



National Database of Cancer Consumer Representatives

The Cancer Society of New Zealand (CSNZ) in collaboration with CancerVOICES is contracted by the Ministry of Health to maintain a national database of cancer consumer representatives. The purposes of this database include:

- Maximising opportunities for consumers to contribute to the planning and delivery of cancer control services at a national, regional or local level
- Enabling service providers to access cancer consumer representatives depending on their specific requirements
- Facilitating communication with consumer representatives

Trained or experienced cancer consumer representatives

These are cancer consumer representatives who have either successfully completed the cancer consumer representative training programme (see appendix 1) or who have had wide experience as a consumer representative and can fulfil the following criteria:

- General knowledge of cancers, either through personal experience or through work with other people affected by cancer
- General knowledge of the cancer control health system, and ways in which the cancer control health system can be improved for people affected by cancer
- Experience as a consumer representative or advocate
- The ability to consider the interests of all people affected by cancer and a genuine interest in improving services for all people affected by cancer
- Emotional strength such that there is an ability to cope with reminders of personal experience (e.g. the presence of a personal physician on a committee) that might arise during their time as a cancer consumer representative
- The ability to express an opinion and communicate effectively

If you are interested in becoming a cancer consumer representative please complete the form attached and send it to:

Jan Pearson

by email: jan.pearson@cancer.org.nz

by post: Cancer Society of New Zealand
P O Box 12700
Wellington 6144

Thank you for your interest in becoming a cancer consumer representative

National Cancer Consumer Representative Database - Application Form

Please print clearly

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone (day): _____

Phone (mobile): _____

Email address: _____

Membership of cancer consumer
organisation (if applicable): _____

Release of information to interested parties

I agree to CSNZ releasing my name and contact details to organisations / parties seeking cancer consumer representation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please be assured that the details you provide will be kept confidential.

If you would like to be entered into the database as a cancer consumer representative please provide the following additional information. Your application will be considered by the Cancer Consumer Representation Programme Advisory Committee who will then contact you.

Please briefly explain your experience with cancer:

Please outline your level of knowledge of the cancer control health system:

Please outline any experience you have had as a cancer consumer representative:

Please outline your interest in improving services for people affected by cancer:

Please describe your experience and effectiveness as a communicator:

Please provide any other information you consider relevant to your application:

Please provide contact details for two referees who are available to comment on your experience and general suitability as a cancer consumer representative.

Referee One:

Name: _____

Phone (day): _____

Phone (mobile): _____

Email address: _____

Referee Two:

Name: _____

Phone (day): _____

Phone (mobile): _____

Email address: _____

Thank you for your application.

Appendix 1

The Cancer Consumer Representative Training Course

Is suitable for people who have had a personal or family experience of cancer and who would like to contribute to improved cancer services by becoming a member of a relevant a committee or working group. Therefore it is designed to ensure relevant preparation for participation on cancer related DHB, NGO and national committees and working groups.

The course is aimed at those with little experience of working as part of a committees or health sector, however components of the course may be suitable and of benefit to more experienced persons.

The course, which leads to registration as a trained Cancer Consumer Representative, is based on a similar successful course developed in Australia and is delivered by skilled facilitators and health professionals at no financial cost to participants - (travel accommodation and course fees are covered).

The full course requires a commitment of three weekend days and a willingness to fully participate in the programme. Components of the course can also be accessed separately depending on an applicant's requirements.

Course Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

- identify the broad New Zealand statistics for cancer and the types of diagnostic tools available
- identify services available to treat different types of cancer
- describe the health system, cancer policy, and its political environment
- explain the place of the Treaty of Waitangi in cancer treatment
- describe how relevant committees operate and the role of the consumer representative on those committees
- assess proposed decisions within the health system in light of their impact on cancer patients
- present cogent arguments in the interest of cancer patients
- identify omissions in services to cancer patients
- explain to others key aspects of an individual's cancer journey.

Course dates for 2010: 6, 7 & 28 March and 4, 5 & 25 September

Enquiries about the next course should be directed to
Jan Pearson at the Cancer Society
04 494 7270 or jan.pearson@cancer.org.nz

