

Survivorship in Australia – making change happen

research
advocacy
prevention
support

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Defining Policy

- A policy is a deliberate system of principles to guide decisions and achieve rational outcomes.
 - Statement of intent
 - Applicable across all sectors not just Government
- Implemented to avoid a negative effective or seek a positive benefit
- Policies have intended and unintended consequences
- Usually a written document and legitimised by executive powers
 - Implementation plans and procedures to give effect

Survivorship Issues Relevant to Policy

- **The volume of survivors – the size of the voice**
- **Their relationship to the acute health system**
- **The emergence of new health issues or needs**
- **Prioritisation of these issues against others**
- **Growing understanding of the inequity of survival**
- **Issues beyond health and healthcare**
 - Stigma and discrimination
 - Work
 - Poverty

Government Policy Relevant to Survivorship – the MBS

- Relevant to survivor care in the private and primary care sectors
- Review and parameters for chronic disease management items
 - Incentives for survivorship care planning
 - Consideration of alternate practitioner service delivery
 - Tailored advice items for cancer screening and surveillance
- Shared Care Items to reinforce new models of care
- Embedding of quality expectations into items
 - Data collection
 - Disincentives or Clear Criteria for multiple specialist follow up



Government Policy Relevant to Survivorship

- **Clinical Data Collection**

- Stage, Treatment and Recurrence data within population registries
- Evaluation of Patterns of care to understand impact of unwarranted clinical variation on survival outcomes in specific populations

- **Research Investment**

- Health Services Research priority setting

- **Jurisdictional Responses**

- Defining survivorship care expectations
- Outcome monitoring policy expectations – registries are a state issue
- Public clinic disincentives for low risk survivorship
- Investment in shared care infrastructure
- Grants Programs



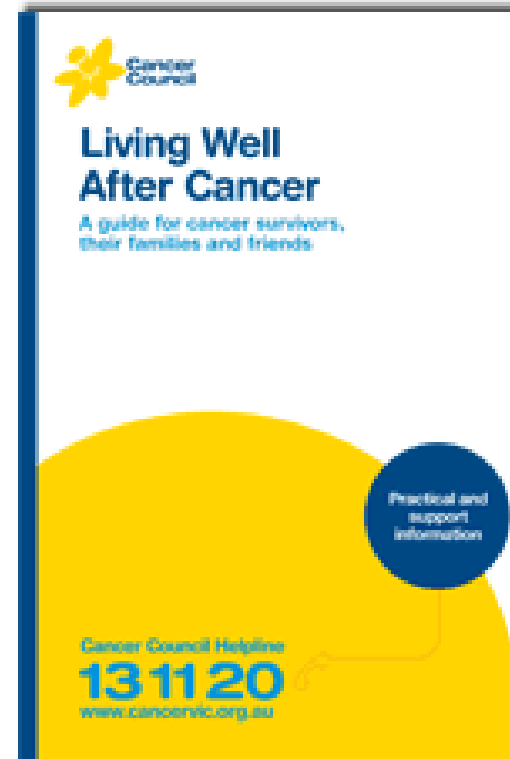
Cancer Organisations And Professional Groups as Policy Drivers

- **Development and review of the evidence base for models of survivor care**
 - Risk stratification refinement
 - Focus on implementation and health services research
 - Beyond breast, bowel and prostate cancer
- **Establishing and documenting best practice models of survivor care**
 - SA Survivorship Framework
 - Cancer Australia Shared Care Model for breast cancer



Advocacy & Consumer Organisations

- Raising awareness of survivorship needs and best practice
- Having a clear ask for Government that fits with existing policy frameworks
- Providing survivor information and services



Is Government policy the real barrier to improved survivor care or is the power in our hands to change what we do and how we do it?

Hospitals and Health Services

- **Review service delivery with a survivor care lens**
 - E.g. Clinic approaches, role of advanced practice nurses
- **Engage clinicians in conversations about redefining models of care**
 - Oncologist attitudes to the role of primary care
- **Invest in redesigning care**
 - You cannot redesign care without involving service users
 - You cannot redesign care on top of your day job
- **Invest in impact evaluation**
 - Define the outcomes you want to achieve
 - Are we too focused on clinical outcomes? What about cost and cost effectiveness? What about the impact on non-survivor services?

Questions

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