



Clinical Oncological Society of Australia

Expanding the Continuum of Care: A Workshop for Adult Oncologists with Adolescent and Young Adult Patients

AYA Cancer Workshop Report

Monday 12 November 2012

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Report prepared by Hayley Griffin, COSA Project Coordinator

1. Background

The Youth Cancer Networks Program (YCNP) aims to enhance services and improve outcomes for adolescents and young adults (AYAs) with cancer. The YCNP is funded by the Australian Government and is being administered by CanTeen.

The Clinical Oncological Society of Australia (COSA) is the peak national body for multidisciplinary health professionals working in cancer care and control. COSA has been contracted by CanTeen under the YCNP to manage the National AYA Cancer Network project to establish and support a professional network of individuals and organisations with an interest in improving outcomes for AYAs diagnosed with cancer.

Objectives of the National AYA Cancer Network project are:

- To engage stakeholders across all jurisdictions to support implementation of the YCNP and improve AYA cancer service delivery
- To enable communications between stakeholders to maximise exchange of knowledge and learning and prevent unnecessary duplication in the development of AYA cancer services and programs and to encourage sharing of best practice in AYA cancer care and support
- To facilitate access to the experience and advice of a large group of multidisciplinary professionals experienced in the treatment and care of AYAs with cancer and their families.

COSA has convened five previous AYA Cancer Workshops:

- **May 2007:** To develop a shared understanding of the issues and challenges for treating AYA Cancer and reach agreement on the key elements of appropriate models of care
- **November 2008:** To exchange information about the availability of funding, state-based actions to develop AYA cancer services, and the value of national collaboration to develop guidelines and key functions to support implementation of AYA cancer (which informed the development of the YCNP)
- **November 2009:** To enable project partners to meet and share information about their plans for service development (following the announcement of the YCNP)
- **November 2010:** To enable information exchange on jurisdictional and national projects and identify current issues/challenges for projects, communication, collaboration and membership with the aim of building sustainable mechanisms to support the initiatives already underway
- **May 2011:** To enable information exchange on jurisdictional and national projects, share experiences of referral pathways and engaging adult oncologists, and consider sustainability of AYA programs.

Following the success of these previous AYA cancer workshops to enhance service delivery and build networks, COSA (with support from CanTeen) agreed to convene a sixth workshop on the theme 'expanding the continuum of care'.

2. Purpose and Objective

The Workshop Steering Committee was keen to engage more adult oncologists in the AYA Cancer Network. Only one attendee from the 2011 AYA Cancer Workshop was an adult oncologist (see Figure 1). Previous workshop evaluation identified future workshops should "embed within or run adjacent to adult oncology forums/meetings to increase adult oncology participation".

The current workshop was scheduled to run prior to the COSA Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM). The workshop objective was to provide adult oncologists with AYA patients updated information and relevant case studies. However, it was anticipated that all health professionals working with AYAs would find the content pertinent.

An invitation to attend the workshop was sent via email to members of the AYA Cancer Network (including medical and allied health professionals, project partners, CanTeen, Cancer Australia and representatives of the Cancer Cooperative Trials Groups) and COSA ASM delegates. Advertisements were also placed in COSA's newsletter, the Marryalyan.

3. Workshop Evaluation

Summary

The workshop was attended by 57 delegates. The majority of evaluation respondents worked in medical oncology (23%) and nursing/care coordination (23%).

As with previous workshops, the opportunity to network with other health professionals was a major draw-card for respondents (57%). However, learning about the area of AYA oncology (53%) and attending key sessions in the program relevant to area of practice (53%) were also popular reasons for attendance.

Overall, the workshop was highly regarded. All respondents indicated that the workshop met their expectations either completely (97%) or somewhat (3%), and rated the workshop excellent (57%) or very good (43%). All program sessions were very well received and respondents felt there was value in COSA hosting future events for AYA cancer.

Participant Demographics

The workshop was attended by 57 delegates, which was within the anticipated attendance of 50-60 people for such a topic. Thirty participated in the evaluation (although not everyone

completed every question). Pleasingly, a greater number of medical oncologists attended the current workshop than in 2011 (Figure 1).

In contrast to the 2011 workshop, most respondents did not currently work in a dedicated AYA program, hospital or facility (53%). More than half the respondents were COSA members (52%), with the most successful advertising methods email blasts (47%) and the COSA website (33%). The majority of delegates were from Queensland (46%), New South Wales (25%) and Victoria (16%) (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Participant attendance by discipline at 2012 and 2011 AYA Cancer Workshops

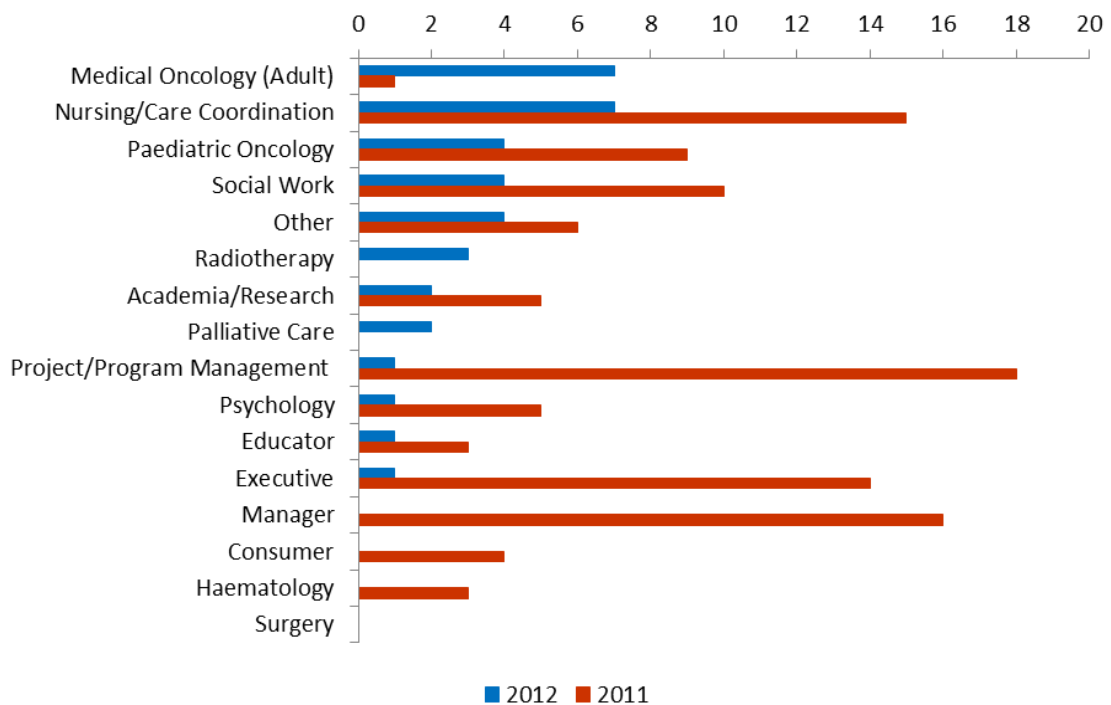
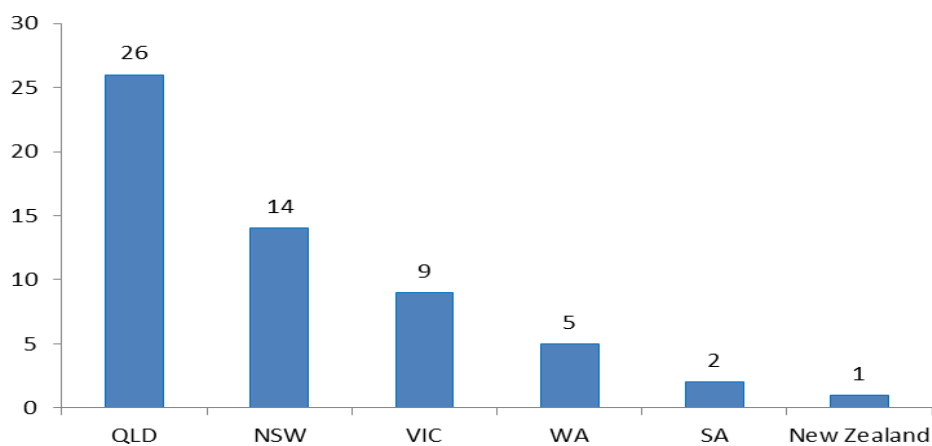


Figure 2. Participant geographic distribution at 2012 AYA Cancer Workshop



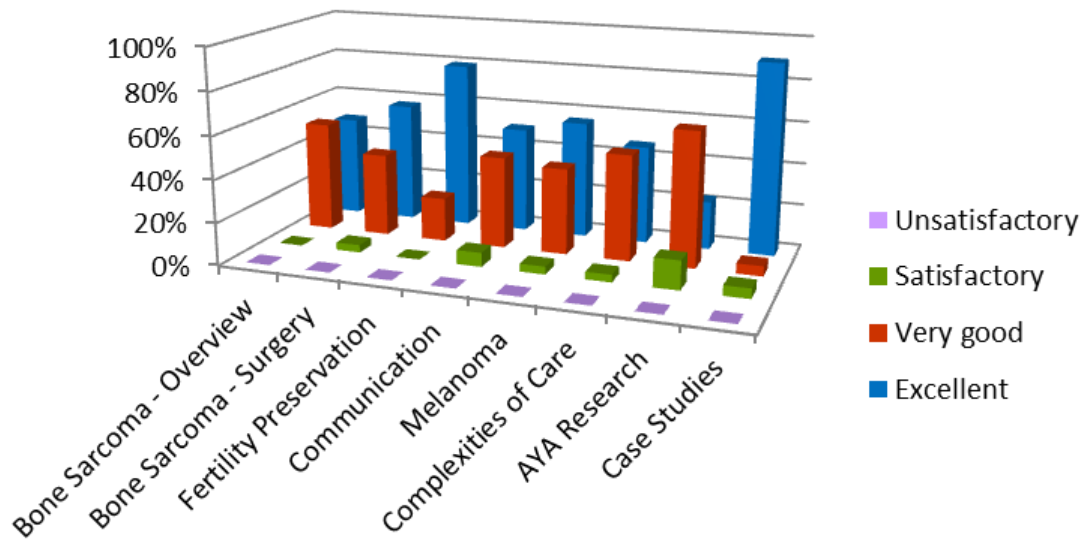
Workshop Program

The workshop included the following sessions and speakers:

Time	Session	Speaker	Organisation
9:15 – 9:30	Welcome & Introduction	Dr Wayne Nicholls	Paediatric Oncologist, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane
9:30 – 10:00	Bone Sarcomas: Overview of Osteosarcoma & Ewing Sarcoma	Dr Warren Joubert	Medical Oncologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital Brisbane
10:00 – 10:30	Bone Sarcomas: Surgical Management	Dr Peter Steadman	Orthopaedic Surgeon, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane
10:30 – 11:00	Morning Tea		
11:00 – 11:45	Fertility Preservation	Dr Kate Stern	Gynaecologist & Head of Clinical Research, Melbourne IVF
11:45 – 12:30	Communicating with AYAs	Dr Antoinette Anazodo	Adolescent Oncologist, Sydney Children's Hospital
		Ms Elena Moody	Senior Psychologist, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch		
1:30 – 2:30	Keynote Address: Melanoma in AYAs	Prof Adèle Green	Senior Scientist, Queensland Institute of Medical Research
		Dr Matthew Foote	Radiation Oncologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital Brisbane
2:30 – 3:10	Complexities of Care	Dr Antoinette Anazodo	Adolescent Oncologist, Sydney Children's Hospital
		Ms Kate Thompson	Manager, ONTrac at Peter Mac Victorian Adolescent & Young Adult Cancer Service
3:10 – 3:50	AYA Research	Dr Wayne Nicholls	Paediatric Oncologist, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane
		A/Prof Michael Coory	Head Health Services Research, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
		A/Prof Vicki White	Deputy Director, Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer, Cancer Council Victoria
3:50 – 4:30	Difficult Cases: 3 Case Studies	Dr Marianne Phillips	Adolescent Oncologist, Princess Margaret Hospital for Children Perth
		Dr Toby Trahair	Paediatric Oncologist, Sydney Children's Hospital
		Dr Warren Joubert	Medical Oncologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital Brisbane
4:30 – 4:45	Closing Remarks	Dr Wayne Nicholls	Paediatric Oncologist, Royal Children's Hospital Brisbane

All respondents indicated that the workshop met their expectations either completely (97%) or somewhat (3%), and rated the overall workshop excellent (57%) or very good (43%). All program sessions were very well received (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Participant rating of sessions at 2012 AYA Cancer Workshop



Reasons for Attending the Workshop

Respondent reason/s for attending the AYA Cancer Workshop was spread evenly across:

- To learn about the area of AYA oncology (53%)
- To attend key sessions in the program relevant to area of practice (53%)
- To network with other health professionals (57%)

Value of COSA Hosting Future Similar Events for AYA cancer

All respondents indicated that there is value in COSA hosting future workshops or similar events for AYA cancer, and that they would attend or recommend attendance at a future AYA Cancer Workshop.

An annual or bi-annual workshop was highlighted as ideal, with one suggestion to bring an AYA forum into mainstream COSA or MOGA. Valuable future topics could include transition, survivorship and palliative care.

Other Feedback

Additional comments from respondents included:

- “A broad number of extremely relevant presentations. Very current information provided. Well done.”
- “Excellent workshop”
- “Very interesting day with excellent speakers”
- “Very informative and relevant to clinical practice”
- “Excellent opportunity to increase learning and networking”
- “Good opportunity to hear about new developments in AYA”
- “Very pleased that the focus was more medical on this occasion”

- “Would be great to have more allied health speakers”
- “Afternoon tea break would have been good for further networking”
- “Perhaps a break in the afternoon session would be helpful”

4. Acknowledgments

The Workshop Steering Committee members included:

- Dr Wayne Nicholls (Chair) - Paediatric oncologist
- Dr Antoinette Anazodo - AYA oncologist
- Dr Marianne Phillips - Adolescent oncologist
- Ms Kate Thompson - Manager, ONTrac at Peter Mac
- Dr Toby Trahair - Paediatric oncologist
- Dr Hayley Griffin - COSA Project Coordinator
- Ms Marie Malica - COSA Executive Officer

COSA would like to thank CanTeen for providing financial support for this AYA Cancer Workshop; the workshop speakers for preparing and delivering the presentations; ASN Events for their assistance with registrations and preparations for the day; and attendees for their interest and participation.

Appendix 1 List of Participants

Name	Organisation	State	Country
Meg Achilles	Siggins Miller	NSW	Australia
Diana Adams	Sydney South West Area Health Service	NSW	Australia
Verity Ahern	Westmead Hospital	NSW	Australia
Antoinette Anazodo	Sydney Children's Hospital	NSW	Australia
Belinda Ayres	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Peter Baade	Cancer Council Queensland	QLD	Australia
Cameron Banks	CanTeen	NSW	Australia
Monique Bathis	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Catherine Burns	Newcastle University	NSW	Australia
Susan Caird	Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Kathryn Carswell	Queensland Health	QLD	Australia
Tara-Jane Clark	Royal Children's Hospital	VIC	Australia
Michael Coory	Murdoch Childrens Research Institute	VIC	Australia
Rhiannon Dew	Adelaide Radiotherapy Centre	SA	Australia
Suzanne Dobbinson	Cancer Council Victoria	VIC	Australia
Tanya Dugas	Warwick Foundation	VIC	Australia
Julia Drake	Calvary Mater Newcastle	NSW	Australia
Jo Anne Dumalaon-Canalon	Flinders University	SA	Australia
Rachel Edwards	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Sarah Ellis	Sydney Children's Hospital	NSW	Australia
Jane Ewing	University of Technology Sydney	NSW	Australia
Matthew Foote	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Australia
Adèle Green	Queensland Institute of Medical Research	QLD	Australia
Kate Hoogeveen	CanTeen	QLD	Australia
Rachel Hughes	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	VIC	Australia
Louise Jelic	Queensland Health	QLD	Australia
Joanna Jones	Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Warren Joubert	Princess Alexandria Hospital	QLD	Australia
Amy Larsen	Queensland Health	QLD	Australia
Anne Long	Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	WA	Australia
Belinda Matigian	Queensland Health	QLD	Australia
Fiona McDonald	CanTeen	NSW	Australia
Sharon Millman	Lymphoma Australia	QLD	Australia
Elena Moody	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Lyndal Moore	Calvary Mater Newcastle/HNELHD	NSW	Australia
Wayne Nicholls	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Lisa Orme	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	VIC	Australia
Pandora Patterson	CanTeen	NSW	Australia
Veronica Percival	Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Sarah Pflanz	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia
Marianne Phillips	Princess Margaret Hospital for Children	WA	Australia
Meg Plaster	WA Cancer & Palliative Care Network	WA	Australia
Kristeen Soutar	Queensland Health	QLD	Australia
Ruth Spearing	Christchurch Hospital	-	New Zealand
Peter Steadman	Royal Children's Hospital	QLD	Australia

Name	Organisation	State	Country
Kate Stern	Melbourne IVF	VIC	Australia
Julie Teraci	WA Melanoma Advisory Service, SJOG Hospital	WA	Australia
Kate Thompson	ONTrac at Peter Mac	VIC	Australia
Danielle Tindle	Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation, QUT	QLD	Australia
Toby Trahair	Sydney Children's Hospital	NSW	Australia
Kerrie Vaughan	Mackay Base Hospital	QLD	Australia
Tanya Wagner	CanTeen	QLD	Australia
Euan Walpole	Princess Alexandra Hospital	QLD	Australia
Kate White	Sydney Cancer Centre, RPAH	NSW	Australia
Victoria White	Cancer Council Victoria	VIC	Australia
Kah-Mun Yee	Palliative Care	QLD	Australia
Tomita Yoko	RPH	WA	Australia