

JUST A LITTLE MORE TIME

Rare Cancers Update Report

Report Launch

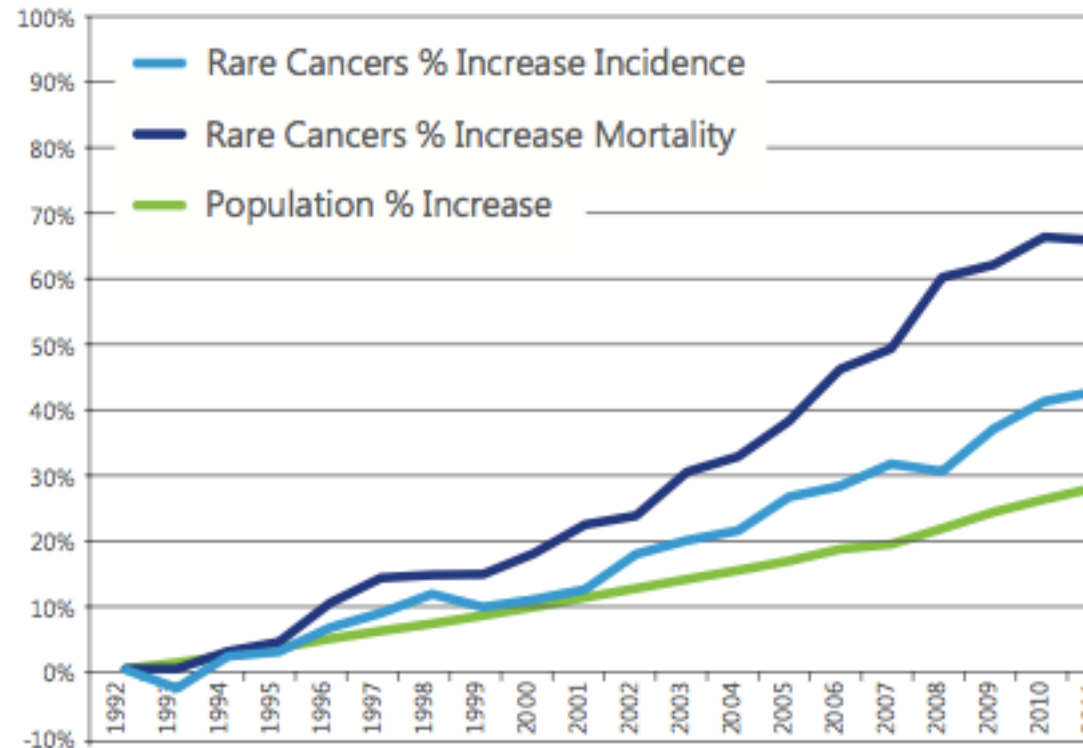
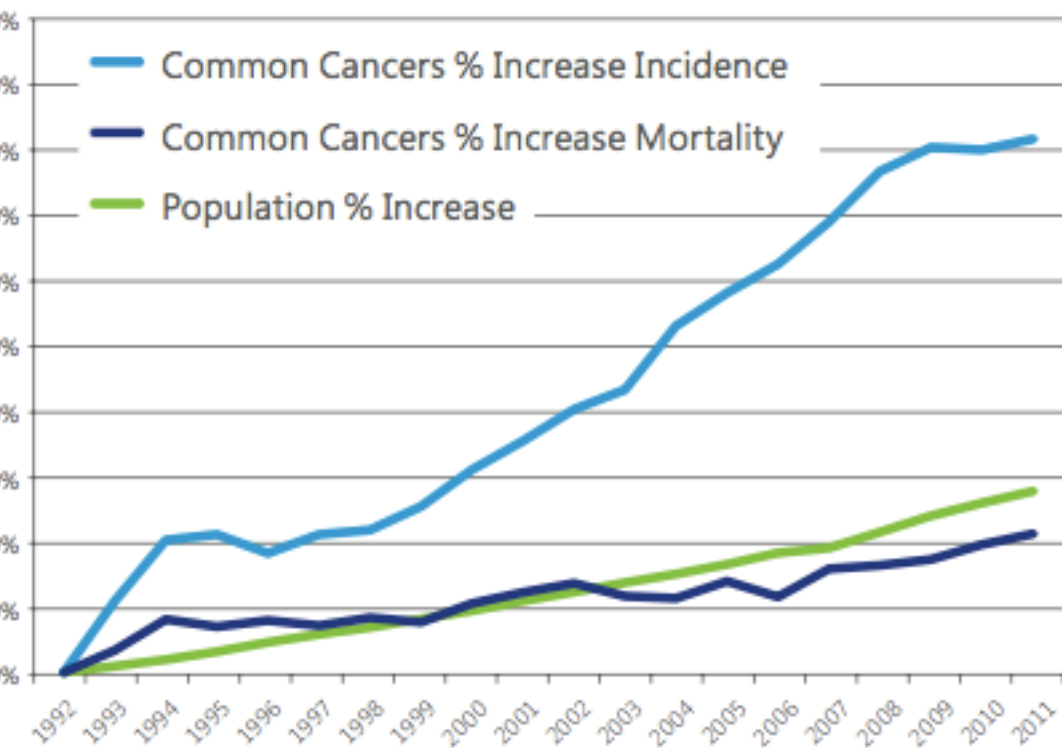
House of Representatives Alcove, Parliament House

16th March 2018

Report Overview

- *Just a Little More Times* series was developed to monitor and evaluate the status of rare and less common cancers in Australia and to raise awareness of the challenges this group of patients face day-to-day
- Since the first report was launched we have seen an increasing awareness amongst all stakeholders, and yet the day to day lives of these Australian patients has not yet improved measurably

Common vs Rare Incidence and Mortality



WAIT A LITTLE MORE TIME
rare cancers update report

The Impact of Rare Cancers

A patient diagnosed today with a **rare cancer** is

**almost twice
as likely to die**



as a patient with a common cancer

Burden of Disease

- Cancer is usually considered a disease of older people, with mortality rates increasing with age for most cancers
- In 2015 the risk of being diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85 was 1 in 2 for men, and 1 in 3 for women
- BUT our research has shown that rare and less common cancers do not restrict themselves to the aged and infirm, in fact they disproportionately affect our children and young families

Age Specific Impact of RLC Cancers

Claim the life of
1 child every 4 days



Take the lives of nearly
10 Gen X every day



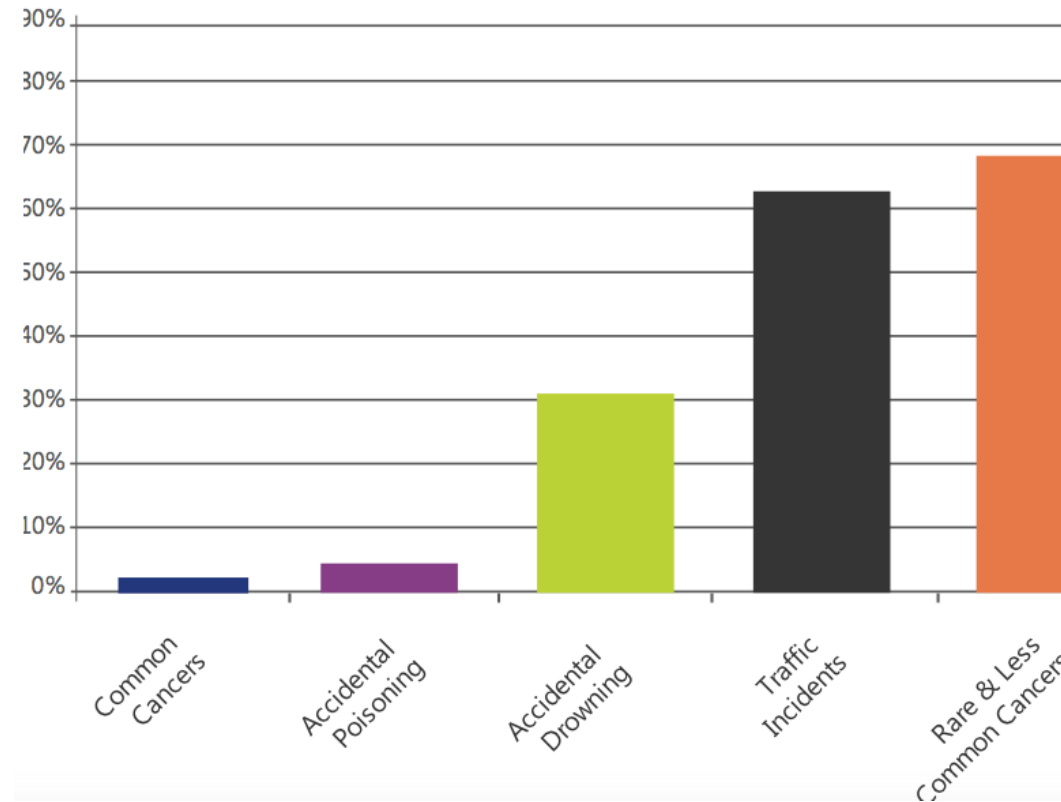
Strike down
1 Gen Y every day

Impact Baby Boomers
more than
coronary
heart disease
and lung
cancer
combined



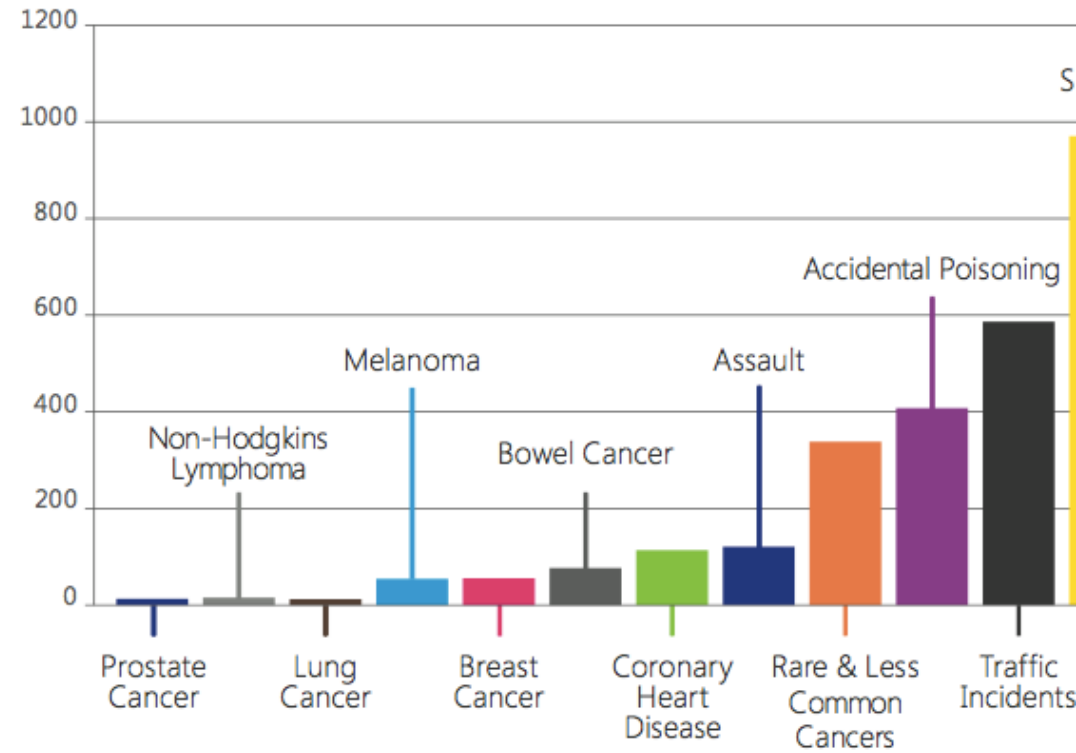
Childhood cancers

- RLC cancers most common cause of death in children under 15
- 95% of all cancer deaths in children are caused by RLC cancers
- Major issues for childhood cancer patients is the lack of research, including clinical trials, and availability of treatments



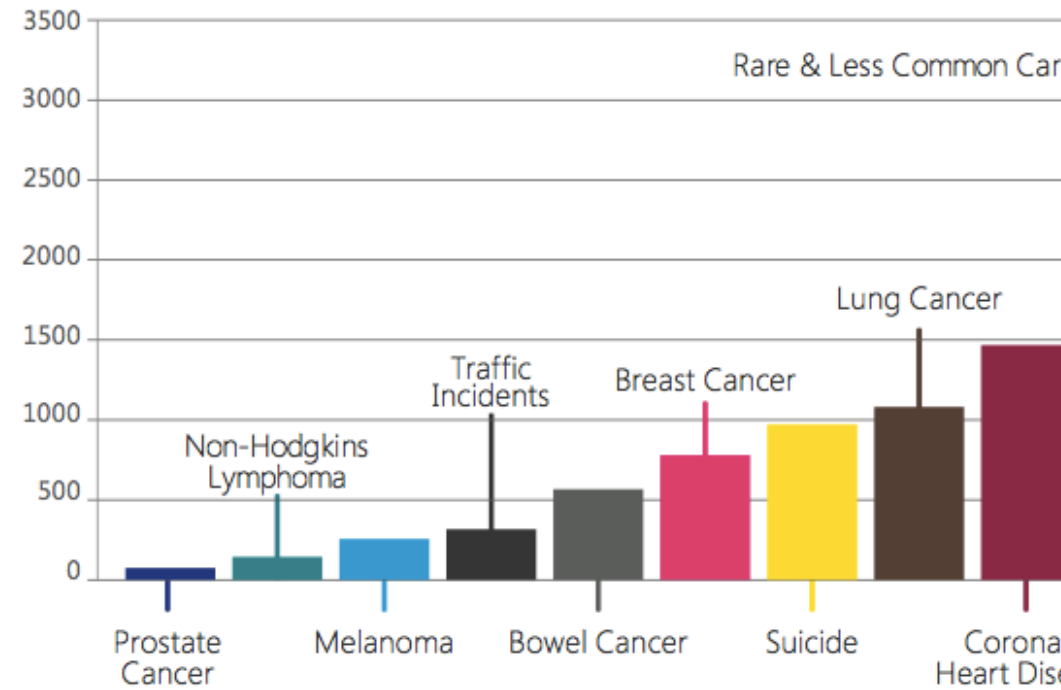
Gen Y Cancers

- RLC cancers 4th most common cause of death in 20-39 year olds, and the most common cause of disease related death
- RLC cancers account for 61% of all cancer deaths in this age group



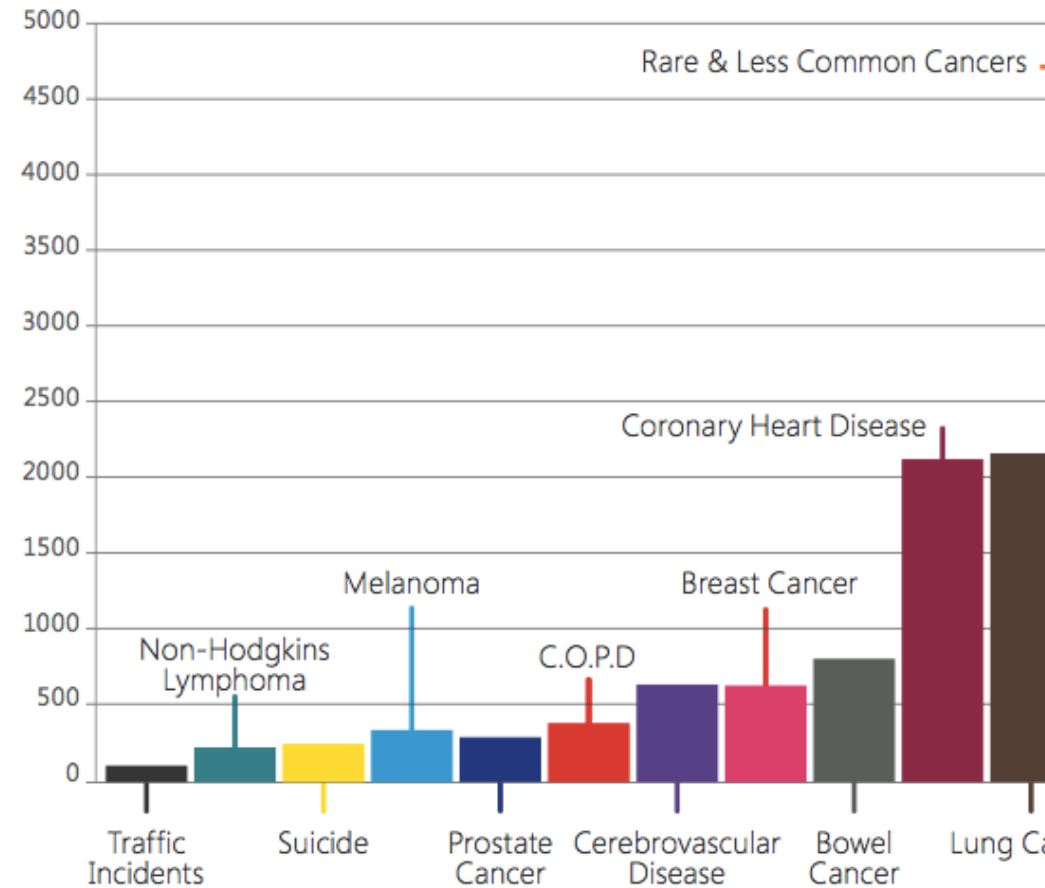
Gen X Cancers

- RLC cancers most common cause of death in 40-59 year olds, with more than 3000 deaths per year
- RLC cancers account for 52% of all cancer deaths in this age group



Baby Boomers

- RLC cancers most common cause of death in 60-69 year olds, causing more than 4,600 deaths per year
- RLC cancers account for 51% of all cancer deaths in this age group
- As the population ages the numbers in this group are set to increase most significantly



Research Funding

- Of the \$350m spent annually on cancer research in Australia, only 2% is aimed at rare solid tumours
- The impact of this neglect is significant
- The establishment of properly funded centres for rare cancer research is now an urgent priority



- All Blood Cancers, 0.22
- Breast Cancer, 0.22
- Prostate Cancer, 0.12
- Bowel Cancer, 0.21
- Lung Cancer, 0.05
- Melanoma, 0.05
- Less Common Cancers, 0.12
- Rare Cancers, 0.02

Treatment Availability

- Patients with rare cancers are disadvantaged because they have limited access to new, effective treatments
- Oncology increasingly understood at the molecular level & focus shifting away from non-targeted cytotoxic agents towards newer, targeted therapies which act on specific cancer cell growth control and survival mechanisms
- Benefits are not yet flowing to rare cancer patients

PBAC Treatment Approvals since 2010

Cancer Treatment Approvals by PBAC since 2010

4



for new treatments for
rare solid tumours

85

for treatments
for all cancers

Call to Action



DIRECT RESEARCH

to drive research into
rare cancers



SUPPORT HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

to improve diagnosis
and care for rare



EQUITABLE ACCESS

to treatment for all
cancers

Conclusion

- Rare cancers represent a major diagnostic as well as therapeutic challenge and are a major source of discrimination among patients.
- We need to take action to give these Australian patients the resources, support, treatment they need and most importantly provide them all with **just a little more time**.



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Thank You

