PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM 1 - DATA LINKAGE

Link clinical, biological, genomic and patient outcomes data to enable discoveries

The program has two broad goals:

• To build upon a research-ready linked data resource that represents cancer across the continuum of care. This enables investigation of clinical and research questions relevant to members and others in ways that are ethically appropriate, effectively governed and with minimal cost.
• To provide a central hub of expertise in the management and use of linked data for research or service improvement which acts as a project incubator by connecting clinical, informatics, analytics, statistical and data management skills.

The program encompasses development of infrastructure for data linkage and sharing, as well as support for ethics processes and project management.

The program will act as a data pipeline, advocating for linkage of various data types; conducting baseline transformations and analytics to provide data in a format to minimise duplication for researchers; and providing guidance on data quality and capabilities.

PROGRAM 2 - PERSONALISED CANCER CARE

Drive translation of cancer biology to 21st century personalised cancer care, prioritising new technologies and low survival cancers

The overarching goal for the program is the availability of a comprehensive toolbox of genomic and molecular tests for clinicians to ensure the right patient receives the right treatment at the right time.

Proposed activities include:

• Translational research enablers - including facilitation of multidisciplinary connections; creation of a translational research hub including an immuno-oncology incubator space and a link to clinical trials
• Overcoming barriers to multi-site research - to reduce the burden of research governance and increase access to tissue and clinical data
• Increasing access to personalised cancer care – which will broaden the scope of Molecular Tumour Boards, variant meetings & education symposiums; establish a personalized cancer care consumer reference group; assess utility of liquid biopsy and other new technologies; and increase access to testing
PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM 3 – NOVEL THERAPIES

Accelerate the development of novel therapies

The overarching goal of this program is to provide greater opportunities for Victorian patients to access novel therapies.

Specific program goals include:

• Make more novel therapies available to more patients across metropolitan, regional and rural Victoria.
• Maximise Victoria’s opportunity to transition the oncology clinical trial sector into innovative trial methodologies
• Determine the value of next generation molecularly directed clinical trials.

Proposed activities include:

• Improving access to novel therapies – for example through establishing a VCCC Drug Formulary and a Clinical Trial Development Hub
• Increasing early phase clinical trial opportunities for all – through an Early Phase Awareness Project
• Linking science to clinical opportunities – by assisting laboratory research reach the clinic

PROGRAM 4 – CLINICAL TRIAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Drive an innovative, high-performance clinical trial sector through capacity building

This program has two main objectives:

1. Strengthen clinical trial participation through the adoption and conduct of new clinical trial methods – this will be achieved by:
   • Expanding and strengthening new clinical trial methodologies (e.g. registry trials)
   • Building and expanding certain trial groups (e.g. surgical oncology)
   • Improving clinical trial participation (i.e. understanding barriers to recruitment and designing strategies to improve this)

2. Support high-performance clinical trials units through harmonising performance, including:
   • Improving Staff capability by expanding a competency framework to all trial units
   • Improving harmonisation and efficiencies

Improving patient participation in clinical trials is the main outcome measure for this program, with multiple factors affecting recruitment being addressed.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM 5 - DATA-DRIVEN, VALUE BASED CANCER CARE

Implement data-driven value-based cancer services

Value-Based Healthcare focuses on maximising the value of care for patients and reducing the cost of healthcare. The overall goal of this program is to develop an evidence base for the implementation of value-based care in the cancer services setting of tertiary hospitals for cancer treatment and the community setting for cancer screening and early detection. The Program comprises three main themes with multiple potential sub-projects (subject to project prioritisation):

1. **Fast-track and efficient cancer diagnosis and referral** - projects may include modelling and informing value-based cancer diagnostic testing and/or risk-based breast cancer screening and its downstream impacts.

2. **Reducing length of stay and preventing re-admissions** - projects may include predicting hospital re-admissions using machine learning; predicting adverse events of cancer immunotherapies; assessment of retreatment with radiotherapy using a whole-Victorian Dataset (VRMDS); and/or a value based care evaluation of the Victorian State MR Linear Accelerator and the Victorian Gammaknife.

3. **Understanding patient value/choice in advanced cancer management** – projects may include value-based chemotherapy for colorectal cancer and/or implementing a distress thermometer.

PROGRAM 6 - IMPACT THROUGH LEADERSHIP

Extend a distributed model of leadership to drive impact on patient outcomes

**NOTE: ALTERNATE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENT, NOT OPEN FOR EOIs**

This program has three main objectives:

- Accelerate implementation of evidence in to practice by aligning and embedding critical activities of VCCC leaders within member organisations
- Cement a cohesive distributed leadership group used to working together and across organisations in strategically important areas
- Ensure the work of the VCCC is future focused and able to capitalise on innovative opportunities in cancer care, research and education

Proposed activities include:

**Consensus on a clinical challenge to target effort** – achieved through scoping and review to inform a strategic direction; planning; utilisation of clinical data; and implementation of SPP program outputs to address clinical challenges

**Leading through education** - Maximise education opportunities to drive consensus on diagnostic and treatment decisions through the support of a community of practice

**Leading through engagement and advocacy** - Provide protected time with support from program managers to collaborate on projects with translational potential.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM 7 - RURAL AND REGIONAL CLINICAL TRIAL ACCESS

Fast track innovations in regions with poorest cancer outcomes

This program will provide regional Victorians with access to the latest in cancer care through better access to clinical trials and better sector engagement and collaboration across Victorian cancer organisations and the community. Proposed activities include:

**Increase access to clinical trials** – Extension of the teletrials programming and streamlined governance.

**Capability and Capacity Building** – Standardised Geriatric Oncology Assessment Tool and research project regarding its impact; Upskilling the Regional Workforce through bespoke educational programming customised to needs.

**Equity of access for regional patients** – Extension of the regional partnerships program to all regional cancer centres; Linkage of regional data into the VCCC data program; Access to genomic protocols for regional patients and Improving Outcomes in Neglected Cancers through state-wide coordination of multi-disciplinary meetings.

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PROGRAM 8 - REDUCING DISPARITY

Build on initiatives to meet the needs of vulnerable groups

The overarching goal of this program is to build capacity and capability across the VCCC and beyond to drive improved participation in clinical research, trials and treatments for underserved populations.

Proposed activities include:

- **Establishment of an Equity Advisory Group** – to oversight development of a program of work, including mapping inequities, conducting a review of existing research and initiatives and identifying areas where the VCCC can best add value and make clear contributions

- **Contribution to improving cancer outcomes with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities** – including through establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander expert group to guide development and implementation of initiatives to improve equity of access and/or outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples affected by cancer

- **An initiative to improve cancer outcomes among culturally and linguistically diverse populations** – including through equity analysis using existing data sets and development of a co-designed research project.
PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PROGRAM 9 - LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Develop leadership skills and empowerment of researchers, clinicians and consumers

The overarching goal of this program is to build a diverse, equitable and exceptional leadership program across the cancer sector that creates empowerment, unity, cultural change and improves patient outcomes and experience. The program is underpinned by the concept that fostering a collaborative and unified culture through leadership development, will ultimately drive high quality translational research, education and care. This focus on connecting and fostering an outstanding cancer workforce is within the VCCC remit and builds upon the VCCC’s foundations in collective impact - harnessing collective effort to achieve maximum gain.

Proposed activities include:

- **Provide state-wide educational programming in leadership, teaching and collaborative teamwork** - Leadership skills and targeted programs to catalyse cultural transformation; and specialist skills training in teaching, communication, teamwork and the other professional skills.
- **Immersive programming to support health professional, scientist and consumer led research** - Connecting collaborators: researchers, clinicians and consumers together; Development of an educational framework and resources to support novice researchers and clinical trialists and a Nurse-led Research Hub.
- **Establish a leadership academy** - Community building of likeminded leadership experts and recognition of leadership in specific subcategories.

PROGRAM 10 - ONCOLOGY LEARNING HUB

Build a state-wide oncology learning hub leveraging Victoria’s content and knowledge translation expertise

The overarching goal of this program is to foster an outstanding cancer workforce to help maintain and enhance world leading patient outcomes.

Proposed activities include:

- **Digital Education Transformation Program** – Designing and developing the Digital Education Hub and its corresponding educational programming.
- **Cancer Sciences academic programming** – Programming in Cancer Science fundamentals and promotion and facilitation of educational research.
- **Educational interventions for practice change** – Develop educational resources to support outputs from the Research and Education Leads along with technology enhanced learning.