



Australian
Divisions of
General Practice
Ltd.

NEWS RELEASE

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GPs Welcome Cancer Report

Dr Rob Walters, Chair of the Australian Divisions of General Practice, congratulated the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia, The Cancer Council Australia and the National Cancer Control Initiative on the release of a new blueprint for the treatment of cancer in Australia, and the establishment of a national group representing people affected by cancer.

In addition to his role as Chair of ADGP, Dr Walters is Chairman of the Tasmanian Cancer Council and on the Board of The Cancer Council Australia.

“On behalf of the Divisions of General Practice Network, I would like to congratulate these three organisations for preparing this significant report and establishing CAN Australia, a new national alliance representing people affected by cancer,” Dr Walters said.

“Cancer is the leading cause of death in Australia, with one in three Australians being diagnosed with cancer at some time during their lives.

“I welcome the establishment of CAN Australia. This group will be important in linking consumers with health care providers, such as general practitioners.

“GPs are at the frontline of the health system and play a crucial role in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. They are often the coordinators of care, as patients move from a hospital to a community setting, and also provide palliative and end-of-life care to people who tragically lose their battle with this disease and wish to die at home.

“I look forward to working with CAN Australia and am confident that through partnerships with the Divisions of General Practice Network and other key healthcare organisations, this new alliance will make the health system work more effectively for patients and their families who are touched by cancer,” Dr Walters said.

Dr Walters also welcomed the recommendations of the *Optimising Cancer Care in Australia* report, prepared by the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia, The Cancer Council Australia, and the National Cancer Control Initiative.

“ADGP strongly supports the need for a greater investment into cancer research, prevention and healthcare delivery,” Dr Walters said.

“ADGP also supports the patient-centred approach to care outlined in the report and an equal partnership between people whose lives are affected by cancer and their health care providers.

“I urge Federal and State Governments to carefully consider the recommendations of the Report and to support an increased investment in reducing the burden of cancer on the Australian community,” Dr Walters said.

For comment:

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