



Australian Government

Cancer Australia

CANCER AUSTRALIA

Corporate Plan 2015-16 to 2018-19

August 2015



Cancer Australia Corporate Plan 2015-16 to 2018-19 was prepared and produced by:

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ISBN Print: 978-1-74127-295-6 Online: 978-1-74127-296-3

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Copies of Cancer Australia Corporate Plan 2015-16 to 2018-19 can be downloaded from the Cancer Australia website: www.canceraustralia.gov.au.

Recommended citation

Cancer Australia, 2015. *Cancer Australia Corporate Plan 2015-16 to 2018-19*, Cancer Australia, Surry Hills, NSW.

Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Purpose	1
3.0	Environment	2
4.0	Performance	4
5.0	Capability	6
5.1	Workforce planning	6
5.2	ICT capability	6
5.3	Capital investment strategy	6
6.0	Risk oversight and management	7

1.0 Introduction

I, Helen Zorbas, as the accountable authority for Cancer Australia, present the 2015-16 Cancer Australia Corporate Plan, which covers the period of 2015-16 to 2018-19, as required under paragraph 35 (1) (b) of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

2.0 Purpose

Our purpose

To minimise the impact of cancer, address disparities, and improve the health outcomes of people affected by cancer in Australia by providing national leadership in cancer control.

Our role

Cancer Australia is a specialist agency providing national leadership in cancer control across the cancer continuum of care. Cancer Australia builds the evidence base through the translation of scientific research and data; makes recommendations to the Australian Government about cancer policies and priorities; assists with the implementation of policies and programs in cancer control; and oversees a dedicated budget for research into cancer.

Cancer Australia achieves its objectives by harnessing expertise, effective partnerships, and a collaborative model that fosters engagement across the health system, thereby reducing duplication of effort.

3.0 Environment

Cancer Australia is a portfolio agency of the Department of Health. It was established by the Australian Government under the Cancer Australia Act 2006 and is a listed entity under the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act). It is also subject to the Auditor-General Act 1997, and its staff are employees of the Australian Public Service under the Public Service Act 1999.

Cancer Australia is funded by the Australian Government to deliver ongoing programs of work in breast, gynaecological and lung cancers; priority cancer research; clinical trial protocol development; cancer data; and a grant initiative to support people with cancer. The agency also undertakes a targeted, non-ongoing program of work for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people specifically in the area of lung cancer.

Cancer Australia's total appropriation in 2015-16 is \$30.75 million. It is anticipated that this funding base will remain relatively stable, with Cancer Australia delivering a balanced budget this financial year and over the forward years.

Strategic outlook over the forward years

In Australia, cancer is a national health priority, with one in two men and one in three women expected to be diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85 years.

Cancer Australia's Corporate Plan 2015-16 to 2018-2019 has been developed in the context of a range of current and future trends and challenges, including:

- ▶ More people being diagnosed with cancer;
- ▶ More people living longer after a cancer diagnosis, requiring ongoing treatments, support, and long-term follow-up care;
- ▶ Increased community and consumer expectations for reliable, evidence-based information about cancer;
- ▶ Ongoing disparities in the impact of cancer and unwarranted variations in incidence and outcomes across population and tumour groups;
- ▶ Advances in cancer technologies and treatments including increased availability of targeted therapies;
- ▶ The need to operate more efficiently within constrained resources.

Over the forward years, national cancer control will require leadership in the coordination of efforts and the development of innovative, evidence-based and sustainable approaches across the continuum of care to address these challenges.

Cancer Australia will remain committed to ensuring that the latest scientific research and data is utilised to inform policy and practice, and ensure that investment decisions are focused on those aspects of cancer control which will have the greatest impact for patients and improve the provision of efficient and effective cancer care.

Strategic investment in cancer control will also be critical to guide the optimal use of resources, enable the health system to be responsive to current and future challenges and maintain and improve cancer outcomes across Australia.

Also central to Cancer Australia's success in reducing the impact of cancer will be sustained engagement and collaboration. Cancer Australia will continue to work across sectors in partnership with consumers, health professionals and professional colleges, researchers and research funding bodies, non-government cancer and health organisations, and other health portfolio agencies and governments, to further drive improvements in cancer outcomes and care.

4.0 Performance

Minimise the impact of cancer in Australia 2015-16 to 2018-19

What we will do	Promote effective cancer care	Identify priorities in national cancer research and address national data gaps	Provide community information and support
How we will do it	<p>We will develop and demonstrate effective models of cancer care and ensure that the care provided to patients is informed by evidence and makes optimal use of resources, including the health workforce.</p>	<p>We will support collaborative cancer research and build the evidence base through the Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme, which maximises funding of cancer research in areas of identified priority at a national level.</p>	<p>We will provide access to up-to-date, evidence-based information about cancer for health professionals, consumers and the community through the Cancer Australia website.</p>
	<p>We will develop clinical guidance, including position papers, that identify key appropriate and inappropriate practices in cancer care to support improved quality of cancer care at the health system level and influence clinicians and patients in making informed decisions about the most appropriate care.</p>	<p>We will support the development of cancer clinical trials to improve evidence-based, best-practice care for people diagnosed with cancer and ensure that quality of life, genomics and cost-effectiveness are incorporated into cancer clinical trials.</p>	<p>We will raise awareness of cancer in the community through the promotion of evidence-based cancer messages and information, including cancer risk factors and the importance of early detection, to reduce the impact of cancer.</p>

	We will examine the evidence and develop approaches to address unwarranted variations in cancer outcomes.	We will develop a framework of National Cancer Control Indicators , including cancer stage, treatment and recurrence, to monitor and benchmark cancer control efforts across the cancer continuum to inform practice and policy.	We will work with community organisations to strengthen community networks, both locally and nationally, to be robust, reliable and sustainable, and to provide information and support for people with poorer cancer outcomes.
What we will achieve	Evidence is advanced about the optimal provision of cancer care across Australia.	The best available evidence is used to inform national cancer priorities, policies and practice.	Evidence-based information about cancer is available and accessible to all Australians.
How we will measure our achievement (annual performance targets)	Demonstrate effective models of cancer care at 26 sites across Australia.	Percentage of funding for applied research through the Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme: $\geq 70\%$.	Total number of Cancer Australia resources available to inform the community: 275.
	Publish evidence-based national priorities to address disparities and improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.	Develop a framework of National Cancer Control Indicators.	Average monthly visits to the Cancer Australia website: 65,000.
	Cancer Australia will utilise its existing robust performance management frameworks to collect information relating to the performance of our programs; monitor and analyse progress; ensure alignment with our strategic objectives; and maintain strong links between performance reporting, planning and management.		

5.0 Capability

5.1 Workforce planning

Cancer Australia is a high-performing, specialised agency comprising staff with expertise in a range of areas, including epidemiology, clinical practice, research analysis, data, population health, public health, policy, health promotion and financial and project management.

Over the forward years Cancer Australia will continue to assess staff capabilities against the agency's strategic objectives to ensure that the requisite specialist expertise is available to deliver on our work plan and associated outcomes.

5.2 ICT capability

Cancer Australia's ICT strategy is designed to support the agency to deliver effective and sustainable cancer care, inform the community about cancer and strengthen the agency's capability for national cancer control. The key drivers for Cancer Australia's ICT strategy are:

Strategic – The need for comprehensive, consistent, accurate and timely management of information, enabling improved decision making ;

Customer Focus – The need to address the increasing demand from the public to access services and information via websites and social media;

Information Management and Security – The need to ensure that data and information is collected and stored appropriately and is accessible, subject to effective controls; and

Innovation – The need to be "ICT ready" to support new areas of work in the future which take advantage of innovative technologies and new ways of working, for example wireless technologies and shared services environments.

Cancer Australia will continuously explore opportunities to integrate digital services and technology into the agency's program of work to meet the varied and changing needs of our stakeholders.

5.3 Capital investment strategy

Cancer Australia has limited and modest capital resources, and over the forward years, will focus its capital investment in areas of high priority and need, which align with our strategic objectives.

6.0 Risk oversight and management

Cancer Australia's body of work is underpinned by a Risk Management Plan, which integrates risk considerations, management, and compliance across the agency, including governance and management; strategic and business planning programmes and projects; performance management; and corporate affairs.

Risks are assigned to an owner with the responsibility for managing, monitoring, reporting and ensuring that risk treatment activities are applied appropriately.

Tailored to meet the Agency's needs, risk identification and mitigation is proportionate to its risk and compliant with the Commonwealth Risk Management Policy .

To support implementation of the Risk Management Plan, the Agency fosters a positive risk culture, including the promotion of productive attitudes and behaviours among all our employees.