

# CANCER SCREENING



By the age of 85, around half of all Australians will be diagnosed with a cancer. But as survival rates are improving each year across the country, early diagnosis and treatment are increasingly important. Avoidable deaths from all cancers in our region are above the state rate of 28.3 per 100,000 people.

Breast cancer screening is free to all women aged 50 to 69, and to women with symptoms or specific risk factors from ages 40 to 75, but participation rates range from 18.8 per cent in Indigo up to 57.4 per cent in Gannawarra. The national level is 55 per cent.

Cervical cytology screening is free for people aged 25 to 74 years old who have a cervix, remembering that some transgender people are also at risk of cervical cancer. In the Murray PHN region, rates for cervical cancer screening are at least 13 per cent higher than the national rate of 46 per cent in every LGA.

Bowel cancers are a significant cause of death, with only two in five being detected early. Regular screening is free for all people between the ages of 50 and 75 years old. While women usually have higher screening levels than men, rates for both men and women are as high, or higher, than national levels - [Murray Health Report: health in our region \(October 2021\)](#)

<p><b>Murray PHN Quality Improvement Webinar- Data Driven Quality Improvement Training in Cancer Screening</b></p>	<p>This Data Driven Quality Improvement Training in cancer screening is designed to assist you to build capability using data tools, namely, PHN Exchange and the Pen CS suite, aligning use to Quality Improvement activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Watch Data driven quality improvement recorded webinar - cancer screening for general practice (March 2023)</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Change Idea templates</b></p>	<p>Change Idea templates help to identify focus areas for quality improvement activities using practice data. Your Quality Improvement Consultant can assist in identifying change ideas for your practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Bowel screening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Breast screening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cervical screening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Liver screening</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>PDSAs - Quality Improvement</b></p>	<p>Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles provide a framework to help develop, manage, and test quality improvement activities identified in change idea templates. Your Quality Improvement Consultant can assist in developing your PDSA templates.</p>	

<b>Murray HealthPathways</b>	Murray HealthPathways aims to guide best practice assessment and management of common medical conditions, including when and where to refer patients, with guidance on what information is needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Breast Cancer Screening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cervical Screening</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Chronic Hepatitis B</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Hepatitis C Screening Flowchart</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Bowel Cancer risk categories and screening</a></li> </ul>
<b>Optimal Care Pathways</b>	Optimal Care Pathways are national guides that describe the best possible cancer care for patients with specific types of cancer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">HealthPathways Optimal Care Pathways: better cancer care (video)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Optimal Care Pathways for cancer care (video)</a></li> </ul>
<b>Pen CS – CAT4 Recipes</b>	CAT4 recipes are designed to give new and experienced users a simple step-by-step guide to a particular problem or question.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cancer Screening - Reminder Workflow – CAT Recipes - PenCS Help</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Identify eligible patients never screened for breast and bowel cancer – CAT Recipes - PenCS Help</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Bowel Cancer Screening Participation Rate – CAT Recipes - PenCS Help</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Hepatitis B Screening and Management – CAT GUIDES - PenCS Help</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Identify Patients with Hepatitis C - CAT Recipes - PenCS Help</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Hep B Screening and Management Guide – CAT GUIDES - PenCS Help</a></li> </ul>
<b>Murray PHN recorded webinars</b>	Recorded webinars from Murray PHN CPD events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Caring for patients with cancer: Cancer Council Services and Clinical Placement Program (July 2022)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Caring for patients with cancer: Treatment, Side Effects and HealthPathways (July 2022)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Caring for patients with cancer: Cancer Supportive Care GPMP &amp; MBS (July 2022)</a></li> </ul>
<b>Cancer Screening Quality Improvement Toolkit</b>	This Cancer Screening Quality Improvement Toolkit was commissioned to support ongoing quality improvement activities within general practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cancer Screening toolkit - full version</a></li> </ul>
<b>Additional resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order screening resources – Cancer Council</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Online Learning - Cancer Council</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Bowel Screening Checklist</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cancer Support Referral – Cancer Council</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">New resources to increase cancer screening – Cancer Council Victoria</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Home – Centre for Culture, Ethnicity &amp; Health</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Cancer – Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Screening Resources – ACPCC</a></li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Resources – St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Decision Making in Hepatitis C – ASHM</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Decision Making in Hepatitis C – ASHM Toolkit</a></li> </ul>	
<p><b>PHN Exchange reports</b></p>	<p>PHN Exchange provides a visual analysis for general practice specific data analytics. These are benchmarked against all Murray PHN data sharing practices. See how your practice is tracking:</p> <p><b>Bowel Screening</b>  <i>Screening Trend - Active patients aged 50 to 74 years with bowel screens in the last 2 years</i></p> <p><b>Breast Screening</b>  <i>Screening Trend - Participation in Breast Screen Australia program, women aged 50-74</i></p> <p><b>Cervical Screening</b>  <i>PIP QI - QIM09 Cervical - Female patients with an up-to-date cervical screening</i></p> <p><i>Screening Trend - Participation in the National Cervical Screening Program, people aged 25-74</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.phnexchange.com.au/">https://www.phnexchange.com.au/</a></li> </ul>

For further information or support please contact your local [Quality Improvement Consultant](#), email: [gpsupport@murrayphn.org.au](mailto:gpsupport@murrayphn.org.au) or visit the general practice support page on our [website](#).

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