

Network Update

Spotlight on Regional NSW at the 2025 NSW Cancer Summit

The inaugural **NSW Cancer Summit 2025**, held at ICC Sydney on 13–14 August, brought together more than 700 researchers, clinicians and community members to shape the future of cancer prevention, treatment and care, and to explore innovation, equity and world-class research in cancer control.

We were proud to support a number of our **Network members from across the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network footprint** to attend. A highlight was capturing a group photo of our members at the Summit.

It was wonderful to see the contributions of our regional researchers recognised throughout the program. Several of our members presented their work during the oral and poster sessions, demonstrating the strength and depth of cancer research being driven from our region.

A big congratulations to **Cassandra Griffin**, who received the *Community Voice in Cancer Care – Poster Presentation Award*. This is an outstanding achievement and a well-deserved recognition of her work.



The Summit also highlighted the importance of consumer involvement, including the **EMCRs:**



Engaging with consumers, patients and carers for impactful research outcomes breakfast session, facilitated by **Professor Nikola Bowden** and **Cathryn Leany (Cancer Voices NSW)**. We sincerely thank the consumer panel for sharing their experience and wisdom. Your voices are invaluable and continue to enrich our work.

Finally, congratulations to the **Cancer Institute NSW** for organising such an engaging and inspiring event. The Summit created a powerful platform for sharing knowledge, building collaboration and strengthening cancer research and innovation across the state.

At the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network, we are proud to champion these opportunities where regional researchers and consumers can come together to contribute to better cancer research and outcomes for people across NSW. **We are especially proud of the way our members**

represented the Network at the Summit and showcased the strength of regional cancer research.

Cancer Institute NSW would greatly appreciate your feedback – if you haven't already, please take a moment to fill in their short [feedback survey](#).

FUNDING OUTCOMES

Congratulations to our Network Members

Congratulations to **Associate Professor Jenny Schneider** and the project team on being awarded funding through the NSW Government's \$2.7 million grants program to improve end-of-life and palliative care services across the state. Jenny is the Principal Investigator leading the project "*Stability and Compatibility of Commonly Used Palliative Care Medications Administered by Continuous Subcutaneous Infusion: Improving Best Evidence for Practice Change.*" We are delighted to strong network member collaboration driving this important work.

This project will focus on palliative care patients across all regions of NSW. It will test the stability and compatibility of commonly used medication combinations, with the aim of supporting safer and more flexible prescribing. The findings will help reduce the need for daily syringe driver reloads. This change will be especially valuable for patients in rural, regional, and remote areas where daily palliative care support may be limited. Ultimately, this work will improve patient comfort and support home-based care.



Mixing Medicines

Interested in the newest findings on continuous subcutaneous infusions (CSCI) stability and compatibility in palliative care?

✓ Scan the QR Code below

✓ Add your contact details to join the distribution list



With support from the NSW Health End of Life Palliative Care Grant Program and the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network, the University of Newcastle is studying the stability and compatibility of commonly used CSCI medication combinations in Australian practice, aiming to fill evidence gaps and guide clinicians toward safer, more flexible prescribing.

➔ **Scan the QR code to register your interest to stay up to date with the latest findings.**

HAVE YOUR SAY

Impact Evaluation Survey Coming Soon

The NSW Regional Cancer Research Network is getting ready to launch a short survey for our members as part of our impact evaluation.

For most members, the survey will be very brief, with less than 10 questions, and should take no more than 5 to 10 minutes to complete. If you have received funding from the Network, you will be

asked to complete a slightly longer version so we can better understand the impact of our funding support.

Your feedback will be incredibly valuable in helping us understand the difference the Network is making, shape improvements, and highlight the impact of regional cancer research across NSW.

We will be sending the survey out shortly and we encourage all of our members to take part. Every response will help us build a clearer picture of the Network's contribution and ensure we continue to provide meaningful support for researchers, clinicians and consumers across our regional footprint.


Keep an eye on your inbox for the survey link, and thank you in advance for helping us shape the future of the Network.


TRAINING/SEMINAR AND EVENTS


NSW Statewide Seminar Series

How do we move from survivorship being considered a “luxury” for wealthy patients to being routine for all?

Maridulu Budyari Gumal (SPHERE) Cancer CAG NSW, in collaboration with the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network and Sydney Cancer Partners, is proud to host the 2025 NSW Cancer Research Education Statewide Seminar Series. These online seminars take place on the third Tuesday of each month.

 **When:** Tuesday, 16 September 2025

 **Time:** 12:30–1:30 pm

 **Where:** Online via Microsoft Teams

Session details

Join us for a thought-provoking panel discussion on equity of access to survivorship care in Australia today. Chaired by **Professor Bogda Koczwara**, the session will explore the benefits of survivorship care, the barriers that remain, and potential solutions to strengthen and expand access across NSW and beyond.

Speakers

- **Professor Wei Chua** – Medical Oncologist, Liverpool Hospital; Chair, Australian Centre for Cancer Equity Steering Committee
- **Associate Professor Adam Nelson** – Paediatric Oncologist & BMT Physician; Director, Transplant & Cellular Therapy Program, Sydney Children's Hospital Network
- **Ms Lillian Leigh** – Consumer Advocate

Session Chair

- **Professor Bogda Koczwara** – Director, Australian Research Centre for Cancer Survivorship



Professor Bogda Koczwara



Professor Wei Chua



A/Professor Adam Nelson




Ms Lillian Leigh


Don't miss this opportunity to be part of an important conversation shaping the future of survivorship care.


 [Click here for more information and to register](#)

2025 Cancer & Immunology Ideas Forum

On behalf of Sydney Cancer Partners, Maridulu Budyari Gumal (SPHERE) Cancer CAG, NSW Regional Cancer Research Network, The University of Sydney Cancer Research Network, UNSW Cancer and Triple I Themes and Macquarie University we invite you to register to attend the 2025 Cancer & Immunology Ideas forum.

 **When:** Friday, 19 September 2025

 **Time:** 9.30am–4.30pm

 **Where:** Teachers Federation Conference Centre, Surry Hills


 [Click here for more information and to register](#)




Cancer Consumer-led Research Program

Co-designing a Lead from Lived Experience education program by and for consumers

The **Cancer Consumer-Led Research Partnership** is a pioneering statewide initiative that amplifies the voices of cancer consumers through engagement, research and education. Supported by a \$1.6 million investment from the Department of Health, this collaborative effort brings together five cancer control organisations: VCCC Alliance, Regional Trial Network – Victoria, Monash Partners Comprehensive Cancer Consortium, Cancer Council Victoria and the University of Melbourne. Deakin University and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre have also contributed to developing the **Lead from Lived Experience** education program.

 **When:** Tuesday, 23 September 2025

 **Time:** 12:30–1:30 pm

 **Where:** Online via Zoom

You are invited to join an engaging **panel discussion on cancer consumer-led research**, featuring expert lived experience panellists and led by **Pauline Ryan** (Program Manager) and **Dr Stacey Panozzo** (Program Consumer Liaison).

 [Click here for more information and to register](#)



Cancer Consumer-led Research Program

*Co-designing a Lead from Lived Experience
education program by and for consumers*




Dr Stacey Panozzo


Pauline Ryan

Research Funded by the Australian Government



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

MRFF – Australian Brain Cancer Mission - Brain Cancer Discovery & Translation Grant Opportunity

Applications are now open for the 2025 Brain Cancer Research Grant Opportunity, offering up to \$4.75 million per project to support innovative, collaborative brain cancer research. A key requirement of this grant is strong EMCR involvement, ensuring the next generation of researchers are central to the work. Minimum data is due 21 January 2026, with applications closing 4 February 2026.

 [More information on GrantConnect](#)

Professional Research Support Packages

Sharpen your application with a Professional Research Support Package

Need a second set of eyes on your next grant or fellowship application? The NSW Regional Cancer Research Network offers Professional Research Support Packages to help members strengthen and sharpen their applications. Support is tailored to your needs and may include refining your research question, strengthening consumer involvement, or ensuring your responses align with the selection criteria.

Please note this service is not intended for Senior Research Partners to write your application, but to provide constructive feedback and guidance to strengthen its quality.

 [Find out more and request support](#)

CONNECT WITH US:



We acknowledge the many Traditional Custodians of Country throughout regional, rural and remote NSW and honour their Elders, families and descendants, past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs, and deep and continuing relationship with the land and waterways. We acknowledge that they are the proud survivors of more than two hundred years of dispossession.

The NSW Regional Cancer Research Network is funded by the [Cancer Institute NSW](#) through a Translational Cancer Research Capacity Building Grant and established through [NSW Regional Health Partners](#).