

# The VCCC Alliance Strategy

## Overcoming cancer together

The overarching strategy for the VCCC Alliance guides and informs priorities, directions and how we will work to improve outcomes for people with cancer. The new VCCC Alliance Strategic Program Plan 2021-24 aligns closely with this strategy, as well as the Victorian Cancer Plan 2020-24.



# VCCC ALLIANCE STRATEGIC PROGRAM PLAN 2021-2024

## Improving Cancer Outcomes

Better identification, treatment and management of cancer in Victoria has resulted in vast improvements in overall cancer survival. The latest five year survival rates are 69% for 2013-18. New technologies, discoveries and better evidence-based care are extending lives and improving quality of life for people living with, and beyond, cancer.

Despite these advances, cancer remains a major health problem and the disparities are widening. Cancer type, where a person lives, their cultural identity and their socio-economic status are key determinants of outcomes.

Supported by a \$27 million investment from the Victorian Government, the VCCC Alliance Strategic Program Plan 2021-24, sets out a roadmap of integrated, innovative and ambitious programs that tackle the complexities of this challenge.

To craft an effective and achievable response, the VCCC Alliance has drawn upon the collective knowledge, know-how and resources of its members and networks. Designed to support delivery of the Victorian Cancer Plan, the result is a comprehensive plan that capitalises on foundations built by previous programs and initiatives. Guided by expert steering committees, the new plan will deliver meaningful gains and progress towards the overarching purpose of the VCCC Alliance – to improve outcomes for Victorians affected by cancer.

**\$27 million** investment by Victorian Government

**10 programs and 40+ projects**

**250 expert contributors** from **35 organisations**

**One pandemic**

**19 consumer committee members**

**18 months + planning and development**

















Supported by



VCCC Alliance members



|                                 |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |  |  |  |            |  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|------------|--|
| APPROACH                        | COLLABORATIVE, INTEGRATED, COMPREHENSIVE   |   |   | CONSUMERS INCLUDED   |  |   | STRATEGICALLY ALIGNED TO VICTORIAN CANCER PLAN  |   |  | SYSTEM WIDE  |  | INNOVATIVE |  |
| BENEFITS SOUGHT                 | ✓ Improved patient outcomes  |   |   | ✓ More equitable care  |  |   | ✓ Thriving biomedical industry  |   |  |  |  |            |  |
| PERFORMANCE DOMAINS*            | Increased one-year survival in three poor outcome cancers<br>New commercial agreements   |   |   | New therapeutic options tested<br>Increased access to palliative care  |  |   | New early diagnosis methods tested  |   |  | Increased number of phase one clinical trials<br>Increased participation in clinical trials in rural & regional areas  |  |            |  |
| RESPONSE (Goals)                | <br><b>DISCOVERY</b><br>Drive the next generation of discoveries that address critical cancer challenges, through collaboration   |   |   | <br><b>ACCELERATION</b><br>Accelerate the implementation of evidence and value-based cancer care into routine practice  |  |   | <br><b>EQUITY</b><br>Pursue equity in access of cancer care and outcomes for all Victorians affected by cancer   |   |  | <br><b>LEADERSHIP</b><br>Foster an outstanding cancer workforce to help maintain and enhance world-leading patient outcomes   |  |            |  |
| SOLUTION (Programs)             |  <b>01</b><br>Link clinical, biological, genomic and patient experience data to enable discoveries  |  <b>02</b><br>Drive the translation of cancer biology to 21st century personalised cancer care   |  <b>03</b><br>Accelerate the development of novel therapies  |  <b>04</b><br>Drive an innovative, high-performance clinical trial sector through capacity building   |  <b>05</b><br>Implement data-driven value-based cancer services   |  <b>06</b><br>Extend a distributed model of leadership to drive impact on patient outcomes   |  <b>07</b><br>Fast track innovations in regions with poorest cancer outcomes   |  <b>08</b><br>Build on initiatives to meet the needs of vulnerable groups  |  <b>09</b><br>Develop leadership skills and empowerment of researchers, clinicians and consumers  |  <b>10</b><br>Build a digital oncology learning hub leveraging Victoria's content and knowledge translation expertise   |  |            |  |
| KEY ELEMENTS                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Enable linkage of large-scale primary care and acute services data to facilitate comprehensive analyses of health service utilisation</li> <li>&gt; Enhance/create systems and processes for accessible, streamlined, cost-effective, ethical linked data for research</li> <li>&gt; Build a central hub to teach and support project design and build capacity</li> <li>&gt; Explore opportunities for linkage/inclusion/analysis of additional data types eg. Genomic, biological, imaging or patient-reported outcomes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; A comprehensive toolbox for clinicians to ensure the right patient receives the right treatment at the right time</li> <li>&gt; Build a collaboration springboard to support multidisciplinary connections critical to effective research translation</li> <li>&gt; Translational Research Hub to support and coordinate immunotherapy research and link to clinical trials</li> <li>&gt; Agile approach to patient access to current and emerging molecular tests</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; New VCCC Alliance drug formulary to expedite access to drugs for research and clinical trials</li> <li>&gt; Clinical Trialist Development Hub to support the development of novel trial designs and a new generation of clinical trial investigators</li> <li>&gt; Build networks and further develop the Phase I trial database and referral processes for optimised use across Victoria</li> <li>&gt; Upskilling of clinicians and scientists to ensure a clear pathway for scientific discoveries to reach the clinic</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Expand application of registry trials to boost clinical trial participation rates</li> <li>&gt; Undertake consumer-led initiatives to reduce barriers to clinical trial participation</li> <li>&gt; Enhance workforce capability including facilitating mentoring programs and supporting new trial groups</li> <li>&gt; Enhance business capability and sustainability of clinical trial units to drive efficiencies</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Design and undertake proof-of-concept tests that focus on some of the following priority areas:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- timely and efficient diagnosis</li> <li>- avoidable re-admissions</li> <li>- statewide access to specialised radiotherapy technologies</li> <li>- genomics-informed systemic cancer treatments</li> <li>- value-based care initiatives through linked data enriched with patient reported outcomes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Identify key clinical challenges to positively change practice</li> <li>&gt; Support uptake of research into practice to improve clinical decision making</li> <li>&gt; Share ideas, knowledge and information to enhance translation of evidence into practice</li> <li>&gt; Enable collaborative research and education activities within tumour streams and across cross-cutting themes</li> <li>&gt; Apply collective leadership to prioritised clinical challenges</li> <li>&gt; Assess translational potential of new practices and advocate for implementation in the health system</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; VCCC Alliance Teletrials Implementation Project:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increase capability of teletrials through education</li> <li>- consumer-partnered awareness campaign</li> </ul> </li> <li>&gt; Regional Partnerships program to link regional cancer centres to VCCC Alliance programming: proof-of-concept data-driven regional disparities project</li> <li>&gt; Develop frameworks to improve outcomes in less-common cancers: platform for access to registry-trials, biomarker studies, investigator-initiated trials and commercially sponsored trials</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Establish a VCCC Alliance Equity Advisory Group to develop an equity framework and guide action to address inequities</li> <li>&gt; Contribute to improving cancer outcomes with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities</li> <li>&gt; Appoint Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research &amp; Education Lead</li> <li>&gt; Implement work to improve cancer outcomes among culturally and linguistically diverse communities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Statewide educational programming in leadership, teaching and collaborative teamwork for clinicians, researchers, educators and consumers</li> <li>&gt; Build capacity and capability in consumer-researcher collaboration</li> <li>&gt; Expand the Nurse-led Research Hub to diversify and strengthen research</li> <li>&gt; Establish pilot model for a cancer leadership academy</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Develop and deliver digitally enhanced education and training programs – VCCC Alliance Digital Oncology Learning Hub</li> <li>&gt; Facilitate practice change initiatives through educational interventions</li> <li>&gt; Develop micro-credentialing from Master of Cancer Sciences content</li> <li>&gt; Develop education resources to support knowledge and initiatives emerging from the Research and Education Lead program</li> </ul> |  |            |  |
| PROGRAM BENEFIT (Business Plan) | New knowledge about cancer that enables discoveries, commercialisation, and can influence policy and practice to lead to improvements in healthcare outcomes   | More patients have access to personalised treatment that provides the best chance of a good outcome   | More patients can access the right therapies in the right place at the right time   | More Victorian patients participate in clinical trials   | An efficient health system where healthcare providers are rewarded for helping patients improve their health and live healthier lives in an evidence-based way   | More rapid adoption of research evidence into routine, real-world practice  | Improved access to clinical trials for people living in rural and regional areas  | Overcoming disparities in cancer related health research and care will contribute to reducing inequities in cancer outcomes for vulnerable populations  | A highly skilled and diverse Victorian cancer workforce informed by consumer consultation  | Improve patient outcomes by ensuring health care professionals are abreast of evidence based advances in patient care and discontinue use of lower benefit interventions   |  |            |  |
| TARGET OUTCOME                  | 50% growth in data-driven cancer research projects   | 40% increase in number of patients accessing molecular &/or immunological tests   | 16% increase in therapies assessed on early phase clinical trials   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Increase participation in Vic treatment intervention trials by 5% by 2024</li> <li>&gt; 15% cancer patients across VCCC Alliance member sites enrolled on a clinical trial by 2026</li> </ul>  | Four models of value based care tested   | Improved survival in three poor outcome cancers (pancreatic, lung & brain)  | 23% increase in rural & regional cancer patients enrolled in a clinical trial   | All tumour streams & VCCC Alliance partnered regional oncology centres have initiatives for vulnerable groups   | >83 consumers/nurses/allied health professionals complete leadership programs  | 23,400 participants accessed a high quality VCCC Alliance education program  |  |            |  |

\*Please refer to the VCCC Alliance Strategic Program Plan 2021-2024 for additional information.