

# The Challenge of Pancreatic Cancer



## Traction

Little awareness of signs and symptoms leads to late diagnosis



## Time

Late diagnosis means limited time for treatments and poor survival rates



## Treatment

There are few options to treat pancreatic cancer and those that are available are not very effective.

## OUR STRATEGY

Pancreatic cancer is a complex problem that we are committed to tackling through a national, collaborative approach. Our strategy has four pillars:



### Research

We invest in ground-breaking research at top institutions to accelerate treatments and improve survival.



### Advocacy

We advocate on behalf of the pancreatic cancer community for equitable, optimal and earlier access to diagnosis, treatment and care.



### Awareness

We work to increase awareness of pancreatic cancer in an effort to support earlier diagnosis and raise funds towards research.



### Patient & Carer Hub

We support patients and carers through comprehensive information, resources and links to support services.

## OUR IMPACT

We achieve results through a strategic focus on raising awareness, collaboration to increase progress and investing in ground-breaking medical research.



Advocated for increased focus and funding that lead to the announcement of the first *National Pancreatic Cancer Roadmap* by Cancer Australia.

Over **\$11** million invested into pancreatic cancer research



Created a comprehensive information booklet, *Living with pancreatic cancer*, to help guide patients and carers



**Patient & Carer Hub** providing information, valuable resources and a connection to others affected by the disease.

**45**

research projects at top Australian institutes



We launched the *Cancer of our Generation* report, educating the Australian public on pancreatic cancer statistics, reaching almost 1 million Australians



Since 2015, United thousands of sports lovers of all ages to participate in the national awareness campaign **#PlayinPurple**



Carer Telehealth Support program in collaboration with QIMR



Our national community engagement events including the *Put Your Foot Down* walks, have united over 25,000 people against the disease, increasing awareness, community connection and support



Extensive online resources



Monthly educational webinars



The Australian Pancreatic Cancer Foundation



## PanKind, The Australian Pancreatic Cancer Foundation

is exclusively dedicated to improving outcomes for Australians impacted by pancreatic cancer. We have invested over \$11 million into ground-breaking medical research, support patients and carers with information and resources, and advocate for better patient outcomes. We have a mission to triple the survival rate by 2030.

### What is pancreatic cancer?

Pancreatic cancer begins when cells in the pancreas become abnormal and grow out of control to form a tumour. A malignant tumour, or cancer, has the ability to spread to other parts of the body through the bloodstream or lymphatic system.

### What is the pancreas?

The pancreas is an organ that sits deep within the abdomen between the stomach and spine. It is about 15cm long and is shaped a little like a leaf. It has two main functions - to produce enzymes for digestion, and hormones that control blood-sugar levels.

### Pancreatic cancer risk factors

Risk factors are anything that increases the chance you may get a disease such as pancreatic cancer. It doesn't mean that everyone who has these risk factors will get pancreatic cancer, or that everyone who gets pancreatic cancer has one or more of these

- *Inherited genetic mutations*
- *Family history of pancreatic cancer*
- *Family history of other cancers*
- *Diabetes*
- *Pancreatitis (chronic and hereditary)*
- *Smoking*
- *Obesity*
- *Race (ethnicity)*
- *Age*
- *Diet*

Connect with us:



The signs and symptoms listed here do not necessarily mean that you have cancer and can be caused by other, less serious conditions.

However, if you are persistently experiencing any, or several of the following symptoms we urge you to see your doctor and reference pancreatic cancer.

If pancreatic cancer is found early, it is more treatable.

If you are concerned you may be at risk of pancreatic cancer, please speak to your doctor.

For more information, visit: [www.pankind.org.au](http://www.pankind.org.au)

