

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>How does cancer effect the financial situation of Australian cancer patients, and how can we measure this?</b>
Recipient	Ms Kimberley Robinson
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Research description	<p>Cancer and its treatment can have negative health effects. This can limit both patients and their carers from working. High costs such as that of medication and travel can also occur. This means that cancer patients and their families can be under financial stress, known as financial toxicity. Financial toxicity can lead to patients avoiding treatment to lower costs, leading to poorer health overall.</p> <p>Measures of financial toxicity vary, making it difficult to compare research. This means that seeing who suffers from financial toxicity, and how much, is difficult. Without this information, prevention and management is limited. Recently, the Comprehensive Score for Financial Toxicity (COST) survey has proven to be a good measure of financial toxicity in American cancer patients. It has not been tested in Australian cancer patients within our different healthcare system.</p> <p>The aim of this research project is to see if this is a valid and reliable tool to measure financial toxicity in Australian cancer patients being treated in the public health system. Patients will complete this survey, and its validity will be assessed. If this survey can measure financial toxicity in Australian cancer patients, it allows better research to be done in this area. As a result, financial toxicity can be limited and the health of cancer patients can be improved.</p>
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