

Saving lives. Beating cancer.

Cancer Council Queensland (CCQ) is the state's leading non-government community organisation in cancer control. We are committed to providing all Queenslanders with the best possible prospects of preventing, detecting, effectively treating and surviving a cancer diagnosis.

This fact sheet provides an overview of our work in the **Far North Queensland Region**, which helps to improve cancer control and reduce the impact of cancer on the community. This year, we continue to work towards our vision of a cancer free Queensland.

Far North Queensland cancer facts

1 in 2

Queenslanders will be diagnosed with cancer by age 85



1,331

people are diagnosed with cancer each year

449

people die from cancer each year

4,514

people are **alive today** in the Far North Queensland region after having a diagnosis of cancer in the past 5 years

For more cancer facts visit the Atlas of Cancer in Queensland goo.gl/iltnnR

Top 5 cancers in the Far North Queensland region

1. Prostate Cancer
(males only)

2. Colorectal Cancer

3. Breast Cancer

4. Melanoma

5. Lung Cancer

Investing in research

Cancer today, more than ever, is a community problem. Every year, 25,000 Queenslanders hear the news that they have cancer. However, overall cancer survival has improved by 30 per cent over the past 20 years. Combined with improving cancer survival rates, more people are living every day with cancer. CCQ is proud to have played a major role in driving this growth in survivorship forward by investing in research.

Current CCQ funded research into the most common cancers

Professor Andrew Boyd, QIMR

Cancer: **Prostate**

Examining ways of suppressing a protein that could lead to new therapies for prostate cancer patients.

Grant: **\$200,000**

Associate Professor Jolieke van der Pols, UQ

Cancer: **Colorectal**

Improving our understanding of how diet, lifestyle, biochemical and DNA factors lead to sessile serrated polyps, helping doctors identify and treat high-risk patients.

Grant: **\$200,000**

Professor Alpha Yap, UQ

Cancer: **Breast**

Understanding the molecules leading to cancer cell growth and invasion into the body providing diagnostic tools and therapies.

Grant: **\$200,000**

Professor Stephen Taylor, UQ

Cancer: **Melanoma**

Understanding how inhibiting part of the immune system contributes to the growth and progression of melanoma.

Grant: **\$200,000**

Associate Professor Helen Blanchard, Griffith

All cancers

Designing chemical compounds that block the protein galectin-3 which is known to promote the survival and spread of tumours throughout the body.

Grant: **\$200,000**

"With these project grants, we hope to make significant headway in advancing our medical knowledge of cancer and improving patient outcomes"
Professor Jeff Dunn AO

Impact of funding for researchers
What it means to Dr Fiona Simpson:
cancerqld.org.au/DrSimpsonsStory



\$8.5M
on external
research
helped us achieve:



163
researchers



22
institutions



100
+ projects

CCQ's Viertel Cancer Research Centre (CRC) – research at a glance

The CRC has had a major impact on cancer control in Queensland through translation of scientific findings into changes in public policy for cancer control, improved cancer programs and services, contributions to national cancer guidelines, and better access to accurate and timely cancer information for the people of Queensland.

\$14M
we fund more
cancer research
than any other independent
organisation in Queensland.

CRC Key Program Areas:

1. **Psycho-oncology** - to identify and understand impacts on psycho social and survivorship outcomes for people with cancer.
2. **Epidemiology** - to understand patterns and trends in cancer incidence, prevalence, mortality and survival.
3. **Community engagement** - to develop CCQ's capacity to realise its cancer control goals through community engagement and action.

View the CRC's 10 Year Report at cancerqld.org.au/crc-report

32
publications
in scientific
journals



Understanding and beating the top 5 cancers in the Far North Queensland region

The research work of the CRC is focused on real people and real problems faced by cancer patients and their families.

Prostate Cancer Research

Impact

Reduce the burden of this disease for men at all stages of their cancer journey.



Colorectal Cancer Research

Impact

Improve our understanding of pathways to diagnosis, factors that impact survival, quality of life and other psychological outcomes.



Breast Cancer Research

Impact

Improve the future medical and psychosocial care of women with breast cancer.



Melanoma & Skin Cancer Research

Impact

Improve prevention, early detection, psychosocial outcomes, and epidemiology to ultimately reduce deaths from this disease.



Lung Cancer Research

Impact

Inform public health messages, clinical practice and supportive care guidelines about stigma and distress associated with a diagnosis.



Find out more about our research projects at cancerqld.org.au/researchprojects

Helping **prevent** cancer in Far North Queensland

One third of all cancers can be prevented through healthy lifestyle choices and early detection. Our public health initiatives help make the places where Queenslanders live, work, play and learn healthier so their long-term risk of cancer is reduced.

26

organisations
registered for **QUEST**,
a free online prevention and
early detection program for
sports clubs, workplaces,
early childhood centres,
schools and local government.

QUEST



177

schools and childcare
centres registered in
our **SunSmart** program.



8

**SunSmart Shade
Grants** awarded,
totalling **\$15,052** of
support provided.



Find out more about QUEST by visiting quest.org.au

Supporting people affected by cancer in Far North Queensland

No one should go on a cancer journey alone. Our cancer support services are here for patients and their families when they need it most. Together, these services aim to improve cancer prevention, detection, treatment and survival.

1,121

calls to 13 11 20 answered for cancer support and information.



9,339

cancer information and support **resources distributed.**

73

wigs and turbans provided to local cancer patients.



\$20,709

of services provided through **Cancer Council Assist**, supporting **69 patients.**

16

Cancer Support Volunteers providing support to patients and their families.



403

people assisted by our **Cancer Support Coordinators** in our office, lodge or over the phone.

48

people referred to our **Cancer Counselling Service**, of which **26** patients were supported by face-to-face counselling in our regional office.

What challenges do cancer survivors face? For more information visit survivorstudy.org.au

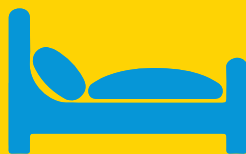
342

patients from Far North Queensland region accommodated at any one of our six lodges statewide.



392

regional patients and carers stayed at Marylyn Mayo Lodge in Cairns.



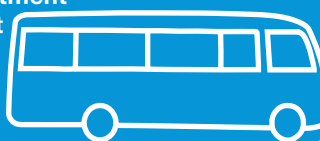
2,520

room nights used.



2,807

patients and carers transport trips to and from treatment on our patient bus services.



"The Cancer Council Counselling Service has done so much to help me cope over the last 10 months - it filled a void that the medical profession and even friends and family can't fill" Ruth

View Ruth's story here: cancerqld.org.au/RuthsStory



Training health professionals

Engaging with health professionals and providing access to information and educational opportunities.

56

health professionals from Far North Queensland participated in CCQ's education training programs.

2

health professional workshops facilitated in Far North Queensland.



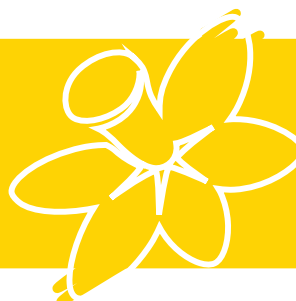
Supporting the community

Our **Community Grants Program** encourages community health organisations to apply for funding of up to \$10,000 for cancer-related initiatives. Our **Seize the Day Study Award** grants are awarded to young Queenslanders aged 16 to 21, who have had a personal experience with cancer and are planning to commence or continue post-secondary education.

1

Seize the Day Study Award grant

was given to young person from Far North Queensland.



Inspiring thousands to take action in Far North Queensland

Our fundraising connects with thousands of supporters across Queensland to raise funds for our vital research, support services and prevention and early detection programs.

\$24M raised throughout our fundraising activities in QLD

In Far North Queensland you helped us achieve:

319

Australia's
Biggest Morning
Tea supporters
who raised total of
\$181,205



86

Daffodil Day
supporters who
raised \$86,022

16

Daffodil Day sites
across Far North
Queensland



66

Pink Ribbon Day
supporters, who
raised a total of
\$19,821

185

Pink Ribbon
Fundraising
supporters, who
raised a total of
\$73,990

12

Pink Ribbon Day
sites across Far North
Queensland

1,585

Walk for Women's
Cancer supporters
raising a total of
\$63,946 statewide



3

Relay For Life
events in Far North
Queensland raising
a total of \$651,962

4,070

Relay For Life
supporters

2,716

Relay For Life
participants



363

Community
Fundraising
supporters

\$331,394

raised by 12 CancerFREE Challenge entrants

To find out more and register for an event visit,
cancerqld.org.au/fundraising

CCQ family in Far North Queensland

111

registered Volunteers helping
CCQ carry out our mission

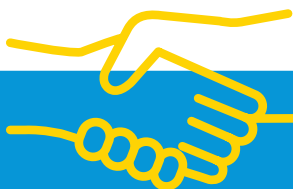
of a cancer free future,
in addition to the thousands
of community members
volunteering their time for
events and other projects.



5

Volunteer
Branches

made up of community minded
individuals who work together to
beat cancer by raising funds and
awareness in their community.



29

Relay For Life
Committee Members.



260

Staff QLD wide partnering
with the community.

"We have such a strong volunteer
base across Queensland - we
simply could not do what we do
without the spirit, the efforts
and the determination of our
volunteers. They are the heart of
our work!" Professor Jeff Dunn AO



Where does
the money go?

View video here:
cancerqld.org.au/ThankYou



In 2015... Together we will *beat* cancer

Get in touch with us on 13 11 20 or visit cancerqld.org.au



Disclaimer: The information in this publication should not be used as a substitute for advice from a properly qualified medical professional who can advise you about your own individual medical needs. It is not intended to constitute medical advice and is provided for general information purposes only. Information on cancer, including the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer, is constantly being updated and revised by medical professionals and the research community.

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Please note: These are pre-audited figures. These figures will be updated, this is a draft only.