CANCER is a major cause of illness in Australia and has a major impact on INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, and the HEALTH-CARE SYSTEM.

SURVIVAL HAS IMPROVED

In 2014, we estimate there will be 123,920 cancer cases diagnosed. The most commonly diagnosed cancers will be:

- PROSTATE: 14%
- COLORECTAL: 13%

One in 2 Australians will develop cancer and one in 5 will die from it before the age of 85.

In 2014, we estimate there will be 45,780 cancer deaths. The most common causes of death from cancers will be:

- LUNG: 19%
- COLORECTAL: 9%
- PROSTATE: 7%
- BREAST: 7%
- PANCREATIC: 6%

CANCER in AUSTRALIA

People living in AUSTRALIA diagnosed with cancer generally have better survival prospects compared with people living in other countries.

The cancers with the greatest survival gains over time were PROSTATE, KIDNEY and NON-HODGKIN LYMPHOMA.

Cancers with the highest FIVE-YEAR SURVIVAL

- TESTICULAR SURVIVAL: 98%
- THYROID SURVIVAL: 96%
- LIP SURVIVAL: 93%
- PROSTATE SURVIVAL: 93%

MALES are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer than FEMALES. By age 85, males are 23% more likely to be diagnosed with cancer, and 25% more likely to have died of it.

In 2014, we estimate there will be 123,920 cancer cases diagnosed. The most commonly diagnosed cancers will be:

- PROSTATE: 17,810
- COLORECTAL: 16,460
- BREAST: 15,410
- MELANOMA: 12,640
- LUNG: 9,143

In 2014, we estimate there will be 45,780 cancer deaths. The most common causes of death from cancers will be:

- LUNG: 8,389
- COLORECTAL: 4,730
- PROSTATE: 3,680
- BREAST: 3,630
- PANCREATIC: 2,640

ALCOHOL drinking and SMOKING are important risk factors for cancer.

1 in 10 hospitalisations were cancer-related in 2012–13.

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