



PRIORITY AREA: CANCER SURVIVORSHIP



Viertel Cancer
Research Centre

Travelling for Treatment

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People residing in regional, rural, and remote areas of Australia experience poorer survival and lower quality of life compared with those living in metropolitan areas. This geographical disparity may be due to a range of individual, community, health system, and policy factors. This study aims to better understand these factors to inform solutions for improving outcomes for people affected by cancer in rural Queensland.

What is the study?

Travelling for Treatment involves >1000 rural cancer patients and caregivers. Adults staying at Cancer Council Queensland accommodation lodges were invited to the study between September 2017 and June 2020. Participation in this study involved an interview and completion of multiple surveys over five years to examine cancer care experiences of people living in rural Queensland.

Why is this project important?

Those living in rural areas are 30% more likely to die from cancer within five years of diagnosis than those living in metropolitan areas in Australia. Understanding how living outside of a major city and travelling for treatment impacts cancer care and survival means we can design new initiatives to address gaps in care and improve health outcomes for Queenslanders living in rural areas.