



**The *Pancreatic Cancer Resectability Project*, with the recently completed pilot at the Alfred and Austin Hospitals, has received further support. The Federal government through its [Medical Research Future Fund \(MRFF\)](#) awarded **\$2,970,301** to Monash University, home of the Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer Registry (UGICR), part of the Monash University School of Public Health.**

The project, which was led and developed by the Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service in collaboration with the North Eastern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service, partnered with the UGICR registry, to enable central data collection as part of the study. This mutually beneficial arrangement added value, as the registry was provided reliable pancreatic cancer resectability data for future research and analysis, which is often reliant on the use of retrospective data. Simultaneously the registry also provided a secure REDCap platform for the ICS project team, on which to build and collect the project data, leveraging existing governance and security frameworks.

The successful grant application, entered under the '*Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Need*' MRFF category, was submitted by the (UGICR) as a 'SCANPatient' study proposal to test the application of a pancreatic cancer structured radiology report, developed as part of the '*Pancreatic Cancer Resectability Project*', in improving the accuracy of diagnosing and classifying pancreatic cancer.

The synoptic report helps distinguish patients who should receive chemotherapy before surgery versus surgery alone, to optimise their pancreatic cancer care.

The grant funding provides the opportunity to further test the radiology reporting tool by taking the learnings from the local '*Pancreatic Resectability Project*' piloted at Austin and Alfred Health in 2020/21 to the national arena, trialling the report at 40 pancreatic cancer treatment centres across Australia.

The original project, which was born out of a discussion by clinicians, on areas of deficiency in the statewide data, presented at the Victorian Pancreatic Cancer Summit, in 2017, is great testament to a focused collaborative partnership between the Integrated Cancer Services, Health Services and a clinical registry, which worked collaboratively to progress this significant piece of work, with real potential to have national impact.

Return to the Pancreatic Cancer Resectability Project for more information about the original project [here](#).

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