

Development of a statewide approach to Survivorship Care in South Australia

Hislop C¹, Doherty T¹, Cameron K¹, Eckert M², Marker J³, Christensen C³, Fitzgerald M⁴, Loft N⁵, Turpin K⁶, Osborn M⁶, Poprawski D⁷, Bessen T⁵, Stajic J¹ & Koczwara B⁴

1. SA Cancer Service; 2. Cancer Council SA; 3. Cancer Voices SA; 4. Cancer Services, Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer; 5. Central Adelaide Local Health Network; 6. Women's and Children's Health Network; 7. Country Health SA Local Health Network

Background Information

Key drivers for change

- Cancer survival continues to increase with improvements in early detection, diagnosis, technology and treatment modalities
- 9 398 new cancer diagnoses were made in South Australia in 2011, with a projected 11% increase over the next 3 years to 10 456
- Traditionally survivorship care focussed on late-effects, surveillance and follow-up provided by cancer specialists
- Additional needs of survivors that require addressing including ongoing toxicities; physical, psychosocial and economic impacts; co-morbidities (prevention and management) and general health promotion
- A realisation that quality survivorship care requires a holistic, patient-centred approach within and beyond the cancer specialist setting
- SA Health is currently transforming services to ensure patients receive the *best care, first time, every time*

Aim

To develop a statewide Survivorship Framework that will outline the minimum agreed standard of care for all patients treated with curative intent irrespective of:

- Tumour type
- Age
- Geographical location
- Ethnicity
- Socioeconomic background
- Co-morbidities
- Service or setting (eg. public or private)

This will ensure the needs of consumers are being met and enable consistency and monitoring of the quality of care delivered whilst promoting the ongoing self-improvement of the system.

Method

SA Cancer Service in collaboration with key stakeholders is leading the development of the Survivorship Framework. Six major components of work are informing:

1. Literature Review
2. Survivorship Steering Group (multi-disciplinary governance group)
3. Stakeholder Consultation (consumers, non-government organisations, providers, researchers)
4. Pilot Initiative Trials
5. Health Economic Modelling
6. Survivorship Data Registry – Development and Trial (patient-reported outcomes)

Results to date

Various existing survivorship models (including the COSA Model for Wellness¹) and strategic documents have been reviewed and utilised as a starting point to inform the Survivorship Framework. Overarching principles were adapted from the new SA Transforming Health initiative and implementation principles have been established for the Survivorship framework. Successful engagement of a broad range of stakeholders has ensured steady progress on areas of:

1. Treatment Summaries
2. Needs Assessment and Risk Stratification
3. Care Planning

The following diagram outlines key time points to develop and apply these components along the care pathway.

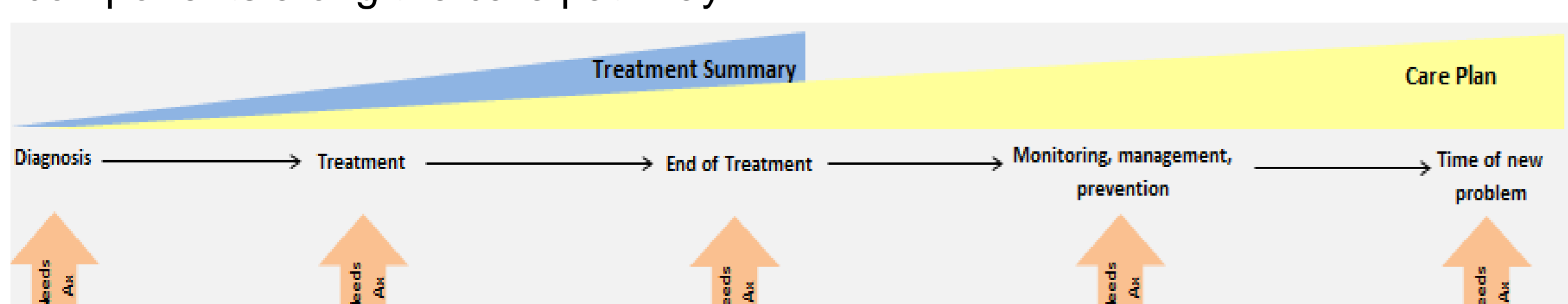


Figure 1. Key time points to develop and apply components

Tools and templates are currently being established and trialed to support the implementation process. The following diagram (Figure 2) outlines the key components and continuous improvement cycle to measure, inform and refine the proposed framework.

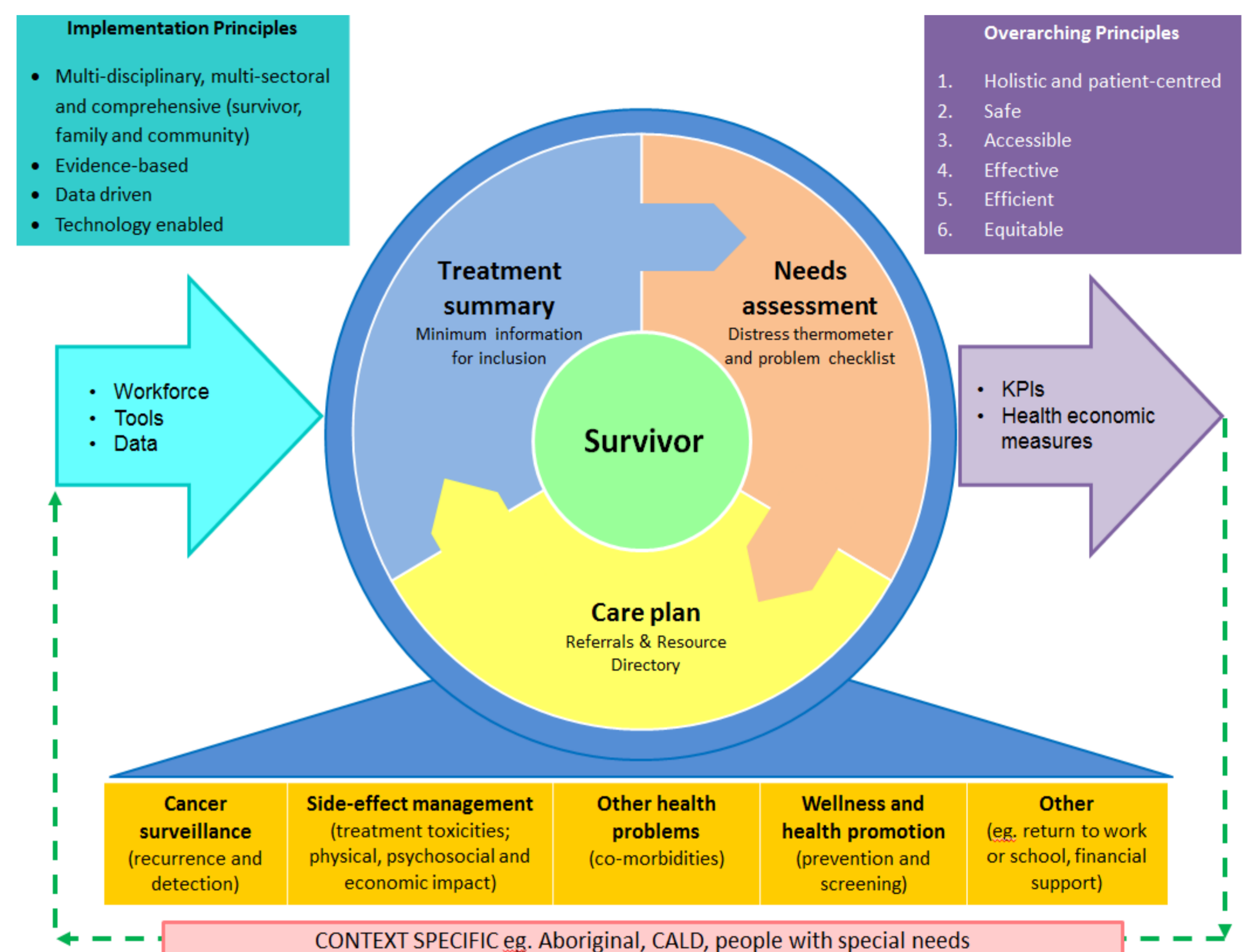


Figure 2. The initial proposed Survivorship Framework for South Australia

Project Phases

2015

- Ongoing engagement and consultation with stakeholders
- Theoretical framework developed
- Health Economic Modelling completed
- Pilot projects commenced – tools and resources refined

2016

- Implementation and sustainability plan developed
- Long-term implementation and scale up plan established
- Link with companion projects i.e. Data, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) initiatives
- Link with research program on survivorship established
- Clinical education needs defined

2017 – 2019

- Statewide implementation and adaptation

Conclusion

Whilst many survivorship initiatives, programs and research exist or are being undertaken across Australia, South Australia is unique in developing a statewide, population approach. The outcomes and learnings from the implementation of the Survivorship Framework may inform opportunities to adapt a similar model across other health services and jurisdictions.

Acknowledgements

This project is funded by the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) and reports to the National Cancer Expert Reference Group (NCERG).

References

1. Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Position Statement on Critical Components of Cancer Survivorship Care (2014)