

Equity Advisory Group

Principles

The VCCC Alliance Equity Advisory Group has adopted the following principles to guide our work in improving cancer outcomes for all. We are committed to supporting all Victorians across the course of cancer with the guiding strategies of respect, equality, and reciprocity. Our health equity principles are categorized into four areas People, Systems, Partnerships and Evidence.

People

- We work for people with the greatest need.
- We adopt an intersectional approach that is cognizant of the multiple and compounding discriminations experienced by people with disability, LGBTIQ+ communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, people living in rural and regional areas, refugees, asylum seekers, and those living in poverty.
- We acknowledge the legacies of colonialism and racism within the political, social and health systems and strive to improve access to and the provision of culturally appropriate cancer care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Systems

- We recognise that social and economic conditions for all people influence their cancer outcomes and access to optimal care, and that these conditions are experienced unequally.
- Our work strives to identify and address systemic barriers that prevent and disempower diverse populations from accessing cancer prevention, screening and care. We do this by using methodological approaches that redress structural and power inequities.
- Our work focusses on the structures that compound people's experience of disadvantage.

Partnerships

- We actively engage with community members, researchers, clinicians and practitioners to define and shape improved cancer outcomes.
- We recognize that good examples of health equity practice exist; our role is to translate knowledge to improve access and reach.
- We use a collective impact framework to improve outcomes of patients from diverse populations.

Evidence

- We identify areas where research is needed about equity and disadvantage
- Our work is driven by appropriate and relevant evidence in cancer research and education
- We evaluate our work, to document impact and to foster a system of quality improvement

References:

Public Health Association of Australia, Health Equity Policy, September 2016

VicHealth, Fair Foundations: The VicHealth framework for health equity, 2015

Accessing equity in clinical practice guidelines, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology 60 (2007) 540-546

NHMRC Equity guidelines https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelinesforguidelines/plan/equity#toc_86

American Cancer Society, Health Equity Principles