# Join a National Consumer Program to improve cancer outcomes across Rural and Remote Australia

Do you have lived experience of cancer? Are you passionate about improving cancer care experience? Join our National Consumer Program

### About the research project

The Equitable Cancer Outcomes for Rural and Remote Australia (ECORRA) research group will work on a variety of projects over the next 5 years; aimed at improving the care and outcomes for people with cancer and their families living in rural and remote Australia.

### Role of consumers in the ECORRA program

The ECORRA National Consumer Program, co-chaired by Marilyn Dolling and Sophie Boffa, is recruiting members to participate in ECORRA program activities for 1 year with the opportunity to extend for up to 5 years.

Consumers will form an integral part of the ECORRA program. Members will have the opportunity to be involved in various projects including research study governance bodies, developing engagement strategies, reviewing research plans and protocols, participating in co-design workshops, contributing to the interpretation of research findings, and contributing to the development of policies and frameworks. Other opportunities include co-authoring manuscripts and presenting work at conferences.

At a minimum, the commitment will include four online meetings per year and will scale up depending on which additional activities the member may opt in to. Each meeting will be 1-hour in duration but may include several hours of pre-reading and preparation.

## Who should apply

This opportunity is open to adults who have been recently (within the past several years) been affected by cancer, who live in a rural or remote area of Australia. This includes adults who have had a cancer diagnosis, or a family or friend who provided care to an adult who has had a cancer diagnosis.

The ECORRA program will bring together and encourage the voices of a diverse group from all over Australia. We strongly encourage applications from First Nations Australians, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people who identify as LGBTQIA+, and people living with a disability.

This role would suit someone with some experience in patient advocacy in a committee or advisory group structure.

Skills that will help you contribute effectively to the committee include:

- Connecting your own lived experience to broader issues
- Using your knowledge of the health sector and system to give strategic advice
- Being able to work with a range of information, including reviewing documents with potentially complex health or research language
- Adapting your communication style for different audiences and using inclusive language
- Being open to flexible thinking and different ways of solving problems
- Showing respect, inclusivity, and acceptance of people from diverse backgrounds, especially those facing stigma and discrimination
- Working well in a team and being self-directed with tasks outside of meetings.

Consumers will be remunerated for their participation.

#### How to apply

Please complete this Expression of Interest form by the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2024. If you need help to complete this form, or have any questions about the opportunity, please contact the Health Consumers Centre at <u>healthconsumers@deakin.edu.au</u>.



