

TITLE: A world first in cancer data collection -the Evaluation of Cancer Outcomes trial, Barwon South West Region, Victoria

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A world first study to collect comprehensive cancer data is underway in the Barwon South Western region of Victoria. The Evaluation of Cancer Outcomes (ECO) Trial is *an innovative project* that involves the collection of a nationally developed and agreed set of clinical cancer data items across the region.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in Australia and cancer surveillance relies heavily on accurate incidence and mortality data collection. The Victorian Government and Victorian Department of Human Services recently identified a lack of useful data surrounding patients diagnosed with cancer, their treatment, clinical course and outcomes.

As a result of this major shortage in cancer data reporting the ECO trial was developed with an aim to extend the current population based cancer data. This new model of data collection will include further clinical and treatment information such as staging, nodal involvement, detailed treatment information, recurrence and metastases. The data collected as part of this trial will provide a long term look at the nature of certain cancers and tumour streams and will provide statistical evidence for and against a range of treatment options.

This presentation will detail both the need for an improved and extended cancer data collection model and the importance of timely population data on processes and outcomes of cancer.

Ultimately the ECO trial will produce a sustainable model of data collection to improve the quality of care and outcomes for all cancer patients and reduce the burden on Victoria's ever increasing cancer statistics.