



Ovarian Cancer Australia

Position Description

Senior Mental Health Clinician: Psychologist, Mental Health Social Worker, Counsellor

Position Purpose

This Ovarian Cancer Senior Mental Health Clinician is responsible for providing psychology and counselling support to people with ovarian cancer at all stages of their cancer experience - from diagnosis to end of life. The senior clinician will provide evidence-based support across a range of areas including anxiety, low mood, pain, sleep and fatigue, relationship problems and difficulties with appearance and body image. The senior clinician will also provide support to adult family members affected by ovarian cancer.

About the Position

- Location:** Queen Victoria Women's Centre, Melbourne (or working remotely within Australia)
- Reports to:** Senior Clinical Psychologist & Psychosocial Support Manager
- Duration:** 12 months fixed term
- Fulltime:** Part-time – 2-3 days p/week (0.4-0.6 x FTE) 30.4-45.6 hours per fortnight

About the Organisation

Ovarian Cancer Australia (OCA) is the leading national body for ovarian cancer in Australia. Founded in 2001 by a group of people personally affected by ovarian cancer, our vision *is to save lives and ensure that no woman with ovarian cancer walks alone.*

Our focus is to provide care and support for those affected by ovarian cancer; and represent them by leading change.

Our values: We listen; We are inclusive; We are courageous; We act with integrity. For more information please visit www.ovariancancer.net.au.

Position Background

Each year in Australia, approximately 1800 people are diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and more than 1,000 die from the disease. Ovarian cancer has an extremely poor prognosis and has the lowest survival rate of any female cancer. In Australia, the overall five-year survival rate for people diagnosed with ovarian cancer is 49%. People impacted by ovarian cancer have high rates of emotional and psychological distress and OCA has a range of programs supporting them and their loved ones. The main programs are via the nurse-led telephone helpline, the Teal Support Program (nursing support), psychosocial services (counselling and psychological support), monthly support groups and information resources. All of our support services are listed on our website www.ovariancancer.net.au.

This role forms part of the OCA psychosocial support team providing 1:1 psychological support to people impacted by ovarian cancer across Australia, primarily using telehealth.

Key Responsibilities

Support People Impacted by Ovarian Cancer

- Provide 1:1 evidence-based psychology or counselling support to people with ovarian cancer and their families.
- Communicate and collaborate with other health professionals involved in the person's care to support optimal psychosocial outcomes.
- Work and participate as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Facilitate successful collaboration resulting in high consumer satisfaction levels.
- Maintain confidentiality of information in accordance with organisational policies.
- Monitor the person's progress.
- Work closely with the Support Services team, in particular the Teal Support nurses.
- Group facilitation: facilitate a monthly online support group.
- Contribute to clinical meetings (eg. multidisciplinary team meeting for complex cases and grief and bereavement meetings).
- Independently manage a clinical caseload.
- Presentation at relevant meetings, workshops and/or conferences as needed.

Contribute to the development and implementation of new support programs

- Development, piloting and/or evaluation of new programs to address identified needs or services gaps.
- Identify strategies and approaches to build and sustain successful pilot projects.
- Implement and monitor the integration of newly established programs into the suite of OCA's support activities.
- Identify and develop partnerships and funding opportunities that will enable the development of innovative programs, or their ongoing sustainability once successfully piloted.

Stakeholder management

- Manage both internal and external relationships. Key external relationships are with the local treating teams.

- Represent Ovarian Cancer Australia in a professional capacity at relevant meetings, committees and conferences.

Reporting, evaluation and accountability

- Maintain the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) database to record all case management related activities, in accordance with privacy guidelines (eg. clinical case notes).
- Regularly review clinical/client data, identify areas for quality and service improvement and initiate appropriate quality improvement activities.
- Administer and evaluate patient reported outcomes (PROMs) as required.
- Maintain current knowledge of advances in ovarian cancer, supportive and palliative care and methods of program delivery.
- Remain up-to-date with the latest research regarding psychosocial support for people impacted by ovarian cancer.

General

- Work in collaboration with the organisation's teams to support projects, campaigns and other Ovarian Cancer Australia activities.
- Work collaboratively with other Ovarian Cancer Australia staff to optimise the promotion of the Teal Support program.
- Contribute to the development of Ovarian Cancer Australia and Support Program strategy and planning.
- Contribute to the culture of decision-making including initiative, cooperation, collaboration and shared accountability.
- Other duties as directed.

Experience, Skills & Qualifications

- Tertiary qualifications in psychology (must be a registered Psychologist), counselling or mental health social work; or allied health disciplines (eg. occupational therapy) with training and experience in delivering mental health support.
- Registered member of Australia Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) or other appropriate professional body.
- At least five years' counselling experience working in cancer, women's health or other adult chronic illness.
- Appropriate expertise in psychological or counselling interventions (eg. cognitive behaviour therapy and acceptance and commitment therapy).
- Experience delivering counselling services via Telehealth (video and/or telephone)
- Experience working in a multidisciplinary team.

Attributes

- Commitment to the mission and values of Ovarian Cancer Australia
- Positive, collaborative and 'can do' approach.
- Inclusive and supportive team player.
- Resilient and actively conscious of self-care given the nature of OCA's purpose and the potential interactions with those affected by ovarian cancer.