

## Saving lives. Beating cancer.

Cancer Council Queensland (CCQ) is the state's leading non-government community organisation in cancer control. We are committed to providing all Queenslanders with the best possible prospects of preventing, detecting, effectively treating and surviving a cancer diagnosis.

This fact sheet provides an overview of our work in the **Mackay region**, which helps to improve cancer control and reduce the impact of cancer on the community. This year, we continue to work towards our vision of a cancer free Queensland.

### Mackay cancer facts

**1 in 2**

Queenslanders will be diagnosed with cancer by age 85



**691**

people are diagnosed with cancer each year

**228**

people die from cancer each year

**2,427**

people are **alive today** in the Mackay region after having a diagnosis of cancer in the past 5 years

For more cancer facts, visit the Atlas of Cancer in Queensland [goo.gl/iltnnR](http://goo.gl/iltnnR)

## Top 5 cancers in the Mackay region

1. Prostate Cancer  
(males only)

2. Breast Cancer

3. Colorectal Cancer

4. Melanoma

5. Lung Cancer

### Investing in research

Cancer today, more than ever, is a community problem. Every year, 25,000 Queenslanders hear the news that they have cancer. However, overall cancer survival has improved by 30 per cent over the past 20 years. Combined with improving cancer survival rates, more people are living every day with cancer. CCQ is proud to have played a major role in driving this growth in survivorship forward by investing in research.

## Current CCQ funded research into the most common cancers

**Professor Andrew Boyd, QIMR**

Cancer: **Prostate**

Examining ways of suppressing a protein that could lead to new therapies for prostate cancer patients.

Grant: **\$200,000**

**Professor Alpha Yap, UQ**

Cancer: **Breast**

Understanding the molecules leading to cancer cell growth and invasion into the body providing diagnostic tools and therapies.

Grant: **\$200,000**

**Associate Professor Jolieke van der Pols, UQ**

Cancer: **Colorectal**

Improving our understanding of how diet, lifestyle, biochemical and DNA factors lead to sessile serrated polyps, helping doctors identify and treat high-risk patients.

Grant: **\$200,000**

**Professor Stephen Taylor, UQ**

Cancer: **Melanoma**

Understanding how inhibiting part of the immune system contributes to the growth and progression of melanoma.

Grant: **\$200,000**

**Associate Professor Helen Blanchard, Griffith**

**All cancers**

Designing chemical compounds that block the protein galectin-3 which is known to promote the survival and spread of tumours throughout the body.

Grant: **\$200,000**

"With these project grants, we hope to make significant headway in advancing our medical knowledge of cancer and improving patient outcomes"  
Professor Jeff Dunn AO

**Impact of funding for researchers**  
What it means to Dr Fiona Simpson:  
[cancerqld.org.au/DrSimpsonsStory](http://cancerqld.org.au/DrSimpsonsStory)



**\$8.5M**  
on external  
research  
helped us achieve:



**163**  
researchers



**22**  
institutions



**100**  
+ projects

## CCQ's Viertel Cancer Research Centre (CRC) – research at a glance

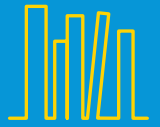
The CRC has had a major impact on cancer control in Queensland through translation of scientific findings into changes in public policy for cancer control, improved cancer programs and services, contributions to national cancer guidelines, and better access to accurate and timely cancer information for the people of Queensland.

**\$14M**  
we fund more  
cancer research  
than any other independent  
organisation in Queensland.

### CRC Key Program Areas:

1. **Psycho-oncology** - to identify and understand impacts on psycho social and survivorship outcomes for people with cancer.
2. **Epidemiology** - to understand patterns and trends in cancer incidence, prevalence, mortality and survival.
3. **Community engagement** - to develop CCQ's capacity to realise its cancer control goals through community engagement and action.

**32**  
publications  
in scientific  
journals



View the CRC's 10 Year Report at [cancerqld.org.au/crc-report](http://cancerqld.org.au/crc-report)

## Understanding and beating the top 5 cancers in the Mackay region

The research work of the CRC is focused on real people and real problems faced by cancer patients and their families.

### Prostate Cancer Research

#### Impact

Reduce the burden of this disease for men at all stages of their cancer journey.



### Breast Cancer Research

#### Impact

Improve the future medical and psychosocial care of women with breast cancer.



### Colorectal Cancer Research

#### Impact

Improve our understanding of pathways to diagnosis, factors that impact survival, quality of life and other psychological outcomes.



### Melanoma & Skin Cancer Research

#### Impact

Improve prevention, early detection, psychosocial outcomes, and epidemiology to ultimately reduce deaths from this disease.



### Lung Cancer Research

#### Impact

Inform public health messages, clinical practice and supportive care guidelines about stigma and distress associated with a diagnosis.



Find out more about our research projects at [cancerqld.org.au/researchprojects](http://cancerqld.org.au/researchprojects)

## Helping *prevent* cancer in Mackay

One third of all cancers can be prevented through healthy lifestyle choices and early detection. Our public health initiatives help make the places where Queenslanders live, work, play and learn healthier so their long-term risk of cancer is reduced.

**9**

organisations  
registered for **QUEST**,  
a free online prevention and  
early detection program for  
sports clubs, workplaces,  
early childhood centres,  
schools and local government.

**QUEST**



**81**

schools and childcare  
centres registered in  
our **SunSmart** program.



**10**

**SunSmart Shade  
Grants** awarded,  
totalling **\$22,665** of  
support provided.



Find out more about QUEST by visiting [quest.org.au](http://quest.org.au)

## Supporting people affected by cancer in Mackay

*No one should go on a cancer journey alone.* Our cancer support services are here for patients and their families when they need it most. Together, these services aim to improve cancer prevention, detection, treatment and survival.

**560**

calls to 13 11 20 answered for cancer support and information.



**517**

cancer information and support resources distributed.

**126**

wigs and turbans provided to local cancer patients.



**\$24,337**

of services provided through **Cancer Council Assist**, supporting **70** patients.

**5**

**Cancer Support Volunteers** providing support to patients and their families.



**108**

people assisted by our **Cancer Support Coordinators** in our office, lodge or over the phone.

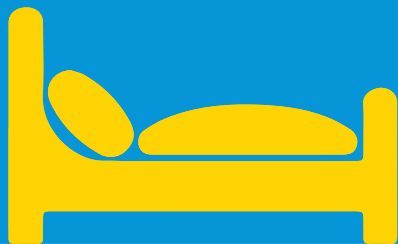
**57**

people referred to our **Cancer Counselling Service**, of which **36** patients were supported by face-to-face counselling in our regional office.

What challenges do cancer survivors face? For more information visit [survivorstudy.org.au](http://survivorstudy.org.au)

**187**

patients from Mackay region accommodated at any one of our six lodges statewide.



"The Cancer Council Counselling Service has done so much to help me cope over the last 10 months - it filled a void that the medical profession and even friends and family can't fill" Ruth

View Ruth's story here: [cancerqld.org.au/RuthsStory](http://cancerqld.org.au/RuthsStory)



### Training health professionals

Engaging with health professionals and providing access to information and educational opportunities.

**24**

health professionals from Mackay participated in CCQ's education training programs.

**1**

health professional workshop facilitated in Mackay.



### Supporting the community

Our **Community Grants Program** encourages community health organisations to apply for funding of up to \$10,000 for cancer-related initiatives. Our **Seize the Day Study Award** grants are awarded to young Queenslanders aged 16 to 21, who have had a personal experience with cancer and are planning to commence or continue post-secondary education.

**1**

**Community Grant** provided to a community health organisation in Mackay



1. Mackay Hospital Foundation, on behalf of Whitsunday Health Service Hospital

## Inspiring thousands to take action in Mackay

Our fundraising connects with thousands of supporters across Queensland to raise funds for our vital research, support services and prevention and early detection programs.

# \$24M raised throughout our fundraising activities in QLD

### In Mackay you helped us achieve:

## 209

Australia's  
Biggest Morning  
Tea supporters  
who raised total of  
\$32,863



## 66

Daffodil Day  
supporters who  
raised \$32,863

## 17

Daffodil Day sites  
across Mackay  
region



## 71

Pink Ribbon Day  
supporters, who  
raised a total of  
\$16,002

## 274

Pink Ribbon  
Fundraising  
supporters, who  
raised a total of  
\$34,406

## 15

Pink Ribbon Day  
sites across Mackay

## 1,585

Walk for Women's  
Cancer supporters  
raising a total of  
\$63,946 statewide



## 5

Relay For Life  
events in Mackay  
raising a total  
of \$544,166

## 4,813

Relay For Life  
supporters

## 2,746

Relay For Life  
participants



## 175

Community  
Fundraising  
supporters

## \$76,155

raised by 6 CancerFREE Challenge entrants

To find out more and register for an event visit  
[cancerqld.org.au/fundraising](http://cancerqld.org.au/fundraising)

### CCQ family in Mackay

## 48

registered volunteers helping  
CCQ carry out our mission

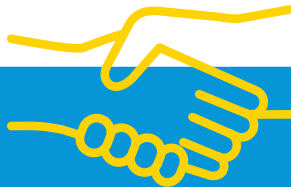
of a cancer free future,  
in addition to the thousands  
of community members  
volunteering their time for  
events and other projects.



## 1

Volunteer  
Branch

made up of community minded  
individuals who work together to  
beat cancer by raising funds and  
awareness in their community.



"We have such a strong volunteer  
base across Queensland - we  
simply could not do what we do  
without the spirit, the efforts  
and the determination of our  
volunteers. They are the heart of  
our work!" Professor Jeff Dunn AO



Where does  
the money go?

View video here:  
[cancerqld.org.au/ThankYou](http://cancerqld.org.au/ThankYou)



## 34

Relay For Life  
Committee Members.



## 260

Staff QLD wide partnering  
with the community.

## In 2015... Together we will *beat* cancer

Get in touch with us on 13 11 20 or visit [cancerqld.org.au](http://cancerqld.org.au)



**Disclaimer:** The information in this publication should not be used as a substitute for advice from a properly qualified medical professional who can advise you about your own individual medical needs. It is not intended to constitute medical advice and is provided for general information purposes only. Information on cancer, including the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer, is constantly being updated and revised by medical professionals and the research community.

Cancer Council Queensland does not warrant that the information in this publication is correct, up to date or complete nor that it is suitable for any particular purpose. Your use of the information in this publication is at your own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Cancer Council Queensland does not accept any liability for any reliance placed on information that is not correct, complete or up to date, or that is not suited to the purpose for which it was relied upon. If any warranty or guarantee cannot by law be excluded, then, to the extent permitted by law, Cancer Council Queensland's liability for such warranty or guarantee is limited, at Cancer Council Queensland's option, to supplying the information or materials again or paying the cost of having the information or materials supplied again.

**Please note:** For more information visit CCQ's 2014 Annual Report.