

MEDIA RELEASE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cancer Patients Welcome Budget Commitment to Cancer Services

Cancer patients welcome the Governments \$249m budget commitment to cancer services in this country...

'We are delighted the Government has come followed through with election promises to provide extra funding for cancer research; PET machines for Newcastle and Hobart; radiation equipment in Lismore and Cairns; the provision of \$40m for a comprehensive cancer centre in Sydney to name few', said John Newsom Chair, of Cancer Voices Australia.

'This will give much needed assistance across Australia in areas of special need and signals long-awaited recognition for essential support of cancer services.

We applaud the commitment to establish Youth Cancer Networks in Australia to improve coordination of services, support and care for teenagers and young adults with cancer, and their families. For many years now the outcomes for young people with cancer have lagged behind other cancer groups and this program will help to arrest this anomaly'.

'In addition, the Government continues its support for Cancer Australia, who provides a much needed service in developing national policy guidelines for cancer treatment and services in this country,' he added.

'There are many active cancer consumers involved in the work of this national body, including Cancer Voices Australia, who want to continue to work with the govt to provide better outcomes for cancer patients. Some 67 cancer consumers are part of this important work and with last night's budget we are encouraged to continue providing our expertise' John said.

We also welcome the \$10b Health and Hospital Fund and look forward to working with government in developing research plans for cancer treatment and services in Australia.

ENDS

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