

This Issue

- *Evaluation of Regional Cancer Networks almost complete*
- *Health professionals urged to use patient experience to improve cancer services*
- *Clinical Trials select committee inquiry*
- *In brief*
- *Daffodil Day*

In Brief

Other Projects Cancer Control New Zealand is looking at include:

- The Cancer Information Registry
- Cancer Research
- Monitoring and evaluation work including meetings with stakeholders

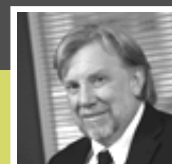
Message from our Chair

With the upheaval in my home base of Christchurch, it has given me pause for thought about the role and importance of the health profession in times of crisis. I would like to pay tribute to all of those helping support Cantabrians at this time.

Cancer Control New Zealand has made excellent progress in several key work areas of late, and expects to provide the Minister of Health with a number of pieces of strategic advice shortly.

I have also been pleased with the Council's work feeding into and receiving updates on other cancer related issues including cancer nursing workforce, paediatric oncology services, clinical trials, bowel cancer screening and radiation oncology.

Professor Chris Atkinson
Chair



Associate
Professor
Chris Atkinson,

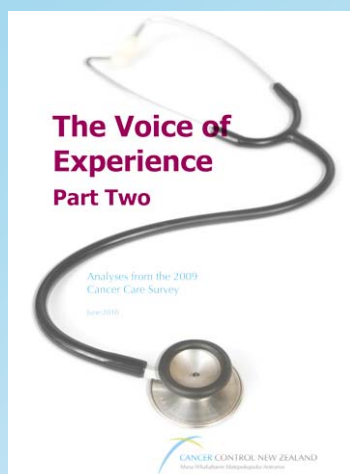
Evaluation of Regional Cancer Networks almost complete

The work being done to evaluate the progress to date of the Regional Cancer Network is almost complete.

The evaluation has involved considerable input from clinicians, managers, NGOs, consumer representatives and wider stakeholders. The Council thanks all of those for the time and effort put into providing information and engaging with the review process.

The Council expects to receive the evaluation by the end of September, and it will then report to the Minister of Health.

Health professionals urged to use patient experience to improve cancer services



The Voice of Experience Part 2 report containing further analysis of the 2009 Cancer Care Survey results has been released – and the Council is urging people to use it to improve cancer services.

The report shows that relationships with health professionals, information, facilities and amenities take on the greatest importance during the patient experience.

This final analysis of the National Cancer Care Survey results provides clinicians and managers with clear

information about where to focus to improve the quality of cancer care even further.

The Voice of Experience Part 2 report confirms earlier draft results that strengths in the cancer care provided include specialist care co-ordination, level of privacy and dignity and respect provided by health care professionals. Areas for improvement include provision of emotional support and information, and consideration of the patient's circumstances in planning treatment.

The report recommends that:

- Service providers build patient trust by ensuring consumers know they are being listened to, and that they play a key role in improving the quality of services.
- Actionable and standardised patient-reported outcomes be used to assess the impact of quality improvement efforts on the patient experience of care.

(More on next page)

Voice of Experience Part 2 ... cont

- Regional networks and treatment services, in collaboration with Cancer Control New Zealand and the Ministry of Health, should consider developing actionable patient-reported outcomes that drive quality improvement and a more responsive health system.
- Patient-focused change be actively led by clinical and non-clinical leaders and that this change balances technical aspects such as systems and processes with service aspects to holistically meet the needs of patients and address their expectations to achieve improved patient care.
- Improvements be made in the provision of supportive care to enable issues such as referrals for emotional support and the provision of

information on aspects of day-to-day living, to be addressed and improvements made to the cancer patient experience.

- The survey results be used and debated by the profession.
- Information about national, regional and service-level patient experiences be linked as part of the examination of the diagnosis and treatment pathway.
- National patient experience surveys be repeated every three to five years.

The Voice of Experience Part 2 report is available from www.cancercontrolnz.govt.nz.

It follows the release of the Part 1 and companion reports earlier this year.

Select Committee Inquiry into clinical trials

Cancer Control New Zealand and the Cancer Society made a joint submission to the select committee inquiry into clinical trials.

The submission expressed concern about the erosion of research funding. It also stated that the research environment in New Zealand is not conducive to conducting clinical trials in New Zealand.

Both organisations support a clinical trials partnership between DHBs and tertiary education providers.

To view the submission on the parliament website [click here](#)

Marking 20 years of Daffodil Day

Congratulations to the Cancer Society on its twentieth Anniversary of Daffodil Day and the positive role the Day has had on how cancer is viewed and treated in New Zealand.

Raising awareness about cancer and helping to fund cancer research are real successes from the 20 years of Daffodil Day fundraising.

The contribution of Daffodil Day donations to help with education and research is an important part of the cancer control community's work to reduce the incidence and impact of cancer.

Blue September

With one in ten Kiwi men likely to develop Prostate Cancer, the focus this month is on raising awareness about prevention.

Blue September is the Prostate Cancer Foundation's promotional month.

Check out www.blueseptember.org.nz for more information and find out what is happening in your area of the country.

Next Meeting: Cancer Control New Zealand meets again 15 October 2010

Please contact us for additions or removals from the Newsletter e-mailing list at office@cancercontrolnz.govt.nz

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