

Health professionals’ priorities to enhance the delivery of survivorship care in Victoria, Australia

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- Background**
- The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre (ACSC) and Victorian Integrated Cancer Services (VICS) have established a strategic collaboration to improve the delivery of cancer survivorship care across Victoria, Australia.
 - Work will be informed by prior statewide projects including the Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program (VSCP) (2011-2019)¹, a survey of 20 Victorian public hospitals on their current survivorship care practices (2021)² and a consumer survey exploring experiences receiving and accessing cancer survivorship care (2022).
 - These surveys identified six broad survivorship care improvement areas:
 - Needs assessment
 - Survivorship care plans
 - Information provision
 - Referral to services
 - Personalised pathways of follow-up care
 - Transitioning to the survivorship phase

- Aim**
- This study aimed to prioritise statewide improvement work by asking health professionals to rank the above six improvement areas via an online poll.

- Methods**
- Online poll**
 - Online poll built in REDCap to rank six survivorship care improvement areas from 1-6 (1 = most important to prioritise, 6 = least important to prioritise)
 - Suggest two additional improvement areas via an open-ended question
 - Distribution**
 - Distributed to health professionals working in oncology care across Victoria
 - Via ACSC and VICS networks
 - Analysis**
 - Results analysed using descriptive statistic and thematic analysis

- Results**
- 99** responses were received from health professionals across the state of Victoria.
 - Most respondents had more than 10 years of experience working in cancer care (Figure. 1), were nurses (Figure. 2) and see patients after initial treatment (Table. 1).
 - The highest ranked improvement area was survivorship care plans (Table. 2).
 - 39 respondents provided free text comments with new improvement area suggestions clustered around supportive care services and support for health professionals (Figure. 3).

- Conclusion**
- Survivorship care plans, needs assessments and information provision were the top three ranked improvement areas.
 - Together with a survey of survivors and carers, this analysis informs priority areas for co-design and model of care development work, as part of the VICS and ACSC statewide collaboration project to improve the delivery of cancer survivorship care in Victoria, Australia.

Demographic data

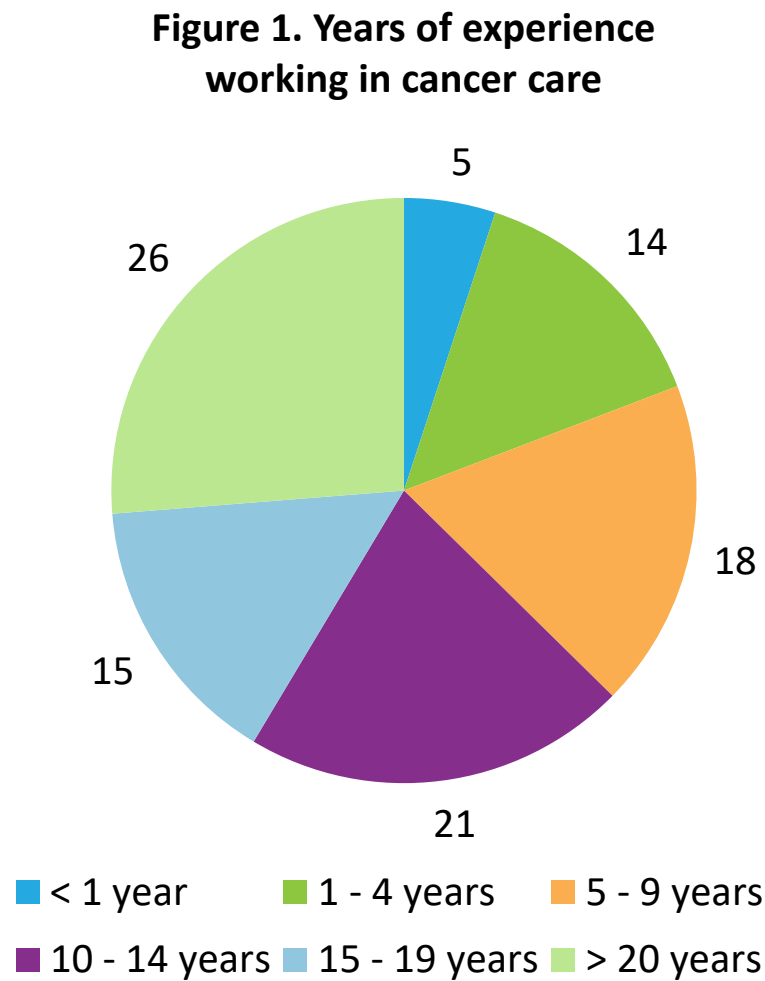
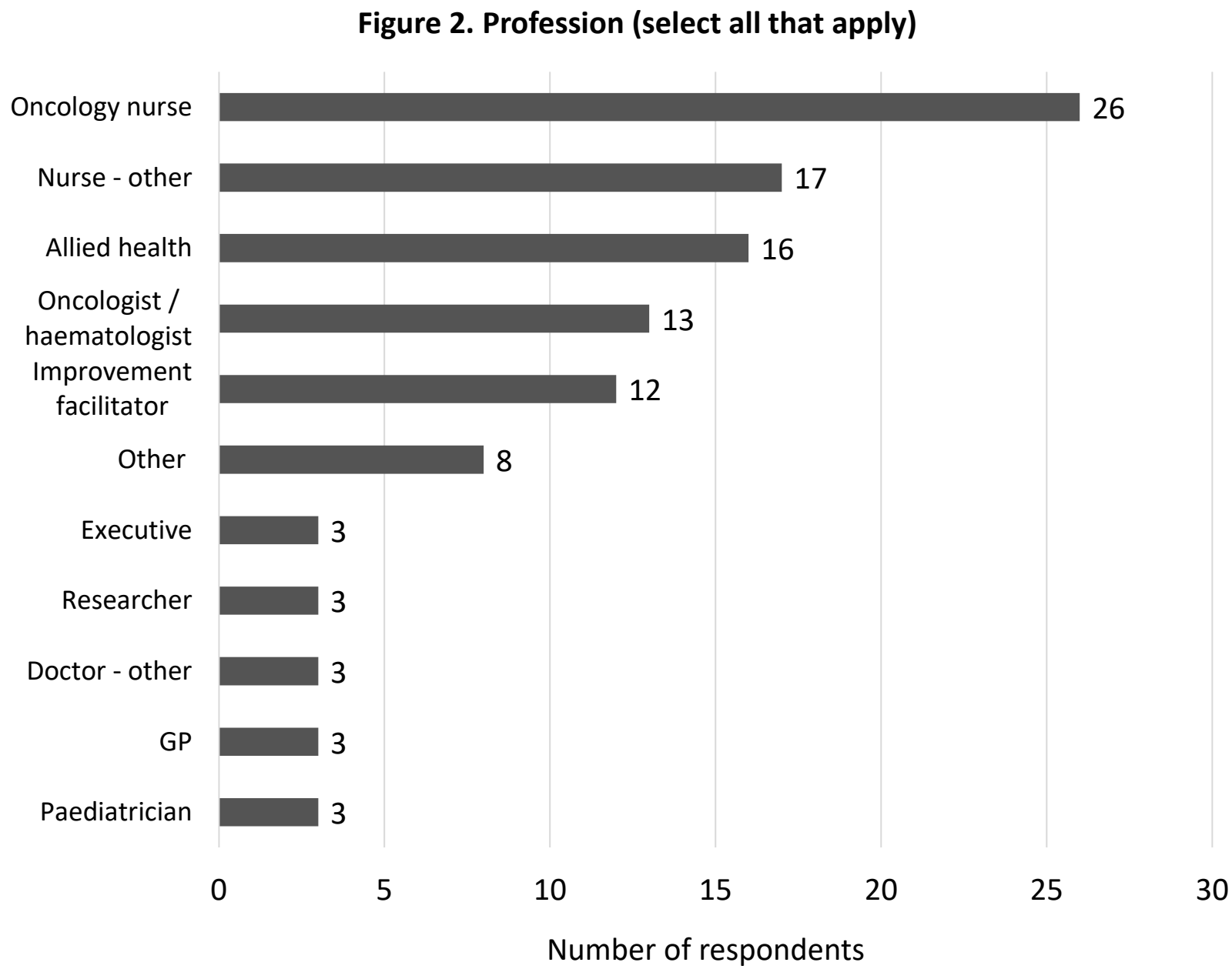


Table 1. Role in the context of cancer survivorship (select all that apply)

Role (select all that apply)	Number of respondents (n=99)
Health professionals seeing patients after initial cancer treatment	68
Involved in survivorship care projects, service improvement, research	33
Special interest in cancer survivorship	25
Attended the survivorship Community of Practice	24
Executive / leadership role in Victorian health service	15
Involved in a VCSP project	13



References

- Coughlan, A. Evaluation of the Victorian Cancer Survivorship Program - Phase II Final Report. Victoria; 2019.
- Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre. Data Report, Embed and spread optimal cancer survivorship care across Victoria project. Victoria: ACSC; 2022.

Improvement area ranking data

Table. 2 Improvement area ranking data

Improvement area	Total score 1 to 6 ranking (lowest score = highest ranking)	Number of people who ranked area as either 1, 2 or 3	Ranking
Survivorship care plans	297	63	1
Needs assessment	317	59	2
Information provision	335	51	3
Referral to services	360	49	4
Personalised pathways of care	383	39	5
Transitioning to the survivorship phase	387	36	6

Open-ended question: additional survivorship care improvement areas

Figure 3. Additional survivorship care improvement area key themes

