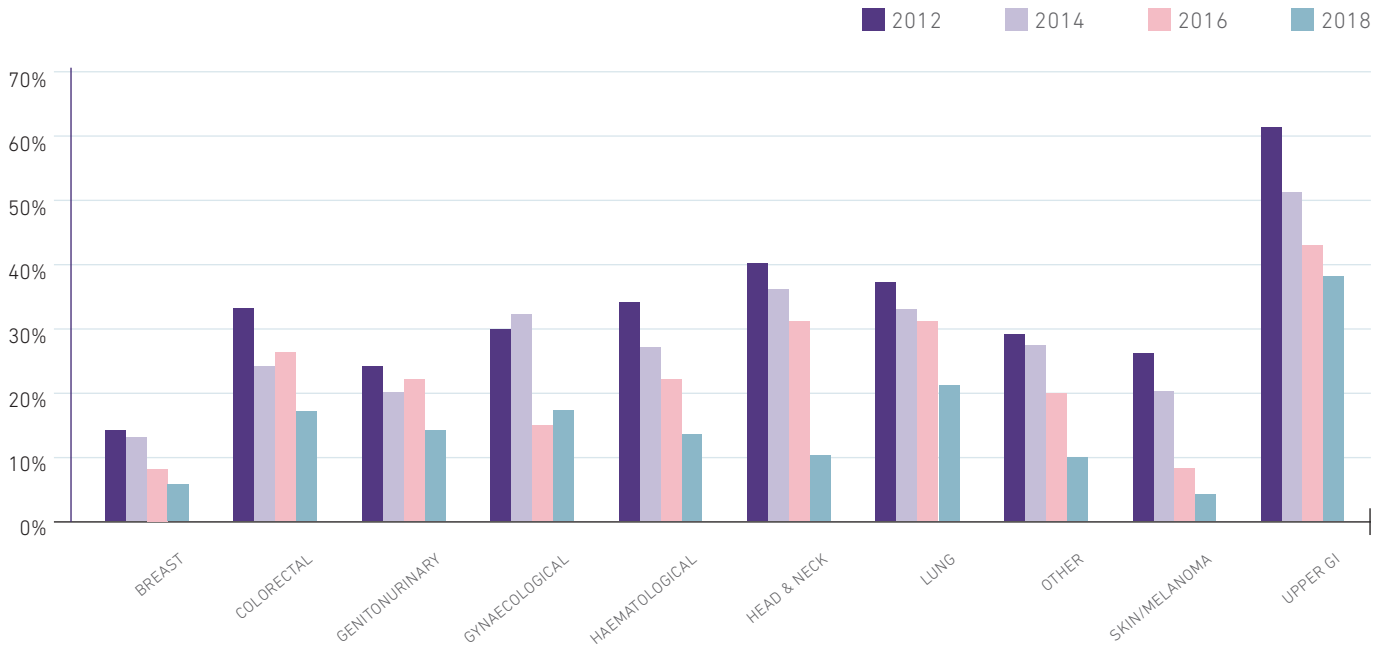
**Overall, cancer malnutrition prevalence continues to trend downward within Victorian health services in both the inpatient and ambulatory settings.**

This positive trend could be due to a number of different factors, including but not limited to:

- An increased awareness of cancer malnutrition within health services
- Improved early identification and management of malnutrition risk within health services, minimising the progression to a malnutrition diagnosis
- Improved multi-disciplinary management of a malnutrition diagnosis, including high levels of dietetic involvement
- An increased awareness of cancer malnutrition in the patient population, leading to proactive self-management



## MALNUTRITION PREVALENCE BY TUMOUR STREAM



### PATIENTS RECEIVING DIETETIC CARE

Malnourished patients receiving dietetic care (%)

2012: **56**

2014: **56**

2016: **68**

2018: **65**

### What's next?

1

Distribution of each participating health service's key results compared to the state-wide results

2

Identification of areas that require targeted initiatives to bring about improvements

3

Further refinement of the PPS methodology for future studies

4

Ongoing suites of work within the VCMC program to target cancer malnutrition