



GRICS

Gippsland Regional  
Integrated Cancer Services

# Strategic Plan 2017-2020



# Victorian Integrated Cancer Services

## **Vision**

Improving patient experiences and outcomes by connecting cancer care and driving best practice.

## **Mission**

The Integrated Cancer Services (ICS) will achieve the vision by:

- Understanding the needs of people affected by cancer
- Building and supporting collaboration between health professionals, health services and consumers
- Driving quality improvement in cancer care
- Supporting development of the cancer workforce
- Facilitating system-wide engagement in cancer research.

## **Strategic goals**

1. A networked cancer care system
2. High quality cancer care
3. A research-informed cancer care system

# Strategic Goal No. 1: A networked cancer care system

## DHHS Strategic Objectives

1.1 Link services involved in cancer care (across all sectors including cancer centres, health services, community organisations), and work with these services and health professionals to align priorities.

1.2 Strengthen linkages between metropolitan and regional cancer service providers.

1.3 Engage consumers and communities in the work of the ICS.

## GRICS Actions

- Continue to provide education and discussion forums to Gippsland clinicians and consumers.
- Establishment of the Gippsland Survivorship Program of shared care between oncology Specialists and primary health care providers which will meet the needs of cancer survivors and their families.
- Work collaboratively with primary health care to improve communication and increase awareness of regional cancer referral pathways.
- Support Gippsland Oncology services with the integration of a cohesive approach to cancer care throughout the Region.
- Redevelopment of the GRICS website to improve engagement with key stakeholders and facilitate a greater integration of Gippsland cancer services.
- Identifying opportunities to extend participation and enhance links and integration with regional and metropolitan health services.
- Promotion of Scholarship and Clinician Mentoring programs for regional clinicians to attend ongoing education and training at Metropolitan health services.
- Ongoing participation with networking opportunities.
- Work collaboratively with other Integrated Cancer Services to improve coordination of patient flow and communication to ensure optimal service delivery for patients receiving treatment across regions.
- Continue facilitation of GRICS Consumer Reference Group and pursue options for increasing membership.
- Promote Consumer reference Group participation in GRICS projects to assist and support a consumer focus and drive improvement.
- Appoint consumer representatives onto the Survivorship Steering Committee.

## Strategic Goal No. 2: High quality cancer care

### DHHS Strategic Objectives

2.1 Implement the Optimal Cancer Care pathways including improvements to multidisciplinary care, supportive care and care coordination.

2.2 Analyse available data and information of relevant clinical evidence/innovation and disseminate it to drive quality improvement.

2.3 Support providers to apply cost-benefit considerations to care/service planning and delivery.

2.4 Continue state-wide tumour summits to drive consistent cancer care across tumour streams.

### GRICS Actions

- Facilitate the provision of consistent quality cancer care in our region through the continued promotion and communication of the Optimal Cancer Care Pathways.
- Drive continuous improvement of best practice cancer care by identifying and addressing local variation in cancer care.
- Implementation of the Optimal Cancer Care pathways in order to improve the areas where disparities have been identified, in particular the opportunity for all newly diagnosed patients to be discussed at a relevant multidisciplinary care meeting and improve timeframes for cancer patients with reference to appointments with GPs and Specialists.
- Continuation of supportive care screening, referrals and initiatives in line with the Optimal Cancer Care Pathways including staff/clinician education.
- Utilise existing and new data information to determine areas that require quality improvement activities.
- Continue to undertake regional audits as well as the Department of Health and Human Services Cancer Service Performance Indicators audit.
- Use cost-benefit considerations to support up skilling of Gippsland cancer workforce to improve service delivery.
- Incorporate cost-benefit attentions for future service improvement activities.
- Continue to promote and encourage attendance and participation of Clinicians at state-wide tumour summits and drive action areas across Gippsland from summit recommendations.

## Strategic Goal No. 2: High quality cancer care (continued)

### DHHS Strategic Objectives

2.5 Continue to drive improvements in the patient experience of cancer care.

2.6 Continue to support workforce development initiatives.

### GRICS Actions

- Continue facilitation of supportive care to patients and families across Gippsland consisting of screening, referrals and education to improve care and patient experience.
- Continue to promote and support service redesign projects to improve patient treatment and experience.
- Support and assist with the implementation of the Gippsland Survivorship project.
- Expand workforce capabilities in the Survivorship space and promote participation in Community of Practice opportunities.
- Support Scholarships and Clinician Mentoring programs for regional clinicians to attend ongoing education and training at Metropolitan health services.

## Strategic Goal No. 3: A research-informed cancer care system

### DHHS Strategic Objectives

3.1 Encourage providers to participate in clinical trial programs.

3.2 Support health services research.

3.3 Foster robust evaluation of cancer programs, models of care and ICS initiatives.

### GRICS Actions

- Assist in raising awareness and knowledge of clinical trials available within close proximity to our region.
- Support the translation of research into clinical practice, driving evidence-based approaches to patient care.
- Ensure that all GRICS initiatives are robustly evaluated against appropriate measures.

# Thank you

This strategic plan was developed with feedback provided from the GRICS Business and Governance Group representatives.  
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