

MINUTES

Wednesday 1 November 2023

12:30pm to 1:00pm AEDT

Meeting room 105, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Chair: Raymond Chan

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**

**2. Group update from the Chair (Raymond Chan, Chair Survivorship Group)**

**Group activities 2023**

- Thanks to all our Executive, working group and other members who support our activities and contribute their time and expertise to help us advance our efforts
- Thanks to Nicole Kinnane as 2023 COSA ASM Survivorship Group representative on Program Committee
- [Strategic Plan](#) – the Survivorship Group is guided by our Strategic Plan which this Group helped develop, and which identifies a range of priorities to help us work towards our objectives to improve outcomes for all Australians after cancer treatment. We continue to make good progress and provided updates on some key working group activities today.
- [Survivorship Research Fellowships](#) – congratulations to Survivorship Research Fellows: *Dr Carla Thamm, Dr Md Mijanur Rahman* and *Dr Rebecca Venchiarutti, Dr Gemma McErlean*  
Our Fellows are working on priority projects that will help us build capacity in survivorship research. The Fellows receive mentorship and guidance from our Executive and have formed mentoring teams to provide further support.

Members were encouraged to meet the Fellows and learn more about their work by visiting the posters:

- Mijan Rahman – [Utilisation of Medicare Chronic Disease Management item numbers for cancer survivors in Queensland, Australia](#)
- Rebecca Venchiarutti – [Clinical and research priorities for the management of multimorbidity in cancer survivors in Australia: a Delphi study](#)
- Carla Thamm presented in Best of the Best Oral Presentations - Epidemiology – [Patterns of Care and Health Service Costs for Adolescent and Young Adults Cancer Survivors in Queensland](#)

Previous Fellows achieved excellent results and are still engaged with our Group work

- **Collaborative webinars** – we have been pleased to continue our collaboration with the Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre, Cancer Council Victoria, and Cancer Nurses Society of Australia  
[Fear of cancer recurrence](#) – all encouraged to view the recording and access resources if haven't had a chance to do so  
[Cancer related neuropathic pain](#) – 14 November at 7pm AEDT – all encouraged to register

- **eNews and social media.** Thanks to Fiona Crawford-Williams and Carolyn Mazariego for expertly editing our Survivorship eNews, and who have now handed over to Carla Thamm and Mijan Rahman. Members are welcome to contribute content at any time, and are encouraged to get in touch. Next issue will be out in early December

COSA Survivorship has an active twitter page, and all were encouraged to tag [@COSA\\_Surviv](#) and **#COSA23** so we can share everyone's work and increase engagement on survivorship, particularly during the ASM

- Information is available on our [Group page](#) including links to previous eNews, overview of working group activities, previous webinar recordings

- **Financial Toxicity Working Group Update (Raymond Chan and Megan Varlow, Co-Chairs Financial Toxicity Working Group)**

- A 2020 COSA ASM session on financial toxicity catalysed the establishment of the [Financial Toxicity Working Group](#).

- Initial working efforts focused on understanding the problem of financial toxicity in Australia and included:

- defining financial toxicity through the development of the COSA Council-approved [COSA Statement on Financial Toxicity](#) Definition was developed to help increase understanding for the greater public and wider clinical community : *“The negative patient-level impact of the cost of cancer. It is the combined impact of direct out-of-pocket costs and indirect costs and the changing financial circumstances of an individual and their household due to cancer, its diagnosis, treatment, survivorship and palliation, causing both physical and psychological harms, affecting decisions which can lead to suboptimal cancer outcomes.”*

- scoping current activities and services through a [national survey of health professionals in Australia](#)

- reporting on the [challenges and solutions to cancer-related financial toxicity according to Australian health professions: qualitative results from a national survey](#)

- The working group recently convened a Think Tank on Financial Toxicity in Cancer Care with the aim of identifying innovative solutions to address financial toxicity associated with cancer and its treatment. The [Think Tank report](#) is available on the COSA website and we are now developing a roadmap to draw out the key elements that provide traction for further action

- The working group is hosting a COSA ASM breakfast symposium on Friday 3 November to present its work and the draft roadmap for discussion. The working group will submit the final roadmap to the March 2024 COSA Council meeting for endorsement. Spaces were still available at the breakfast session

- **3. PRO Working Group update (Bogda Koczwar, Chair PRO Working Group)**

- **International collaborative project**

- Dr Carolyn Mazariego – sustainable PRO implementation

- **ISOQOL-Monash-COSA Survey**

- Mapping PROM use in clinical care across Australia and NZ

- **PRO advocacy and implementation**

- ProActive – a national PRO strategy
- Implementation e-toolkit

- PRO workshop

#### **4. Welcome Incoming Chair – Nicolas Hart**

#### **5. Group plans for 2024 – Nicolas Hart**

- There will be a call-out for new Executive members and also for the Deputy Chair role
- Current [Strategic plan](#) is from 2022-2024 – a review/consultation will start in mid-late 2024 to develop the next plan
- Continuation of working group activities:
  - Financial Toxicity working group – roadmap for advocacy
  - PRO working Group – national advocacy and implementation plan
  - Transitions working group – collaboration with COSA AYA Group, upcoming opportunities to get involved on working group and potential call for a join AYA-Survivorship Fellow to support this work
- Survivorship Group will consider timing for the next round of Fellows, and how to link to working group objectives
- Collaborations are intended with other Groups e.g. Geriatric Oncology, AYA Group
- Survivorship will be looking for a local Survivorship Group representative based at the Gold Coast for the 2024 COSA ASM Program Committee (members should get in touch if of interest)

#### **6. Other Business – Raymond Chan and Nicolas Hart**

#### **7. Next Meeting**

- 2024 COSA ASM – 13-15 November 2024 – Gold Coast QLD