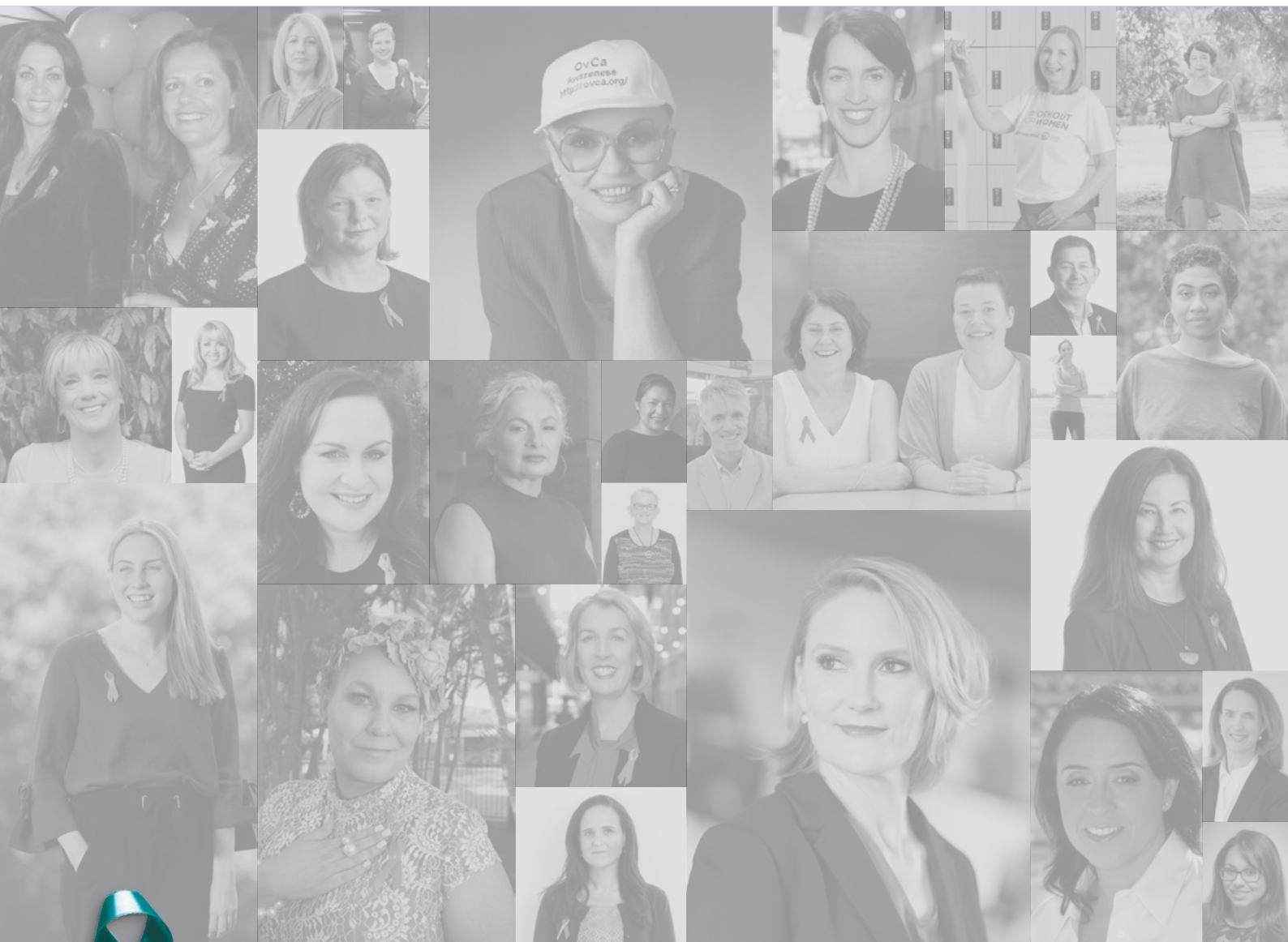


Annual Report 2020-2021



ABOUT OVARIAN CANCER AUSTRALIA

Ovarian Cancer Australia is an independent national not-for-profit organisation supporting women diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Our focus is to provide care and support for those affected by ovarian cancer and their families and represent them by leading change.

Ovarian Cancer Australia is a member of the World Ovarian Cancer Coalition, which works to raise awareness globally. Jane Hill, our CEO, is a Director of the coalition, enabling Ovarian Cancer Australia to be connected to a network of organisations worldwide.

OUR VISION

To save lives and ensure no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone.

OUR MISSION

We provide care and support for those affected by ovarian cancer, and represent them by leading change.

OUR CORE VALUES

We listen. We are inclusive. We are courageous.
We act with integrity.

Our two key impact areas are:

SUPPORT

LEADING CHANGE



• A special mention must be made of the individuals pictured on the front cover of the annual report. These individuals have all been involved with Ovarian Cancer Australia in a variety of ways over the past 20 years including women who have shared their stories to create awareness, Board Members, researchers, professors and advisers. It is impossible to acknowledge the work of all individuals who have played a part, so these are a representative sample. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who has been part of Ovarian Cancer Australia over our 20-year history.

• (L to R): Karen Livingstone AM and Steph Alvarez; Julie Morgan; Bridget Whelan; Meghan Speers; Sheila Lee; Paula Benson AM; Jane Power; Jan Antony; Grace Lee; Monique Wright; Ann-Maree Mulders; Jill Emberson; Nathalie Nagalingum; Robyn Leslie; Professor David Bowtell; Di Kenneally and Stacey Barnes; Professor Ian Jacobs; Heather Hawkins; Alisi Jack Kaufusi; Kristen Larsen; Trudy Crowley; Jane Hill, CEO Ovarian Cancer Australia; Sue Hegarty; Caitlin Delaney; Marina Go, Chair, Ovarian Cancer Australia; Nicole Livingstone OAM, Patron Ovarian Cancer Australia; Kirsten Mulley; Rani Engineer.

SHEILA'S VISION

While Ovarian Cancer Australia sprang from humble beginnings, our founders' aspirations have led us to become the leading national body taking action for Australians affected by ovarian cancer.

Sheila Lee was a catalyst for ovarian cancer advocacy in Australia. She campaigned tirelessly throughout her own illness to increase the community's awareness of ovarian cancer. Sheila's husband, Simon Lee, supported Sheila every step of the way to help raise awareness for women with ovarian cancer.

Sheila often spoke about ovarian cancer as the 'silent killer'. Silent because the symptoms 'whisper' – they are often vague. Silent because there was little hope to offer at the time. Sheila spoke of her wish for ovarian cancer to be 'silent no more' and to bring awareness to the disease, support further research and offer



Sheila Lee.



Sheila was relentless, and her mission was very clear. At Australia's first ovarian cancer rally, Sheila closed her speech with four simple words that sum up the reasons for being part of Ovarian Cancer Australia: 'Let's save some lives.' I am so proud to be associated with the many women over the last 20 years who have amplified the voices of those too ill to demand better for all women. The mission 'that no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone' is what has made Ovarian Cancer Australia such a different organisation. A true voice for women and a compassionate and caring organisation."

Grace Lee, Ovarian Cancer Australia Co-Founder

Sheila was diagnosed with advanced stage ovarian cancer in 1999 at the age of 54. Sheila was shocked that the survival statistics for the disease were so unacceptably low compared to other, more high-profile cancers, such as breast and bowel cancer. She recognised the deep heartache of thousands of families severely affected by ovarian cancer each year. With no other charity in Australia solely dedicated to ovarian cancer, Sheila saw an opportunity to help others in a similar situation. She felt a moral obligation to fight for other women and to help improve outcomes for all those affected by ovarian cancer. Sheila's vision and commitment to achieve better outcomes for women with ovarian cancer led to the creation of our organisation.

Sheila and her husband started speaking out – Sheila spoke about her experience; they developed the OvCa ovarian cancer awareness website, which provided information about the disease and its symptoms; and they implemented a plan of action for Australia's first ovarian cancer rally, which took place in the Fitzroy Gardens one sunny Sunday in February 2000.

support to those affected.

Over time, and thanks to Sheila and Simon's efforts and the incredible efforts of so many community, corporate and other supporters over the past 20 years, Ovarian Cancer Australia has invested millions of dollars into ovarian cancer advocacy, supportive care and research.

Sheila died peacefully at home in November 2000, with Simon by her side. Simon promised to continue the journey they had embarked on together through the establishment



It's incredible to see how far Ovarian Cancer Australia has come since 2000, when we took to the park with Sheila Lee to have a public rally, to now being very much a part of a public face of ovarian cancer and making a real difference as a leading organisation providing support for women living with ovarian cancer. People now know about ovarian cancer and importantly the symptoms and signs."

Nicole Livingstone OAM, Ovarian Cancer Australia Patron

of a charity to continue her work. Along with four of Sheila's friends and collaborators who were also affected by ovarian cancer – Karen and Nicole Livingstone, Denise Hynes and comedian Lynda Gibson – Simon founded OvCa in 2001. The organisation became Ovarian Cancer Australia in 2008.

Sheila's dream for women and their families to be connected, share their stories and speak out and to receive supportive care remains central to the ethos of Ovarian Cancer Australia. We pledge our commitment towards changing outcomes for people impacted by ovarian cancer and that no woman will walk alone with this disease. We owe Sheila and the other founders an enormous amount of gratitude.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



We continue to live in uncertain times. Yet, the one thing that is certain is that Ovarian Cancer Australia will continue to be a reliable pillar of support for those impacted by ovarian cancer. Despite the broader, ongoing challenges of the pandemic, we have been making substantial progress towards delivering our strategic priorities.

During the 2020–2021 financial year, we continued to adjust to the impact of COVID-19, and I am pleased that we ended the year on a strong note, with a number of generous bequests boosting our surplus to a record of \$3.63 million.

Ahead of the forthcoming federal election, our CEO Jane Hill, and the team, are continuing our advocacy efforts to secure more funding to deliver better outcomes for everyone impacted by ovarian cancer.

In February, we welcomed the Australian Government's announcement of \$1 million for the Teal Support Program. This program has become a staple of our services, and since it started in October 2019 has resulted in 333 women receiving free, personalised ongoing support from their very own ovarian cancer nurse. Our goal is for every woman diagnosed with ovarian cancer, no matter where they are around the country, to have access to this critical, ongoing support.

We continue to advocate for better treatments for those living with the disease, including for listings of ovarian cancer medications on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. We want every woman with ovarian cancer to have easy, timely and affordable access to treatments.

I congratulate Jane, our CEO, and all the team, for the essential work delivered this year, particularly during the challenging conditions. Jane has continued to lead the organisation to achieve new heights, including delivering additional programs, such as the Male Partners Program.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to my fellow Board members, who I feel honoured to work alongside.

In 2021, we were thrilled to appoint three new non-executive Directors to the Board, including Professor Karen Strickland, Adjunct Professor Juliet Bourke and Marise Maltman. We are

grateful for the wealth of knowledge, experience and passion that our Board members provide to help Ovarian Cancer Australia work to deliver on its vision of saving lives and ensuring no-one affected by ovarian cancer walks alone. We also extend our gratitude to Suzy Nicoletti, who recently resigned from our Board. We thank her for her invaluable contribution and dedication to our organisation over the past three years.

Our organisation is grateful for the ongoing support from various partners, donors and volunteers. Without you our work could not continue.

This year marks our 20th anniversary. Since our beginnings in 2001, when our founders established the organisation, there have been many incredible people involved in the organisation's continued growth. I want to acknowledge everyone who has been involved with Ovarian Cancer Australia over the past 20 years. You have enabled us to establish strong foundations to become the leading national body taking action for and supporting all those impacted by ovarian cancer. We look forward to continuing our work to ensure no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone.



MARINA GO, CHAIR

“You have enabled us to establish strong foundations to become the leading national body taking action for and supporting all those impacted by ovarian cancer.”

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Despite the continuing effects of the pandemic, I am proud to reflect on the past year of achievements for Ovarian Cancer Australia. Looking back over the past 12 months, we know it has been an incredibly tough time for everyone, but for those living with ovarian cancer, and those newly diagnosed, we know it has been especially challenging.

For many, COVID-19 brought another layer of uncertainty and anxiety, with many being isolated from their friends and families and some additional worry about how COVID-19 would affect their treatment. As a result, there was a great increase in the number of people impacted by ovarian cancer reaching out to our support services.

In our 20th year of operation, as we look to the future, we never forget our past. We owe Shelia Lee, and the other original founders and those who continued to build Ovarian Cancer Australia to where it is now, a debt of gratitude. Ovarian Cancer Australia has never been in a stronger position.

As well as significant investment in new programs and services, Ovarian Cancer Australia ended the year with record revenue and a surplus of \$3.63 million.

Some of the highlights in 2021 include:

- broadening our supportive care team to include not only our Helpline nurses, but also a social worker, research manager and our team of Teal Support Nurses
- expanding our support to partners of people with ovarian cancer with the launch of the Male Partners Program
- expanding our support group network, with the launch of a new support group in Brisbane
- greater ability for those with ovarian cancer to connect personally with our team of health professionals through the launch of our new supportive Facebook group
- a successful submission to eviQ (www.eviq.org.au), who now recommend all women with certain subtypes of ovarian cancer, regardless of age at diagnosis, have genetic testing for BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes
- our second Teal Ribbon Giving Day raising \$1 million.

I hope you will enjoy reading more about these initiatives throughout our 2020–2021 annual report.

I want to thank our incredible staff and volunteers, who are unrelenting in their

focus towards saving lives and ensuring no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone. As colleagues, we have continued to look after each other and show a great sense of care. This has allowed us all to stay safe and connected despite the ever-changing challenges of the pandemic. I am proud to be associated with the team of people I work with, as nothing is more important than caring for our family, friends and colleagues. Thank you to everyone who works at Ovarian Cancer Australia: you all play such a significant role in making our vision and achievements possible.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us over our 20-year history: for those now with us, but importantly also those who have passed away, but were instrumental in allowing us to be where we are now – strong, brave and agile. Thank you to our partners, donors, community fundraisers, volunteers, the wise counsel and oversight of our Board and the efforts of all the team. With your passion, commitment and teamwork we are a strong and productive force!

Finally, I extend my heartfelt thanks and respect to all those living with ovarian cancer, their carers, families and friends. It is your experiences and stories you so generously share with us that inspire us to work even harder towards ensuring better outcomes for you and for future generations. We offer you our sound belief that with expertise and a clear focus we will continue to harness that determination to save lives and reduce the heavy toll of ovarian cancer on so many lives.

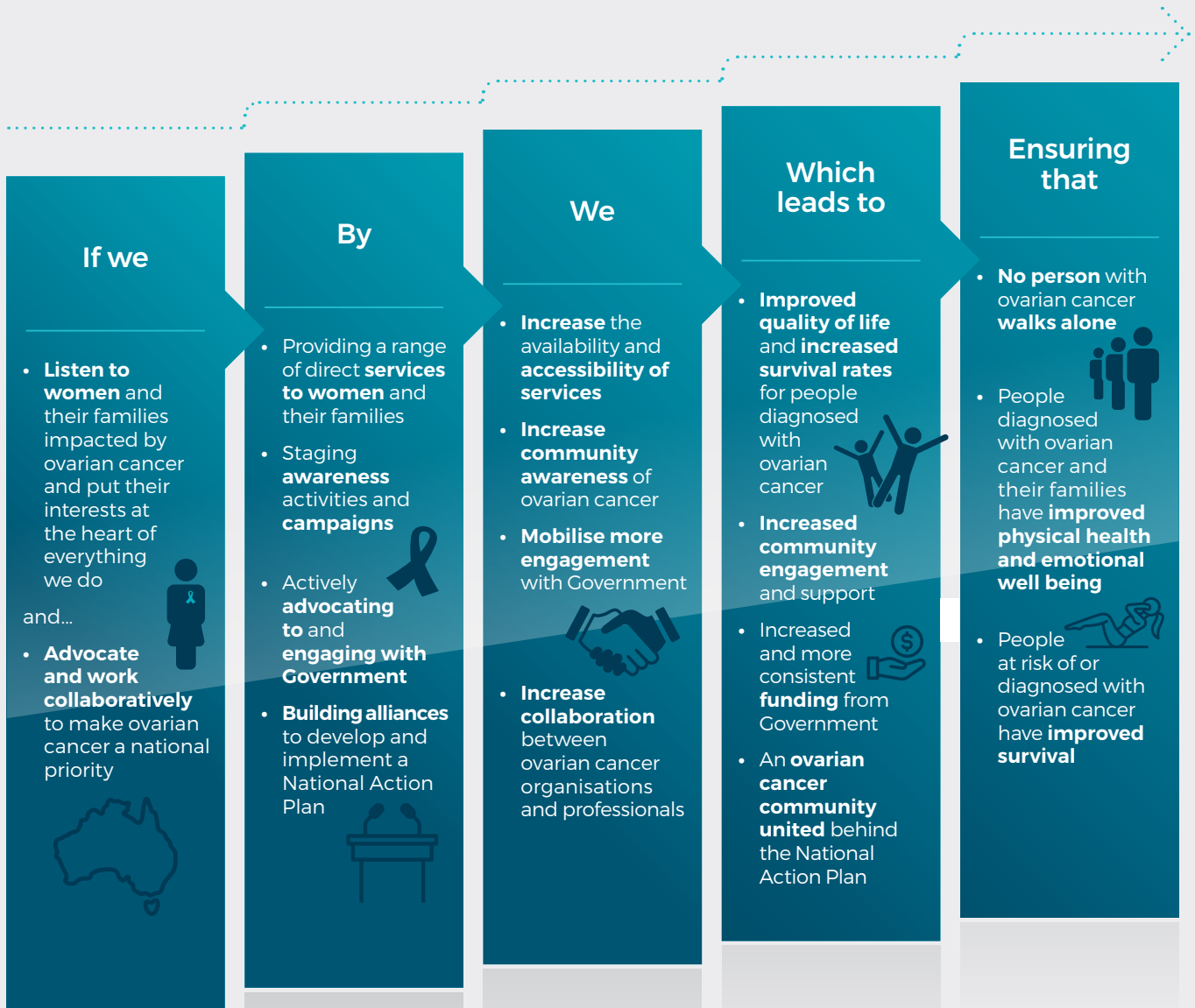
In the year ahead, we will continue the ethos indelibly inked into Ovarian Cancer Australia's DNA, and that is to listen to women and their families impacted by ovarian cancer and put their interests at the heart of everything we do.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Hill". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

JANE HILL, CEO

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

Ovarian Cancer Australia's Theory of Change outlines how we can achieve our **Vision** to save lives and ensure no woman with Ovarian Cancer walks alone, and our **Mission** to provide care and support for those affected by ovarian cancer, and represent them by leading change.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2020-2023

SUPPORT YOU

Responsive to the personalised needs of all those affected

We deliver tailored, evidence-based and accessible support and information free of charge to Australians impacted by ovarian cancer.

LEADING CHANGE

Visionary, persistent and leading by example

We advocate and work collaboratively to make ovarian cancer a national priority.

GOALS

1. Offer all those affected personalised support and information as soon as is required
2. Create ongoing opportunities for our community to connect with others

1. Deliver impact for all affected, by leading advocacy nationally
2. Lead psycho-social research for ovarian cancer and use learnings to continually improve outcomes for those affected

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- > All women with complex support needs have access to our Teal Support Program; resulting in better psycho-social outcomes
- > All those affected regardless of location can access evidence-based information and support; as well as connect to others affected via multiple modalities

- > Improved collaboration that accelerates better health outcomes for women living with ovarian cancer
- > Significantly increase sector funding to enable the delivery of the priority areas outlined in the National Action Plan

AGILE & STRONG

- > People: Be a workplace of choice.
- > Financial strength: Fundraising strategy with focus on diversification and return on investment .
- > Service: Embracing innovative delivery models that meet community needs.

OUR 20-YEAR IMPACT JOURNEY

SUPPORT & ADVOCACY MILESTONES

OvCa - Founded in Sheila Lee's memory to raise awareness of ovarian cancer. Started with small team of volunteers, distributing ribbons for awareness.

2001

The **first edition of the Resilience Kit** is produced providing valuable information to women facing ovarian cancer.

2008



First launch of an ovarian cancer online forum in Australia as a way for women to connect with each other.

2004



OvCa becomes **Ovarian Cancer Australia**.

2008

OvCa becomes **Ovarian Cancer Australia**.

2013

Traceback and Jenescreen are introduced identifying families who are at risk of ovarian cancer.

2017



OvCa hosts **first National Ovarian Cancer symposium** for health professionals.

2016



Ovarian Cancer Clinical Quality registry commences in collaboration with with Monash University.

2017

OvCa advocates for **approval of drug treatment** for newly diagnosed advanced ovarian cancer patients.

2019

The **Teal Support program commences** - a regular outreach program for women with ovarian cancer, **providing support for 333 women** up to 30 June 2021.

2019



2019

As a result of our advocacy, the Government announces **\$20M investment into ovarian cancer research** through the Medical Research Future Funds to help fund projects detailed in the National Action Plan.



Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month is launched to raise awareness of ovarian cancer in Australia.

2009

Australia Ovarian Cancer Study commences collaborative research project to improve understanding of ovarian cancer and treatment.

2013



2015

First National Action Plan for Ovarian Cancer is launched.

The Younger Women's network is established, bringing together younger women facing ovarian cancer.

2019

Male Partners Program is launched to provide men with help in supporting their loved ones.

2021



Brisbane support group is launched.

2021

OCA hosts third national ovarian cancer symposium for health professionals – attended by leading Australian and international researchers, clinicians and industry representatives.

2021



2020

The Ovarian Cancer sector unites to launch the National Action Plan (2020–2025), targeted to reduce the incidence, increase the survival rate and improve the quality of life of people diagnosed with ovarian cancer in Australia.

2020

OCA welcomes expanded listing of PARP inhibitors on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

2021

OCA is invited to provide input into two important health policy initiatives – the Ministerial Roundtable for the Australian Cancer Plan and the House of Representatives Inquiry into the Approval Processes for New Drugs and Novel Medical Devices.

SCIENTIFIC & MEDICAL ADVANCEMENTS

Since Ovarian Cancer Australia was founded 20 years ago, ovarian cancer treatment has seen a number of scientific and medical advances. Ovarian Cancer Australia has been proud to support people impacted by ovarian cancer throughout this time.


- New medications (**PARP inhibitors**) used to decrease the risk of cancer recurrence
- **Bevacizumab** significantly delays progression of advanced ovarian cancer
- **Pre-surgery chemotherapy** proven an effective option for women with advanced ovarian cancer
- Researchers work to decode the ovarian cancer genome – and **identify ovarian cancer subtypes**
- New chemotherapy regimen – **docetaxel and paclitaxel** – provides important treatment option
- Five-year relative **survival rate** increases from **40.6% to 48%**

OUR IMPACT

IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS ...



333 women
received personalised support from their own ovarian cancer nurse through our Teal Support Program.




1200+
women received our **Resilience Kits** helping us support approximately **80% of women diagnosed**.




1200+
women, partners, family & friends impacted by ovarian cancer received advice and information through our support services, which saw a 50% increase in calls for help during the initial COVID lockdown.




OCA's **Male Partners Program**
launched in response to community need, with **30 participants supported** through the last quarter of the year since launch.



OCA supported the **40%** of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer who are **identified as suffering from depression** to receive personalised support through our psychological and social support program.



Over **60** million
impressions for major campaigns communicating OCA's key messages and driving fundraising throughout the year.



Teal Ribbon Giving Day & OCA's Annual Parliamentary Breakfast
provided a platform to **raise over \$1 million from donors** and meet with government leaders to advocate for this traditionally underfunded sector and secure \$1 million in federal government funding for the Teal Support Program.

SUPPORT

PROGRAM AND RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS

Every year, over 1500 Australians are diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Many women diagnosed with ovarian cancer feel isolated and overwhelmed. To help them and their partners, friends and families, Ovarian Cancer Australia offers a range of opportunities to share experiences and feel supported by peers, as well as providing evidence-based information on living with ovarian cancer through our support resources. This support is provided through:

- Ovarian Cancer Support Helpline
- Teal Support Program, which gives every woman with ovarian cancer their own ovarian cancer nurse
- Male Partners Program support sessions
- Younger Women's Network support group
- online webinars discussing topics of importance to those affected by ovarian cancer
- monthly support groups in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Brisbane
- monthly tele-support group
- Resilience Kit, a guide providing information on all aspects of living with ovarian cancer
- fact sheets including genetic testing, fear of cancer recurrence and early menopause.



Fiona Mitchell and Di Keneally, ovarian cancer nurses.

This year, Ovarian Cancer Australia:

- delivered 56 support sessions to nearly 500 people
- provided 775 women with psychosocial support through our Helpline and Teal Support Program
- had 267 registrations made for our cancer support and educational webinars
- distributed 1524 Resilience Kits.

In addition, we continued to facilitate discussions between those affected by ovarian cancer via our OCA Connect Online Forum and private Facebook support group. All this has been part of our endeavour to better inform and improve our communication and support.

We also closely engage with health professionals involved in caring for those affected by ovarian cancer, along with those in the ovarian cancer research sector.

Ovarian Cancer Support Helpline

Our Helpline is the first point of contact for most people to access our services. The Helpline, via phone and email, continued to run 9 am – 5 pm weekdays throughout the pandemic; in fact, calls doubled during this time. Our Helpline nurses are experienced ovarian cancer nurses and offer support, onward referral, information and connection for women and their families affected by ovarian cancer. The Helpline is also open to the general public who have concerns about symptoms or testing.

Being one of the first services Ovarian Cancer Australia established, we are incredibly proud our Helpline remains a central part of our care to ensure that no woman with ovarian cancer, her family or friends walk alone.

1200+

women, partners,
family & friends



.....
impacted by
ovarian cancer
**received advice
& information** through
our support services,
which saw a 50%
increase in calls for
help during the
initial COVID
lockdown.



It is a great privilege to support women and their families impacted by ovarian cancer on Helpline. We know that a diagnosis of ovarian cancer is such an incredibly difficult experience for women and their families. Our helpline is the gateway to numerous supports that we offer to women and their families at all stages of the disease.”

Georgie, Ovarian Cancer Nurse



333
women

received personalised support from their own ovarian cancer nurse through our Teal Support Program.

Teal Support Program

The Teal Support Program is funded by the Australian Government. It is a free telehealth outreach program supporting women during and beyond their ovarian cancer diagnosis and treatment. The program is managed by our ovarian cancer nurses, who work directly with each woman's medical team to offer her regular support. It is available to women throughout the country including in rural and regional areas, where access to specialised support can be difficult. The program has ensured continuity of care and is particularly valuable when women are not visiting their treating team.

Ovarian cancer patient Victoria Turner says the nurses from the Teal Support Program help her by checking in on her progress regularly and offering advice.



“It has been wonderful to have my own ovarian cancer nurse, Fiona, to support me through this very challenging journey. I have felt that the Teal Support Program has provided continuity of care in between specialist consultations, and it is reassuring to have another layer of support available.”

Since her diagnosis during COVID-19, Chloe Spitalnic and her family found her ovarian cancer nurse, Di Kenneally, to make a big difference. Chloe says,



“Without Di, I would have so many unanswered questions. I can get a personal understanding from Di as she listens and gives me advice”

To read more from Chloe and her experience with Di, her personal ovarian cancer nurse, see <https://youtu.be/ypBEexcUQnQ>.



Rosetta Hart, ovarian cancer nurse.

In the first year of the program, despite the challenges of COVID-19, our Teal Support Program nurses provided individualised support to 333 women diagnosed with ovarian cancer. This helped them feel less isolated while ensuring they received the best support and treatment possible.

The nurses enjoy connecting and supporting the women as well. Nurse Rosetta Hart says,



“I find the positive feedback from the women incredibly rewarding. They say that they appreciate having a health professional checking on them regularly who they can talk to about any issues related to ovarian cancer and particularly that they don't have to burden family members with their concerns.”



Chloe Spitalnic and Di Kenneally.

The program is managed by our ovarian cancer nurses, who work directly with each woman's medical team to offer her regular support.



Funded by:



The Teal Support Program achieved a net promoter score of

85%* 

*calculated by percentage of promoters, less percentage of detractors

Quotes from program participants

“Rosetta, the ovarian cancer nurse who calls me regularly, is not only supportive but very knowledgeable. And I must say, in a regional city, that help is not available. But, importantly to any woman consumed by the fear of recurrence, she is a calming influence. We receive that assistance which we often could not burden our family and close ones with. I am extremely grateful.”

“Fantastic support!!! It's the only service I've had contact with during my treatment where I don't feel the health professional (in this case the Teal nurse) is limited by time. I can therefore have all my questions answered (and fears addressed) without feeling any time pressure.”

“Thank you. This is an excellent, 'pitch perfect', service for women with ovarian cancer diagnosis - the Registered Nurses are professional experts at clinical and emotional support in oncology context and adept at referring on to multi-disciplinary team when needed. I experience the knowledge base of RN model about the physiological impacts of the diagnosis as the strength or underpinning the support.”

“It took me a long time to reach out for support as I thought I could do it on my own and just be private about my cancer. But speaking to the cancer nurse I realise it is ok to speak about it and get support I would and could not get from family and friends.”

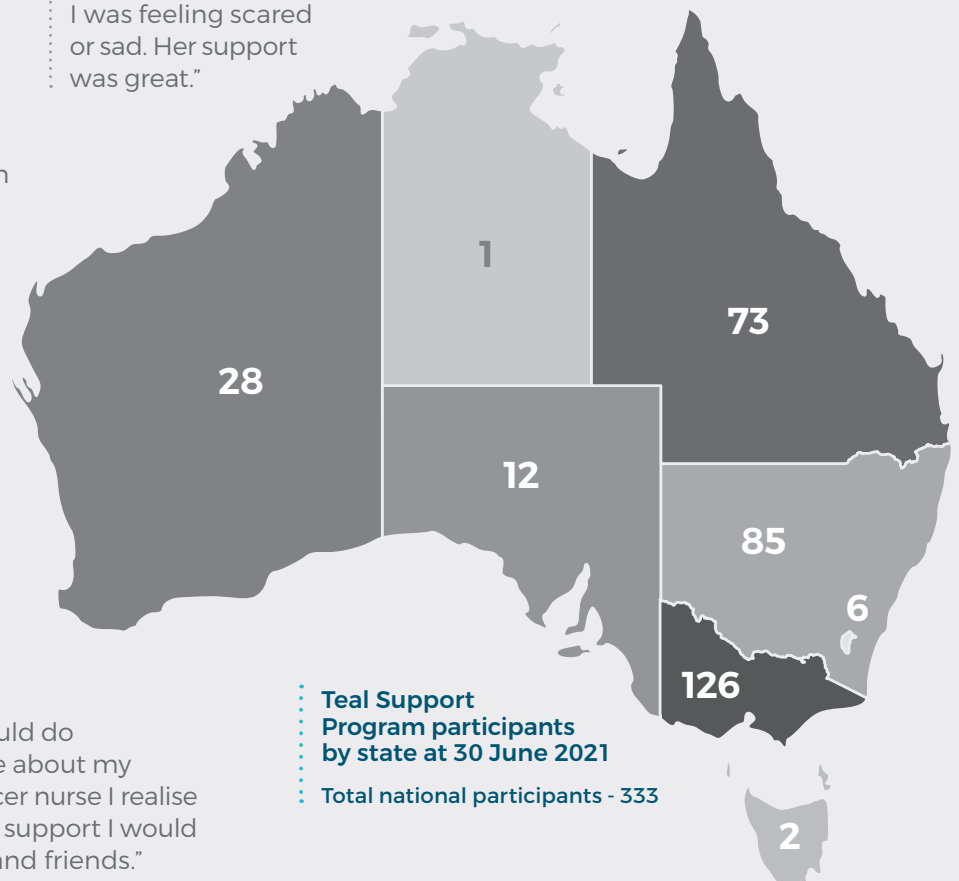
“The program is a great way for people to feel connected to ongoing care especially after clinical treatment has finished and the future seems uncertain. My nurse has provided advice about any concerns I have had, has been considerate at all times and humorous when I need! Thank you for the support.”

“I'm very grateful for all the support and advice and friendship given. This is a very difficult time in every respect and I know they really care!!! I feel I can say and ask anything and they will do their very best to help and have helped me so much. Thankyou.”

“It was surprising to me how easy it was to build a relationship with Rosetta from Teal Support. Rosetta often called when I was feeling scared or sad. Her support was great.”

“These teal angels are a lifeline outside of the family/friend support. They have the knowledge compassion understanding empathy etc...”

“They just care. They just listen. They are just there.”



Teal Support Program participants by state at 30 June 2021
Total national participants - 333

Despite the large number of male partners in Australia who care for their partners with ovarian cancer, they have limited options for getting the support they may need.



Larry Robb with wife Sue, who has been treated for ovarian cancer.

Male Partners Program

Research undertaken by Ovarian Cancer Australia and Monash University identified unmet needs for male partners of women who have ovarian cancer. This has led to our new Male Partners Program, funded by Dry July Foundation, which ensures male partners receive the guidance and advice they formerly did not have access to.

Research has found that partners of women with ovarian cancer experience challenges within themselves and in their relationships, including difficulties

with communication, generalised worry, changes in sexual relationships, uncertainty about the future and concerns about end of life. Despite the large number of male partners in Australia who care for their partners with ovarian cancer, they have limited options for getting the support they may need. The Male Partners Program provides monthly online support sessions, in addition to a webinar for male partners, videos exploring the male carers' needs and telephone and/or telehealth video calls for counselling support. A support booklet for male partners is being developed.

Peter Burns has attended the sessions from the start and appreciated getting and giving support to other men across Australia going through the

same difficult issues. He says, 'The support offered through the Male Partners Program has proved to be invaluable as the members can all relate to what we are going through'.

Larry Robb (pictured) has also been attending the monthly sessions and has found it helpful to speak to other partners who have the same issues he faces and how they cope. Larry says, 'Everyone in the group has the same problems and issues I have. They all have different ways of coping with it and different ways of looking at it. It's nice to have someone else say what they did, especially if it would help me do something good for Sue.' In a series of videos on www.ovariancancer.net.au, Larry speaks candidly about how his wife Sue's ovarian cancer diagnosis has impacted their intimacy and sexual relationship and how the group has helped him find different ways to manage.



OCA'S MALE PARTNERS PROGRAM

launched in response to community needs with **30 participants supported** through the last quarter of the year since launch.

Younger Women's Network



Laura Langdon, a member of the Younger Women's Network.

A diagnosis of ovarian cancer is devastating for anyone, irrespective of age. However, being a rare type of cancer, and generally more unexpected in the younger person, this group of women can be left feeling isolated and alone after a diagnosis, in a different way to the older woman. While a general support group for women with ovarian cancer is usually helpful to all women of all ages, we recognise the need to be diverse in our support and approach to those diagnosed at a very young age. With this in mind, Ovarian Cancer Australia provides more individual care for younger people diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

The Younger Women's Network is a monthly online forum for women under the age of 50 diagnosed with ovarian cancer. This support and information group is facilitated by experienced staff and covers a wide range of topics relating to cancer and



Christy Smith, a member of the Younger Women's Network.

the challenges women face during and after treatment. Each session is presented by a guest speaker who is an expert in their field. The sessions cover issues such as:

- coping strategies and stress management
- mindfulness and meditation
- enhancing wellbeing
- diet and nutrition
- physical activity
- sleep hygiene (habits to help you have a good night's sleep)
- balancing life around your cancer and its treatment
- drug trials
- treatment and research.

Christy Smith has found the sessions to have helped her feel less isolated. She has found them to be a valuable opportunity to regularly connect with

other women living with ovarian cancer. Christy says, 'When I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer I was provided with basic resources that were all aimed at women much older than myself. Being a part of YWN I have met people around my own age going through similar experiences which has helped me so much emotionally, mentally, and physically. Most of all I do not feel alone, I feel supported, and I know someone has my back.'

Read more about the Younger Women's Network at www.ovariancancer.net.au.

Webinars

Our support team have continued to develop and host live webinars for all those affected by ovarian cancer. Topics include:

- the emotional impact of caring for a woman who has ovarian cancer
- intimacy and sexuality: a webinar for male partners
- grief and uncertainty following an ovarian cancer diagnosis
- genetics and cancer.

Health professional engagement

We continue to engage with health professionals in the field. The 2021 Ovarian Cancer Symposium, The Changing World of Ovarian Cancer Treatment, brought together leading Australian and international researchers, clinicians and industry representatives to learn about the latest developments

and advances in the rapidly evolving field of ovarian cancer research and treatment. Due to the unpredictable situation globally with COVID-19, the decision was made to hold a virtual event over four sessions. A total of 224 people registered for the event and 118 individuals attended the event live. The

feedback from delegates was extremely positive with a net promotor score of 44 across the four sessions.

Two editions of our health professional newsletter were sent to our database of 888 health professionals with another edition scheduled for later in the year.

“These webinars are invaluable in keeping abreast with the latest research and ideas into our cancer. The speakers tailor their talks to women like me who have little medical knowledge. I also like to hear from women who are experiencing this cancer as many have good coping strategies that I can use on my own journey.”

Andrea

... The Younger Women's Network is a monthly
... online forum for women under the age of
... 50 diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

PSYCHOSOCIAL RESEARCH

Ovarian Cancer Australia recognises the importance of supporting women and their families in all aspects of their life following an ovarian cancer diagnosis, including their psychological, social and emotional wellbeing. While those diagnosed with ovarian cancer are grateful for the treatment and care they receive from their medical team, they often feel less attention is paid to changes to their emotional wellbeing, relationships and other aspects of their lives. The limited research in Australia into these issues reflects these concerns. Building a solid evidence base through research and using the learnings to improve practice is a key goal for Ovarian Cancer Australia.

Our research projects are essential to helping us focus on key psychosocial issues and provide better outcomes for women diagnosed with ovarian cancer and their families. To help guide the development of our resources and services, our consumer survey allows people with ovarian cancer – as well as their family, friends and carers – to provide their insights and opinion on our direction and approach.

We are undertaking research collaborations with major Australian universities and other institutions on a range of the topics identified by the survey respondents including:

- fear of cancer recurrence
- sleep issues
- sexual concerns.

In 2021, new research collaborations with the University of Sydney focused on the impact of fears of cancer recurrence and progression, and death and dying. Ongoing research and data analysis and collaboration in projects has also been established with the University of Melbourne, University of South Australia and Queensland University of Technology.

Hayley Russell

Hayley Russell, Senior Research Manager at Ovarian Cancer Australia, chaired the symposium of ovarian cancer research at the 2020 International Psycho-Oncology Symposium Conference and has been involved in the publication of research articles in *Psycho-Oncology* and *Frontiers in Psychology*. Our psychosocial research collaborations are listed at www.ovariancancer.net.au.



Hayley Russell.

Further to the research itself, these projects and surveys have enabled Ovarian Cancer Australia to recognise the unmet needs of women with ovarian cancer and those close to them, provide a range of new programs, and enhance and adjust our established programs to better suit the people we support.

Our research projects are essential to helping us focus on key psychosocial issues and provide better outcomes for women diagnosed with ovarian cancer and their families.

OCA supported the
40%
of women



diagnosed with ovarian cancer who are **identified as suffering from depression** to receive personalised support through our psychological and social support program.

ADVOCACY

Ovarian cancer has the lowest survival rate of any women's cancer. In Australia, the overall five-year survival rate for women diagnosed with ovarian cancer is 48%. In comparison, the overall five-year survival rate for women diagnosed with breast cancer is 92%. Our strategy is designed to support and motivate more research to help improve survival rates.

“ With ovarian cancer, women like me literally don't live long enough to form the army of advocates as our breast cancer sisters have done so successfully ... we're on our knees in trying to advance this cancer and fundamentally that means we need significant sums of money. Four times as much money is spent on breast cancer as is on our cancer.”
Jill Emberson, ovarian cancer advocate

Teal Ribbon Parliamentary Breakfast

To mark February's Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, parliamentarians from all sides of politics gathered at Parliament House in Canberra to support the 2021 Teal Ribbon Parliamentary Breakfast. The event helped raise national awareness of ovarian cancer. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the event was held with reduced in-person capacity and livestreamed via Facebook allowing a broader audience to tune in on this special day.

The Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison; Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Anthony Albanese; and the Minister for Health, the Hon Greg Hunt, were in attendance and they had the honour of listening to Caitlin Delaney share her personal ovarian cancer story. Caitlin's powerful and informative speech relayed the reality of the desperation and heartache many women diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and those close to them face. You can learn more about Caitlin and her family's story at www.ovariancancer.net.au.

Subsequently, the Australian Government announced an additional funding injection of \$1 million for Ovarian Cancer Australia's Teal Support Program, which offers specialist support and counselling, including a dedicated nurse for women living with ovarian cancer. The event received national media coverage, including 9 News and the Canberra Times.



Caitlin Delaney pictured with husband Kevin, children Liliith and Willow, Prime Minister the Hon Scott Morrison and Leader of the Opposition the Hon Anthony Albanese.



Jane Hill, CEO.

Teal Ribbon Giving Day & OCA's Annual Parliamentary Breakfast



provided a platform to **raise over \$1 million from donors** and meet with government leaders to advocate for this traditionally underfunded sector and secure \$1 million in federal government funding for the Teal Support Program.



Caitlin Delaney speaks at the 2021 Teal Ribbon Parliamentary Breakfast.

“

I don't have time to waste. I was 39 when first diagnosed with stage 4 clear cell ovarian cancer in 2017. My daughters were only two and four at the time. A scientist myself, I was furious to discover that ovarian cancer was associated with grim statistics, a devastating lack of awareness, and, most critically, a significant lack of funding. I was envious of the more popular, better resourced, and consequently more successful cancer groups. I vowed to make noise about this disease and have since become a passionate advocate despite periods of gruelling treatment and recovery.”

Caitlin Delaney

National Action Plan

With the five-year Ovarian Cancer National Action Plan 2020–2025 in its early stages, we are committed to keeping it on track despite the challenges we have faced during the pandemic. So far we have:

- continued to advocate to government sectors for funding and support for the priorities identified in the National Action Plan
- built on the collaboration between health professionals in this field, hosting the second Ovarian Cancer Health Professionals Conference, which is the only conference dedicated to this group

- expanded Ovarian Cancer Australia's support services, including the Male Partners Program, and commenced work on our 'Sexuality, relationships and self-esteem' booklet, both of which relate to our priority area of patient- and family-centred care.

We're looking forward to seeing continued progress on the National Action Plan over the next few years. You can view the Ovarian Cancer National Action Plan 2020–2025 at www.ovariancancer.net.au.

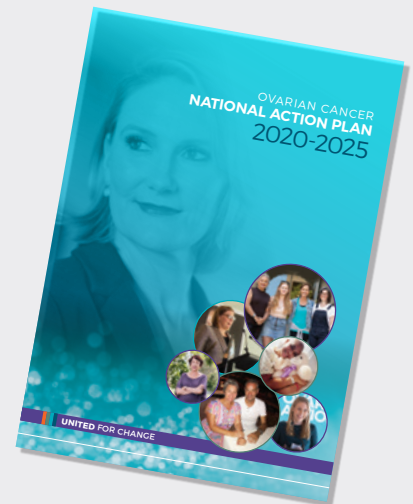


Image credit: Alex Ellinghausen/SMH. Ovarian Cancer Australia acknowledges the Federal Health Minister the Hon Greg Hunt for his ongoing interest in and support of ovarian cancer supportive care and research.

“

I commend Ovarian Cancer Australia for its strong advocacy work and support of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer and their families. I look forward to continued engagement with you as we collectively seek to improve outcomes for the disease.”

The Hon Greg Hunt Federal Minister for Health

Over
60
million



CAMPAIGNS

Throughout the 2020–2021 pandemic, we continued to work hard to ensure that our regular well-known yearly campaigns could go ahead. These campaigns are vital to raising awareness and funds, which help us continue our vital support work for all those affected by ovarian cancer. Our old favourites, along with new campaigns Workout for Women and Dry July, proved incredibly successful despite the challenges of COVID-19. A big thank you to everyone who supported these campaigns.

impressions for major campaigns communicating OCA's key messages and driving fundraising throughout the year.

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month (OCAM)

OCAM is held each year in Australia to:

- share the stories of real women affected by the disease
- highlight the risk factors for ovarian cancer
- educate Australians on ovarian cancer diagnosis and treatment
- advocate to make ovarian cancer a national priority.

In 2021, we celebrated 20 years of improving support and awareness, as well as applauding the drive within the research sector to continue to improve their work to develop new and better treatments for everyone affected by ovarian cancer. OCAM includes The Teal Ribbon Parliamentary Breakfast and Teal Ribbon Giving Day.

Overies for Ovaries (O4O)

This year saw the O4O campaign with Ovarian Cancer Australia's principal partner, Hanes Australasia and the Bonds, Bras N Things and Jockey brands, run for its third year. The campaign was supported by Keep It Cleaner (KIC) team, including high-profile influencers Steph Claire Smith, Laura Henshaw and Danny Kennedy.

The campaign raised an astounding \$157,000 for Ovarian Cancer Australia through the sale of over 21,000 male and female 'Overies' undies. The pandemic forced our team to prioritise the digital campaign and worked with KIC and Fernwood Fitness to run a series of online workouts. It was a collective effort by Hanes, OMD Media, KIC and Fernwood to encourage Australians to wear their 'Overies' undies on May 8th to mark World Ovarian Cancer Day. We are so incredibly grateful to all those involved in making this happen.



Kerol Dunne.



I decided to support the #Overies4Ovaries campaign because I could involve my husband, we could both have a few laughs and support a fantastic cause at the same time. He loves his Jockey Overies and mine are so comfy. On World Ovarian Cancer Day I decided to dress like a super hero. My grandson asked what my super power was, I said, 'I fight cancer.'

Kerol Dunne

Workout 4 Women

The first ever Workout 4 Women challenge took place in November 2020. Held in partnership with Fernwood Fitness, the challenge involved setting a health, wellness or fitness goal and working out every day for the month, while raising funds for Ovarian Cancer Australia. For a first-time campaign, it gained a lot of interest and raised over \$180,000! A huge thank you again to Fernwood Fitness for their support and to everyone who took part in the challenge. The campaign was also generously supported by Interflora, Tea Tonic, Food 4 Health and Simson's Pantry.



Thank you OCA and Fernwood for the important work you are doing. It was probably the best day of the year! Excited to see this come to life and hope it will raise much-needed funding as well as awareness about this horrible disease.”

Francine



Emily Gordon, trainer at Fernwood Fitness.



Dry July

In the most challenging year that many of us can remember, the positive impact of Ovarian Cancer Australia's involvement in Dry July cannot be overestimated.



Amy Stewart. Photo used with permission of Amy and her family.

With an extraordinary \$445,325 raised by participants, we can provide direct support through existing and new programs including:

- Younger Women's Network
- Male Partners Program
- ovarian cancer nurses providing support for women with ovarian cancer
- practical and psychosocial support for women with ovarian cancer and their families.

We acknowledge the impact of the late Amy Stewart, the face of Ovarian Cancer Australia's 2020 campaign, and the incredible effort of her friends and family to garner support in her memory for this campaign. Amy's story, and those of all the other amazing women whose stories contributed to the campaign, sounded

a very clear message to our established (and new) community of supporters. We are very grateful for this.

Amy was diagnosed with ovarian cancer aged 33. Tragically, she passed away on 30 May 2020 aged 36. Amy is remembered fondly by our community for her warm and wise words for other young women experiencing ovarian cancer. She was a passionate advocate of the Younger Women's Network - which was initiated with funding from Dry July in 2018. Before she passed away, Amy spoke about the Younger Women's Network, which she felt made a huge difference to her quality of life,



One of the most difficult things about having ovarian cancer as a young woman is the sense of isolation and not having women who you can relate to. To access support that is both cancer-specific and age-appropriate made such a difference for me. There is nothing else like it.”

DRY JULY
FOUNDATION

FUNDRAISING

80K for OCA

Catherine Rowney, a health professional at the Royal Women's Hospital, dedicated herself to running 80 km for Ovarian Cancer Australia. Catherine raised nearly \$4500 to help support women like her mother-in-law who had been recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer.



“ I ran past nurses and doctors cheering me on from the Royal Women's Hospital. These are beautiful health professionals which I work with, all caring for the beautiful women facing ovarian cancer. I have worked here for 16 years, and I saw ovarian cancer first-hand this year, with my mother-in-law dealing with ovarian cancer treatment. So glad I could help raise awareness and funds for Ovarian Cancer Australia.”

Catherine Rowney



Nude Lunch 2020

For its fifth year running, the Nude Lunch did not let COVID-19 dampen its plans. The three-hour fundraiser event was streamed live across the country, raising \$93,000 for ovarian cancer charities: The Trudy Crowley Foundation, Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation and Ovarian Cancer Australia. Our special thanks to the Nude Lunch committee and Jody Eula from Red Hot Blue Creative Agency, who worked tirelessly on delivering another successful event and helping to improve the lives of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer and their families.

Teal Ribbon Giving Day

The second-ever Teal Ribbon Giving Day resulted in 2416 donors raising a record \$1,018,693 including matched giving to help fund the Ovarian Cancer Australia Helpline and dedicated ovarian cancer nurses.

Special guest speakers for the day were the Hon Martin Foley MP, Victorian Minister for Health, Ambulance Services and Equality; Grace Lee, co-founder of Ovarian Cancer Australia; and Chloe Spitalnic, who shared her personal story of ovarian cancer. The event attracted a lot of media attention, including Channel 7 News.



CEO Jane Hill with Chloe Spitalnic and the Hon Martin Foley.



Renee Barrett, Shoot for a Cure NT.

Shoot for a Cure

Shoot for a Cure is a yearly fundraiser that began in 2013. This year, around 60 members from Top End Gun Club and Sporting Association of Australia Darwin Branch came together with their families and friends to raise a total of \$25,000 for Ovarian Cancer Australia.

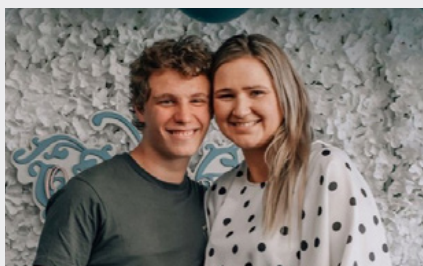
FUNDRAISING

Teal Teas

Throughout February and March, there were over 223 Teal Teas. Individuals, families, friends and colleagues came together to celebrate 20 years of ovarian cancer support, hosting morning teas, breakfasts, picnics, belly dances and raffles.

With the support of many different communities across Australia, an amazing \$106,000 was raised for Ovarian Cancer Australia.

One of these amazing community fundraisers was Bec McLennan, who hosted a uniquely styled picnic event raising over \$15,000 in loving memory of her dear friend Ang, who sadly passed away from ovarian cancer.



“

I was absolutely blown away by the amount of money we raised. The support received from our local community, local businesses contacting me to donate was incredible. I know Ang would have loved this event and been so proud of what we achieved, and hopefully the money raised has helped fight this horrible disease.”

Bec McLennan, friend to Ang, who died from ovarian cancer

Aspire4Kylie

In this, our 20th year of operation, we could not celebrate our community fundraisers without including Carolyn and Rob Bear. Since 2012 Carolyn and Rob have generously supported Ovarian Cancer Australia in memory of their beloved daughter, Kylie Jane Bear, who passed away nine years ago. Carolyn and Rob work tirelessly to raise funds through the sale of handmade customised jewellery, high teas and morning teas, luncheons and dinners, movie nights, raffles and an annual golf day. The funds raised are divided between the Hunter Medical Research Institute and Ovarian Cancer Australia. We express our very warm appreciation and gratitude to the family for their dedicated and continuing support through Aspire4Kylie. We would also like to acknowledge the support and work of Lion's Club of Valentine, The Rocks Country Club and Robyn Forbes, all of whom have been involved in these fundraising efforts.

We're hair for Yvette

In a wonderful show of solidarity, friends and family of Yvette Young, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2020, came together to create change and awareness for ovarian cancer. A range of events were set up by her team of supporters, which included cutting, shaving and colouring their hair to raise nearly \$27,000 for Ovarian Cancer Australia to continue to support women like Yvette.



“

I am hopeful that funding for ovarian cancer will enable a lot of women to have a longer life and a more fulfilled life. Like most, many want to believe they will live to see their family grow up and see their grandkids. It feels a bit unfair that it's so unknown and underfunded compared to other cancers. Everyone should be on a fair playing field.”

Yvette, diagnosed in 2020

Bowls, Eat, Sip & Support

This fundraiser was hosted by Feenix Balustrades (Wayne, Managing Director, and his wife, Ivanka) who held this event on 8 May 2021.

Eighty people attended the Bowl, Eat, Sip and Support event at the Broadbeach Bowling Club. The day started with barefoot bowling followed by dinner at tables decorated in teal in support of ovarian cancer awareness.

Feenix Balustrades and everyone who attended Bowl, Eat, Sip and Support raised \$18,000 for Ovarian Cancer Australia.



Brisbane Heat

Due to COVID-19, Brisbane Heat thought outside the box and moved their fundraising efforts to an online auction, raising over \$16,000. In addition, they brought Queensland Fire and WBBL player Georgia Redmayne on as an Ovarian Cancer Australia ambassador to help further drive awareness.



Dr Georgia Redmayne, Brisbane Heat.



Heather Hawkins, Larapinta Trek.

Teal Outback Trek - Larapinta

In April 2020, a group of 19 brave and adventurous Ovarian Cancer Australia supporters took on the Larapinta Trail in the Northern Territory, trekking together for five days to raise over \$120,000.

The group was made up of passionate like-minded teammates, all with their own personal connection to ovarian cancer, who walked through iconic outback scenery all the way up to the top of Mount Sonder. The trek resulted in a life-changing experience for everyone involved.

You can read more about the trek at www.ovariancancer.net.au.

We would like to say a huge thank you to every participant involved in the Teal Outback Trek along with their families and friends who supported them. The massive \$120,000 raised will go towards our continuing dedication to increase our support to all those affected by ovarian cancer.



“ As an ovarian cancer survivor, I am passionate about raising awareness and funds to help save and improve the quality of women’s lives who are impacted by this devastating diagnosis. I absolutely love trekking and supporting others on challenging journeys, so I knew this was going to be a really special experience - and it was - it was an incredible privilege to be a part of. This journey will stay with me forever.”
Heather Hawkins, Teal Outback Trekker

OUR PARTNERS

Our partners once again demonstrated the strength of their commitment to Ovarian Cancer Australia during an unexpected second year of the global pandemic. They continued to achieve strong results, despite major business disruptions, raising much-needed funds and awareness. This was made possible by the highly engaged and generous people across all parts of their organisations.

Some highlights from the last year include:

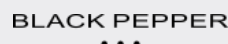
- Another outstanding result from our principal partner, **Hanes Brands Australia** with the Overies for Ovaries campaign raising **over \$157,000**.
- In our **15th year of partnership**, the passionate team and local pharmacies of **TerryWhite Chemmart** helped raise awareness and **over \$113,000** in donations. We thank them for their support and service, especially with their increased workloads during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Black Pepper** continued to support Ovarian Cancer Australia during very challenging market conditions and a change of corporate ownership. Each year they go above and beyond to raise awareness and funds from their popular **Teal scarf top product promotion** and **fundraising campaigns**.
- **Wynstan** saw a **7% increase** in annual fundraising dollars through **their February campaign**. Our thanks to the powerful pro bono advertising that helped to promote our campaigns and for the continuous generosity of Wynstan staff with their regular workplace giving.
- **Fernwood Fitness** became our major sponsor for our inaugural **Workout for Women** campaign, helping us to raise over **\$180,000**. As our first ever fitness fundraising challenge, it drove amazing community engagement and awareness for Ovarian Cancer Australia.
- **Coles Queensland** stores raised close to **\$90,000** through their **September community campaign**. The staff at Coles are such champions of our cause and blew us away with this year's result!
- Our media partner **OMD** provided an incredible **\$430,000 in pro bono outdoor, press, radio and digital advertising** reaching millions during **Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month** and supporting **Overies for Ovaries**. **Channel 10** also supported the campaigns with more than **\$280,000** of amazing **community service announcements** on metropolitan free-to-air networks.



Principal Partner



Major Partners



Partner profile

TERRYWHITE CHEMMART

TerryWhite Chemmart (TWC) and Ovarian Cancer Australia are celebrating 15 years of partnership in 2021. As our longest-standing partner, TWC has raised more than \$1.5 million since the partnership began. Duncan Phillips, CEO TWC, answers some questions about the partnership.



What inspires TWC to support Ovarian Cancer Australia?

The fact that ovarian cancer is the most lethal gynaecological cancer with no current early detection test, and one of the most underfunded cancers, is a driving force behind the support from our 500 pharmacies across Australia.

What do you think has been key to our partnership's longevity and success?

There is a lot of synergy in the values of our organisations, in particular serving and humility, and importantly, humour – we take what we do extremely seriously, but we don't take ourselves too seriously! I think that this flows into how we have mobilised our plans, with important education tools (i.e. the Ovarian Cancer Signs and Symptoms Diary) but also the energy our staff put into fundraising events. There have been many passionate employees at TerryWhite Chemmart that have gone over and above with their support to Ovarian Cancer Australia.

Over the course of the partnership, is there anything you've seen or learnt that has surprised you?

Every year when Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month comes around and we upweight our education to the community about the signs and symptoms, it never ceases to amaze me how little people know about this disease. It just shows how important it is that we keep campaigning, highlighting the statistics and raising funds to ensure no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone.



Duncan Phillips, CEO TWC and Jane Hill, CEO Ovarian Cancer Australia.

How important is it for TWC to be part of the impact Ovarian Cancer Australia is making for women and the sector?

We wouldn't be supporting Ovarian Cancer Australia if we didn't think we could make an impact. Raising funds is one thing but it's the little conversations about ovarian cancer that our pharmacists and pharmacy team members are having with their customers throughout our network of 500 stores is where I think the greatest impact lies.

What has been your biggest achievement partnering with Ovarian Cancer Australia?

The moment that was most impactful for me was listening to Chloe Spitalnic tell her story earlier this year at a fundraising event in the city. At that moment, I reflected on how humbled I felt to be a part of supporting this incredible cause. 15 years and \$1.5 million didn't feel like anywhere near enough ...



“Raising funds is one thing but it's the little conversations about ovarian cancer that our pharmacists and pharmacy team members are having with their customers is where I think the greatest impact lies.”

Partner profile

WYNSTAN

Wynstan is an Australian made and owned, family operated business that has been supplying Australians with beautiful blinds, doors, shutters and awnings since 1968. Wynstan has been an Ovarian Cancer Australia partner since 2016 and has engaged its employees in the relationship from the start through workplace giving. Over this time, employees have contributed around \$13,000 annually from their weekly pay, that's \$60,000+, as well as the donation that comes from Wynstan the business. We sat down with Operational Director, Andrew Turner, to talk about the benefits of this program.

Why do Wynstan offer workplace giving to their employees?

My family knows firsthand the devastating impact that ovarian cancer can have on a loved one and their family. Margaret Turner, my mother, lost her battle with ovarian cancer and as the matriarch of Wynstan we feel it's only fitting we support Ovarian Cancer Australia in all the amazing work that you do. We extended the opportunity for our Wynstan staff and contractors to be a part of this commitment and donate a small proportion of their wages to such a great cause.

Do you have a stand-out employee you would like to highlight?

There's not one 'stand-out' employee at Wynstan, we're such a team and committed to our partnership, from the showroom team and the staff who go out of their way to sell the Ovarian Cancer Australia merchandise by walking the streets during Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, to our staff and their partners and kids who give generously during our Morning Teal activities including their time baking cupcakes.

Do you have any advice on how to engage your employees with the workplace giving program?

Our workplace giving program forms part of our onboarding process for all new employees at Wynstan to understand who our community partners are and why we choose Ovarian Cancer Australia. The 'giving' component however stretches beyond the decision to financially contribute part of their weekly wage as there are opportunities to give back throughout the year, either selling the Ovarian Cancer Australia merchandise at the Wynstan showrooms, participating in our Morning Tea by baking a cake or buying some snacks or participating in our raffle. We are proud and honoured to have such a generous team at Wynstan.



Bruce Turner - Managing Director, Rebecca Burns, Administration Executive, Andrew Turner, Director of Operations.



Bruce Turner, Rebecca Burns, Andrew Turner and the team from Wynstan.

“We extended the opportunity for our Wynstan staff and contractors to be a part of this commitment and donate a small proportion of their wages to such a great cause.”

FINANCIAL RESULTS

GROWTH & GOVERNANCE

Statement of Profit and Other Comprehensive Income

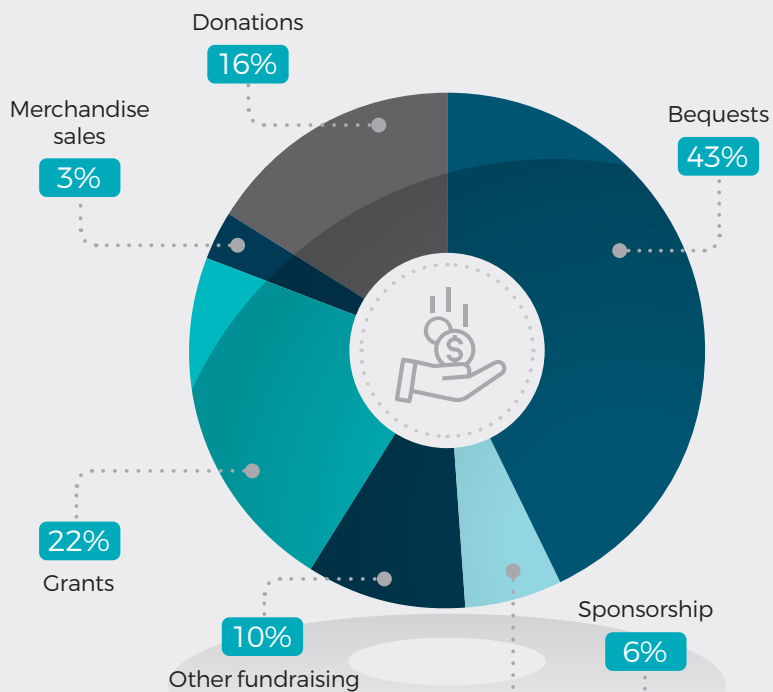
	2021
	\$
Revenue	7,071,262
Interest income	20,483
Cost of goods sold	(22,906)
Support service delivery	(1,402,310)
Advocacy and awareness	(544,932)
Research programs	(294,840)
Public affairs and communications	(417,952)
Development and fundraising	(760,247)
Governance and operational expenses	(260,892)
(Deficit) / Surplus before income tax	3,387,666
Other income	245,801
Total comprehensive income for the year	3,633,467

Income Growth* 2016-2021

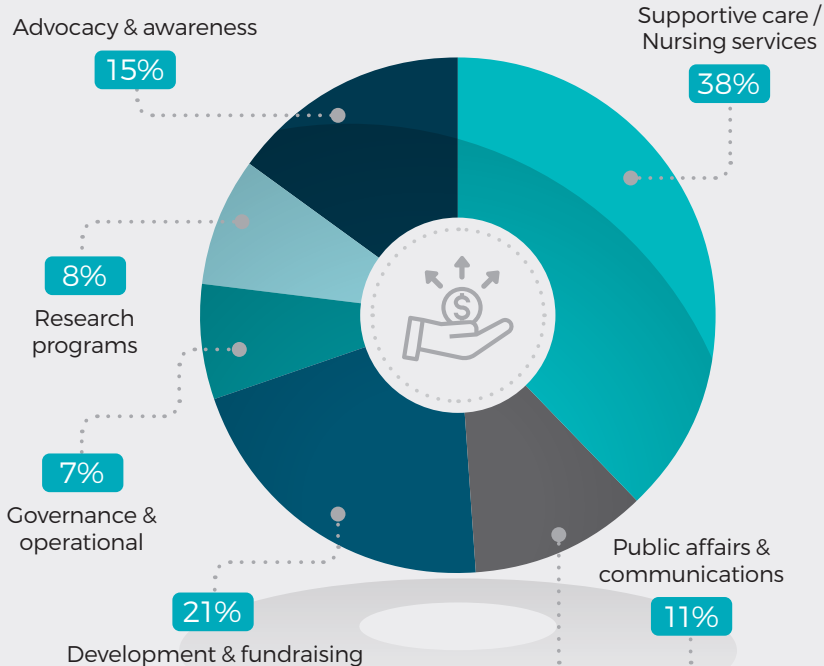
*including other income



Income Sources 2020-2021



2020-2021 Program Expenditure



This year Ovarian Cancer Australia was thrilled to record a surplus of \$3.63 million. This excellent result was in part due to a bequest from Ian Hemming, who wanted to leave a gift to Ovarian Cancer Australia after being moved by Annie Mulder's story of survival from her diagnosis of ovarian cancer. This incredibly generous and surprise gift will be used to help underpin our support services and advocacy into the future.

OUR DONOR PROMISE

Our vision is to save lives and ensure no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone; it's a big job and only possible with the support of donors like you. Every dollar donated goes towards achieving our mission: to provide care and support for those affected by ovarian cancer and represent them by leading change.

We promise to live by our values

Our organisational values – we listen, we are inclusive, we are courageous and we act with integrity – are central to all that we do. We are committed to working in collaboration with all stakeholders in the ovarian cancer sector.

We are dedicated to leading change, being a voice for women with ovarian cancer and changing the statistics that make ovarian cancer Australia's deadliest female cancer.

Our promise to you

We will use your donation responsibly; we commit to being accountable and transparent in all matters relating to your donation – you can have full confidence that the funds you donate will go where they are needed most.

We will:

- inform you of our strategic priorities, vision and mission and the way we intend to use your donation to deliver that mission
- use your donation prudently, for the purpose it was intended and in the timeframe we promised
- tell you who is on the Ovarian Cancer Australia Board. Board members will discharge their director duties and ensure that the organisation is well governed

We are dedicated to leading change, being a voice for women with ovarian cancer and changing the statistics that make ovarian cancer Australia's deadliest female cancer.

- provide you with access to our most recent financial statements and annual highlight reports at www.ovariancancer.net.au
- ensure you receive appropriate acknowledgement for your donation, or that you remain anonymous, if that is your preference
- handle your donation with respect and confidentiality to the extent of the law and treat your privacy with the utmost respect. We will not pass your details on to a third party without your consent
- reply with timely, evidence-based and unbiased answers to your questions about Ovarian Cancer Australia
- listen and respond to your complaints about anything that we have done while fundraising.

Please contact us so that we are able to address your concerns: fundraising@ovariancancer.net.au

We promise to say thank you, always.

We understand there are thousands of worthwhile organisations in Australia and appreciate that you, as one of our donors, have made a choice to support Ovarian Cancer Australia. This is why we promise to thank everyone who supports us. **All donations, whether online or over the phone, big or small, will receive a tax-deductible receipt and heartfelt thank you letter.** If you leave your phone number we will also call, when we can, to say thank you.



GOVERNANCE

Board and Committee Membership (as at 30 June 2021)

See the full profile on our website

Board members (Directors)

- Marina Go – Chair
- Marco D'Avino
- Jo-Ann Hicks
- Professor Ian Jacobs
- Suzy Nicoletti (*resigned July 2021*)
- Meghan Speers
- Adjunct Professor Juliet Bourke (*appointed August 2021*)
- Marise Maltman – (*appointed August 2021*)
- Professor Karen Strickland (*appointed August 2021*)

Board Observer

- Dr Christine Mandrawa

Finance Audit and Risk Committee

- Meghan Speers – Chair
- Marina Go
- Jane Hill, CEO
- Marise Maltman
- Chris Tiedeman

Development, Marketing and Communications Committee

- Suzy Nicoletti – Co-Chair (*resigned July 2021*)
- Jodie Brough – Co-Chair (*resigned 2021*)
- Marina Go
- Jo-Ann Hicks
- Jane Hill, CEO
- Ann Maree Mulders

Nominations Committee

- Jo-Ann Hicks – Chair
- Marina Go
- Suzy Nicoletti (*resigned July 2021*)
- Meghan Speers

Pro Bono Advisers

- Auditors: PWC
- Lawyers: Minter Ellison
- Government Advisers: GRA Cosway
- Property Advisers: Archerfield Property Group
- Human Resources Advisers: Performance Frontiers, Vicissitude, Louise Doyle

We are most grateful to our professional advisers who have provided high-quality advice at no cost, allowing Ovarian Cancer Australia to maximise its spending on achieving our mission.

Pharmaceutical Donations

Pharmaceutical companies are significant stakeholders in the cancer community. Ovarian Cancer Australia recognises the importance of maintaining an open dialogue and relationship with pharmaceutical companies that are producing products which may lead to benefits for people living with ovarian cancer. We also recognise that transparency in these relationships is critical to maintaining our position and reputation as independent of influence from pharmaceutical companies over any of our organisational programs and activities. In recognition of this need for transparency, the following table outlines a summary of the donations and funding received from pharmaceutical companies over the past 12 months. Our full policy on Collaboration with the Pharmaceutical Industry can be found at www.ovariancancer.net.au.

Company	Program funded	Amount (ex GST)
AstraZeneca	Ovarian cancer: sexuality, body image, self-esteem and relationships	\$120,864
AstraZeneca	Survivorship and ovarian cancer information resource	\$40,000
AstraZeneca	Online Symposium 2021	\$60,000
GlaxoSmithKline Australia	Consumer survey and development of support and resources plan	\$60,000
Roche	Ovarian cancer support group (Sydney)	\$7,783
Total grant funding received from pharmaceutical companies in 2020–2021		\$288,647

Clinical and Scientific Expert Advisory Panel

Ovarian Cancer Australia was thrilled this year to bring together a panel of world-leading clinical and scientific experts in the field of ovarian cancer.

The panel provides the opportunity for Ovarian Cancer Australia to receive valuable advice from leading experts whose opinions and guidance will be taken into account in:

- planning, delivering and evaluating our services
- promoting the use of best available evidence to achieve effective cancer care
- identifying collaborative approaches across the system to address cancer challenges
- providing advice on emerging issues nationally and internationally to inform Ovarian Cancer's Australia's work.

The Terms of Reference can be accessed on our website.

The panel is co-chaired by Professors Anna DeFazio and David Bowtell. Panel members include Associate Professor Philip Beale representing Australia New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group (ANZGOG), and Associate Professor Peter Sykes, representing The Australian Society of Gynaecological Oncologists. See page 31 for a full list of panel members.



Professor Anna DeFazio, Co-Chair

Professor Anna DeFazio is the Sydney-West Chair in Translational Cancer Research, University of Sydney at Westmead Hospital. She is also the Director in the Centre for Cancer Research at the Westmead Institute for Medical Research where she leads the gynaecological cancer research program.

Professor DeFazio is Convenor of the University of Sydney Cancer Research Network, and leads Sydney Cancer Partners, a translational cancer research capacity-building initiative across research and health precincts in central, west and northern Sydney. She is a member of the Daffodil Centre, a joint venture between Cancer Council NSW and the University of Sydney centred on research in cancer control and policy. Professor DeFazio is on the Research Advisory Committee of ANZGOG, and leads ANZGOG's Translational Research Initiative (TR-ANZGOG), embedding translational research into gynaecological cancer clinical trials.

Professor DeFazio is a chief investigator on the Australian Ovarian Cancer Study, OPAL and other national and international collaborative ovarian cancer studies. Her research is centered on understanding the clinico-genomic parameters that underlie treatment response and resistance in women with ovarian cancer, and she is the lead investigator on INOVATe, an ovarian cancer precision medicine program focused on prospective molecular profiling and marker-driven clinical trials.



Professor David Bowtell, Co-Chair

Professor David Bowtell is Co-Head of the Women's Cancer Program at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science.

Professor Bowtell was the Director of Research at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre from 2000–2009, during which time he co-led planning and the case

for government funding of the new Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Parkville.

He has an extensive background in human cancer genome sequencing, with a focus on acquired drug resistance, exceptional survival, and clinical trials in ovarian cancer. He is Head of the Australian Ovarian Cancer Study (AOCS), one of the largest studies of ovarian cancer in the world.

The panel provides the opportunity for Ovarian Cancer Australia to receive valuable advice from leading experts.

Composition and Membership of the Clinical and Scientific Expert Advisory Panel

Discipline	Member
ANZGOG	Associate Professor Philip Beale
ASGO	Associate Professor Peter Sykes
Epidemiologist	Professor Penny Webb
Medical Oncologist	Professor Michael Friedlander
Medical Oncologist	Dr Tarek Meniawy
Medical Oncologist	Dr George Au-Yeung
Medical Oncologist/ Population Health	Professor John Zalcborg
Medical Oncologist and Clinical Researcher	Professor Linda Mileshekin
Nursing	Distinguished Professor Patsy Yates
Nursing	Professor Ray Chan
Nursing	Anne Mellon
Researcher	Professor David Bowtell
Researcher	Associate Professor Kylie Gorringe
Researcher	Dr Dale Garsed
Researcher	Dr Elizabeth Christie
Researcher	Dr Elaine Sanij
Researcher	Professor Susan Ramus
Researcher	Professor Anna DeFazio
Social Work	Kim Hobbs
Psycho-oncology	Professor Louise Sharpe
Psycho-oncology	Dr Michelle Peate
GP	Professor Jon Emery
Geneticist	Associate Professor Alison Trainer
Geneticist	Associate Professor Judy Kirk
Palliative Care Physician	Professor Peter Martin
Gynae-oncologist	Associate Professor Orla McNally
Gynae-oncologist	Associate Professor Rhonda Farrell
Gynae-oncologist	Associate Professor Alison Brand
Gynaecologist	Professor Martha Hickey
Pathologist	Associate Professor Lyndal Anderson

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- Annalei Warren
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- Di's Daring Desert Trek
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- Graeme Geldard's fundraiser in honour of the love of his life and best friend
- InfoXchange
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- Stacey is Trekking the NT for her Teal Sisters
- Styled Picnics and Events - Bec McLennan
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- WalkWithMe4OCA 2021
- We're Hair for Yvette!
- We're Stepping up for Deb

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