



Supporting Our Hospitals – Western Australian Comprehensive Cancer Centre

The Australian Government is investing \$375.6 million to establish a Western Australian (WA) Comprehensive Cancer Centre to improve access to world-class cancer care and ensure better health outcomes for Western Australians with cancer.

The Centre is planned to include 10 operating theatres, an emergency department and intensive care unit. It will include 140 overnight and inpatient beds, plus 110 chemotherapy, medical and same-day beds and chairs, along with 20 intensive care beds.

It is expected to deliver on-site services including imaging, pharmacy, chemotherapy, medical oncology, haematology and radiation oncology, palliative care, linear clinical trials, day medical services, CAR-T cell therapy suite, cancer laboratories, community wellness centre, and exercise physiology.

The Australian Government is co-contributing \$375.6 million to the estimated \$750 million total infrastructure cost, with the Western Australian Government to provide the remainder of the funding support.

The WA Comprehensive Cancer Centre delivers on a proposal from the Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research, following a similar model to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne and the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse facility in Sydney.

Why is this important?

Australia has some of the best cancer survival rates in the world, driven by our excellent research and clinical care, but cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease in adults and children in Australia.

WA faces challenges in cancer care due to the significant distance from the resources, services and care available in metropolitan centres on the east coast, coupled with the remoteness of major population centres outside Perth.

The establishment of a major comprehensive care centre will make a significant difference for WA based patients. The Western Australian Comprehensive Cancer Centre will establish a world-leading, comprehensive cancer service, integrating research, clinical trials and education.

There is good evidence from Australia and around the world of the benefits of concentrating cancer care within high quality institutions, which capitalise on efficiencies by focusing entirely on cancer services, and establishing close links to clinical trials and research.

Who will benefit?

The establishment of a WA Comprehensive Cancer Centre will see cancer patients in WA, including outreach to rural and remote communities, receive more comprehensive, integrated care for all types of cancers.

This will result in improved patient outcomes, such as increased survival, enhanced quality of life, bespoke treatment journeys, fewer side-effects, and fewer days in hospital and off work.

The Centre will also improve outreach programs and care for WA's rural and remote communities and most vulnerable groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Clinicians, especially cancer specialists in WA, will benefit from having a world-class cancer centre in their state, providing opportunities to practice and for career-progression without having to relocate to another state.

It's estimated the Centre will create at least 500 new ongoing jobs for WA, and apart from those created during construction, many of these ongoing jobs will be in the medical and research space.

How much will this cost?

The Australian Government is investing \$375.6 million over four years, from 2022–23 to 2025–26.