

COSA Survivorship Fellowship Brief

COSA Survivorship Fellow – Policy & Implementation



Mapping Survivorship in Australian State and Territory Cancer Plans: A National Update

Background

In 2023, Petrie et al. [published](#) a comprehensive review of survivorship elements in Australian State and Territory cancer plans, highlighting the variability and gaps in how survivorship care is addressed across jurisdictions. Since that publication, several state plans have been updated, and the Australian Cancer Plan (ACP) has been released, providing a national framework for cancer control.

Given these developments, there is a timely opportunity to refresh and expand this work to assess how survivorship is currently positioned in updated State and Territory cancer plans, and how these align with the ACP's strategic objectives.

Project Aim

To conduct a national review of survivorship content in current Australian State and Territory cancer plans, and compare findings with the ACP (ongoing work by COSA's Survivorship Policy & Implementation Working Group). Through this work we would like to identify opportunities for alignment, enhancement, and national consistency.

Objectives

- Identify and obtain the most recent versions of all State and Territory cancer control plans
- Systematically review and extract survivorship-related content from each plan
- Compare findings with the 2023 review to identify changes, improvements, or regressions
- Map survivorship elements against the ACP's strategic objectives and goals
- Identify gaps, best practices, and opportunities for national alignment and policy advocacy
- Produce a report and/or peer-reviewed publication summarising findings and recommendations

Fellowship Mentoring Support

- Primary mentor: Dr Carolyn Mazariego. Additional mentorship will be provided by members of the COSA Survivorship Policy & Implementation Working Group and its ACP mapping project team. The parameters of the Fellowship project will be further developed and confirmed by the chosen Fellow in consultation with their mentors
- The Fellow will join the Survivorship Policy & Implementation Working Group as a co-opted member for the duration of their Fellowship
- The Fellow will also be provided the opportunity to seek advice and input from members of the COSA Survivorship Executive on their project
- COSA will recognise, promote and help disseminate the Fellow's work in its communication with members and the broader oncology community

- COSA will provide a complimentary registration to an Annual Scientific Meeting to support the Fellow's attendance to present their work. COSA will also provide a complimentary registration to the National Cancer Survivorship Conference to facilitate information sharing and networking with Survivorship colleagues. The Fellow will be responsible for the other costs associated with attendance at these conferences

Fellowship Commitment

- The Fellow will make a time commitment for this project of 4-8 hours per week for approximately 12 months
- The Fellowship role is voluntary in nature and will not receive financial reimbursement
- Applicants are expected to confirm their current manager/supervisor is supportive of them dedicating the required time to undertake this Fellowship, before applying
- If not already a COSA member, the Fellow is expected to join COSA and become a member of the Survivorship Group
- The Fellow must acknowledge COSA in any presentations or publications arising from work conducted as part of the Fellowship, and provide a copy of these presentations and publications to COSA

Fellowship output

Depending on their final contribution, and in agreement with their mentors, the Fellow will:

- Act as the first author of a peer reviewed manuscript resulting from this work
- Be supported to present this work as an oral or poster presentation at the COSA ASM
- Be encouraged to present the work at other meetings and conferences
- Receive a certificate of acknowledgement

Ideal Candidate

- Background in public health, health policy, oncology, or a related field
- Strong skills in qualitative analysis, policy review, and academic writing
- Interest in cancer survivorship and health systems research