



Cancer in South Australia 2002

with projections to 2005

A report on the incidence and mortality patterns of cancer

Cancer Series Number Twenty Five



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For enquiries about this publication contact

Manager, South Australian Cancer Registry
Ph: 08 8226 6000

Preface

Cancer is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in our community. Ensuring we have information to identify the size of the problem and to review the impact of our efforts in managing and controlling the impact is important. The *South Australian Cancer Registry* (SACR) undertakes that work and delivers information used by clinicians, policy makers, planners, researchers and consumers to meet their requirements.

This work allows us to look at the impact of screening programs such as the Cervix Screening Program of SA and BreastScreen SA, to examine the impact of anti-smoking and sun protection campaigns, and to plan for hospital and other services to meet the needs of those with cancer. The information is also used to support research into cancer – identifying risk factors, highlighting unusual patterns, and examining risks in particular population groups.

This South Australian Cancer Report is the latest in one of the longest running continuous public health information collections in Australia (having commenced in 1977). It represents the culmination of a large volume of information collected about the cancer patterns in our State. To date a large proportion of this work has been conducted on a manual basis, but from 2005, a new system will be progressively introduced that will have the capacity to manage more information electronically and to meet the needs of a range of information uses more quickly than previously.

This is the first of a new style of report that presents the traditional range of information and new information for our users. We hope that you will like this new format as it evolves over the next few reports to meet your needs.

We will continue to work with the community and our clinical services to meet the needs of people diagnosed with cancer and the information collected by the South Australian Cancer Registry will guide us in our efforts.



The Hon. Lea Stevens
Minister for Health

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Cancer Registry officers

Heather Hall

Mary Merdo

Teresa Molik

Maria Cirillo

Chris Scott

Maxene Rosenberg

Judy Thompson

Anna-Liisa Skene

Dr Wayne Clapton – Cancer Registry Manager

Dr Colin Luke – Cancer Registry Medical Adviser

Kevin Priest – Data Manager

Adrian Heard – Cancer data analyst

Dr Paul Jelfs – Director, Epidemiology Branch