Consumers play an important role in assisting researchers, clinicians and educators better understand the lived-experience of cancer. Defining the differing levels of engagement help to tailor communication, education and skill development.

### Levels of Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels of Engagement</th>
<th>How Consumers Can Participate</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **Informing**        | › Participate as an audience member in symposia and other events.  
› Receive health information and research news through newsletters, emails and other media. |
| **Consulting**       | › Participate in consultation activities such as surveys, focus groups, consultative workshops and interviews.  
› Storytelling to support communications, program development or delivery: interviews, writing, video-based. |
| **Involving**         | › Speaking engagements/panel member at events on behalf of an organisation.  
› Reviewer roles in research, education, training and communications (or other areas where there are materials to be reviewed with a consumer lens). |
| **Partnership**      | › Represent the consumer perspective on steering committees, working groups and interview panels.  
› Program and project involvement via liaison, advisor, team member, project governance. |
| **Consumer-led**     | › Engagement in governance, strategy, policy and evaluation.  
› Advocacy, leadership, evaluation and continuous improvement of consumer engagement practice.  
› Provision of strategic advice on consumer engagement and on consumer-led education and research priorities/initiatives to organisational leadership team.  
› Drive a program of consumer-led consultation to build relationships and knowledge base in the diversity of experiences and needs.  
› Foster networking, information sharing, two-way communications and collaboration. |
2021 VCCC cost model for consumer sitting fees and hourly rate remuneration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of engagement</th>
<th>Remuneration type</th>
<th>Mechanisms of engagement</th>
<th>Committee Chair*</th>
<th>Committee Member</th>
<th>Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Consumer-led        | Sitting fee¹      | • Consumer engagement in VCCC governance, strategy, policy and evaluation.  
                      • Advocacy, leadership, evaluation and continuous improvement of consumer engagement practice.  
                      • Provision of strategic advice on consumer engagement and consumer-led education and research priorities/initiatives to VCCC leadership team.  
                      • Drive a program of consumer-led consultation processes to build relationships and the knowledge base of VCCC. | $268 (≥ 4h)¹  
                      $134 (< 4h)¹ | $230 (≥ 4h)¹  
                      $115 (< 4h)¹ |  |
| Partnership         | Sitting fee²      | • Represent the consumer perspective on Steering Committees, Working Groups and interview panels.  
                      • Program and project involvement – liaison, advisor, team member, project governance. | $230 (≥ 4h)²  
                      $115 (< 4h)² | $198 (≥ 4h)²  
                      $ 99 (< 4h)² |  |
| Involving           | Hourly rate       | • Speaking engagements/panel member at VCCC events.  
                      • Reviewer roles in research, education, training and communications. | $50/h |  |
| Consulting          | Hourly rate       | • Participate in consultation activities such as focus groups, consultative workshops and interviews*.  
                      • Storytelling to support communications, program development or delivery: interviews, writing, video-based. | $40/h |  |
| Informing           | N/A               | • Consumers who receive VCCC communications and may participate as an audience member in VCCC symposia and other events. | $0 |  |

¹ Amounts determined by Safer Care Victoria A guide to consumer remuneration citing Department of Premier and Cabinet Appointments and Remuneration Guidelines (2020). Schedule C: Classification criteria and remuneration schedule - Group C organisations (Section 3a) relates to advisory bodies to departments. The upper limit has been used for sitting fees to acknowledge the additional time required in pre- and post-meeting reading, preparation, and follow-up actions. The committee member rate is 86% of the Chair rate.

² Amounts apportioned for comparative complexity of consumer contribution to align with VCCC model of consumer engagement. The Chair rate is the same as the member rate for Consumer-led activities, and the member rate is 86% of the Chair rate.

*There is no separate sitting fee for a Deputy Chair. If a Deputy Chair is appointed, payment will be at the member’s rate. If the Deputy Chair assumes the role of the Chair the Chair’s fee will be payable for the period the Deputy Chair acts as Chair.

+No hourly rate remuneration for participation in surveys.

VCCC cost model v1 dated 04/12/19. This resource is part of the VCCC Consumer Engagement Toolkit at viccompcancerctr.org/consumer-engagement