On Friday 12 October at RACV City Club, 101 multidisciplinary attendees discussed statewide head & neck cancers data to prioritise variations for further investigation.
and action. This was the largest Victorian Tumour Summit to date.

Click here for the Summit Evaluation by attendees

Thank you to Leesa Lachimia, head and neck cancers consumer, for sharing your story at the Summit

Mr Stephen Tudge presented data on variations in head and neck cancers, focussing on demographics, incidence and survival, and utilisation and timeliness of care. Attendees worked in small groups on prioritising seven variations, using an impact/effort matrix...

Click here for the Head & Neck Cancers Data Presentation PDF

Professor Bob Thomas spoke on patient-centred care with a reminder that clinicians are responsible for patient outcomes along a pathway of care. He defined the Optimal Care Pathway as the:

- organisation
process  
policy development  
creation

of a framework for improved patient outcome, delivered by everyone involved in patient care. Prof Thomas highlighted in particular the need to focus on coordination of care between clinicians and with health service providers.

Ms Kathryn Whitfield discussed that one of the aims of the Victoria Cancer Plan 2016-2020 is to promote equitable care pathways for all regions of the state. For head and neck cancers there is a recognised need to increase early detection of oral cancers. She noted the Summit is part of a coordinated system response designed to improve cancer care. Ms Whitfield showcased examples from previous summits where improvements have been generated by clinician-led local action on variations.

What Next?
Eight Integrated Cancer Services and six Primary Health Networks will be supporting a quality improvement program of work informed by Summit priorities. Victorian Tumour Summits’ November Newsletter will contain a summit report of the HN2018 Summit and the Head & Neck Cancers Data Presentation video from the day. Further Summit feedback from attendees is currently sought on the VTSummit LinkedIn Group.

Click here to request to join the VTSummit LinkedIn Group
Victorian Tumour Summits are an initiative of the Victorian Integrated Cancer Services delivered in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services - Cancer Strategy Development (DHHS - CSD) and Cancer Council Victoria - Clinical Network (CCV - CN).

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