



NeuroEndocrine
Cancer Australia

NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia

Media Kit

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About Us

NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia (NECA)

is the only Australian charity solely dedicated to improving awareness, understanding and outcomes for people living with neuroendocrine cancer.

Our purpose remains as vital now as it was 16 years ago: to achieve earlier diagnosis and ultimately find a cure for many.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Why NECA's work matters

Neuroendocrine cancer is often diagnosed late because symptoms mimic common conditions. Many Australians spend years seeking answers before receiving the correct diagnosis.

Access to specialist care is not equal across Australia. People in regional and rural areas often face long travel distances and delays accessing the tests, treatments and specialists they need.

Awareness of NETs remains low in the community and across parts of the health system. Limited understanding among GPs and emergency departments contributes to missed or delayed diagnoses.

- These challenges affect outcomes, quality of life and the overall patient experience. Many people describe uncertainty, frustration and a lack of clear pathways to care.

NECA works to close these gaps by improving early diagnosis, increasing awareness, supporting patients and advocating for fair and consistent access to care nationwide.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Over the Past Decade, NECA has:

Funded

millions of dollars in patient support and resources

Established

a national NET Nurse Helpline and facilitated support groups across Australia

Advocated

for improved access to diagnostics and treatments

Supported

clinical trials that advance NET care and understanding



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

What is Neuroendocrine Cancer?

Neuroendocrine cancers, are a group of cancers that begin in neuroendocrine cells.

These specialised cells are found throughout the body and help regulate essential functions by producing hormones. NETs can develop in many organs, most commonly in the gastrointestinal system, pancreas and lungs.

Neuroendocrine cancers are often missed or diagnosed late because their symptoms frequently mimic more common conditions.

Many people experience issues such as abdominal pain, diarrhoea, fatigue, flushing or unexplained weight changes. These are easily mistaken for gastrointestinal disorders, stress, asthma or menopause. As a result, Australians with neuroendocrine cancer often undergo years of misdiagnosis before receiving the correct answer.

Neuroendocrine cancer is Australia's 7th most diagnosed cancer. Despite this, public awareness remains low and symptoms are often misunderstood within the community and across the health system.

Symptoms



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Key Programs and Services

**NET Nurse
Helpline**

**Patient
Education and
Resources**

**Support Groups
& Community
Connections**

**Advocacy and
Policy
Leadership**



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Key Programs and Services

1. Specialist Support Services Helpline

NECA provides free, confidential support to people living with NETs and their families. Our national NET Nurse service offers clear information, guidance and reassurance from diagnosis through treatment.

Patients and carers can also access free consultations with a specialist dietitian and free counselling to support their wellbeing and help manage the emotional and practical challenges of living with neuroendocrine cancer.

These services are available nationwide and are designed to ensure no person faces the NET journey alone.

2. Patient Education and Resources

NECA develops evidence-based resources to help people understand their diagnosis and treatment options. This includes fact sheets, webinars, online learning and tools that support day-to-day living with NETs.

3. Support Groups and Community Connections

Facilitated groups operate across Australia to bring patients and carers together. These groups provide shared experience, practical advice and emotional support.

4. Advocacy and Policy Leadership

NECA works with government, clinicians and industry to improve early diagnosis and fair access to care, including advocating for consistent pathways, better imaging and treatment access, and national investment in NET services.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

NECA Priority Areas for Media

Early diagnosis and symptom awareness

Why NETs are often missed, the impact of delayed diagnosis and the importance of recognising symptoms early.

Patient stories

Lived experiences that highlight the journey to diagnosis, treatment challenges and the realities of living with a long-term cancer.

Access to care across Australia

Differences in access between metropolitan and regional areas, and the need for consistent specialist services nationwide.

Research and clinical developments

Updates on emerging treatments, clinical collaborations and the importance of Australian research in improving outcomes.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Patient Case Studies



Bronwyn, New South Wales (NSW)

Bronwyn lived with vague symptoms for years before finally being diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer following repeated misdiagnoses. She now advocates for faster pathways so patients are not left navigating complex systems on their own.



Bronwyn's Story.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Cassie, Queensland (QLD)

Cassie was diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer in her early 30s and has undergone multiple surgeries while raising young children. She has become a powerful voice for NET awareness, sharing how delayed diagnosis affects young families.



Cassie's Story



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Lauren, Tasmania (TAS)

Lauren spent years seeking answers for unexplained symptoms before eventually receiving a NET diagnosis that changed her life. She now speaks openly about the lack of specialist support in Tasmania and why a dedicated NET nurse is urgently needed.



Lauren's Story.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Daniel, Victoria (VIC)

Daniel's diagnosis came after persistent symptoms were attributed to stress and gastrointestinal issues, delaying access to the right care. He shares his experience to highlight the gap in awareness and the importance of specialist NET teams.



Daniel's story.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Mel, Western Australia (WA)

Mel lived with complex symptoms for years before finding a NET specialist who could explain what was happening to her body. She now works to raise awareness across WA where many patients travel long distances for imaging and treatment.



Mel's story.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Karen, South Australia (SA)

Karen experienced years of unexplained symptoms that were repeatedly dismissed before finally being diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer. She now speaks about the emotional toll of delayed diagnosis and the need for better awareness among clinicians, especially in regional SA.



Karen's story.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

Roxanne, Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

Roxanne's neuroendocrine cancer was discovered only after a long period of non-specific symptoms that didn't fit the usual diagnostic pathways. She now shares her story to highlight how awareness gaps in primary care can delay treatment for people with NETs in the ACT.



Roxanne's Story



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

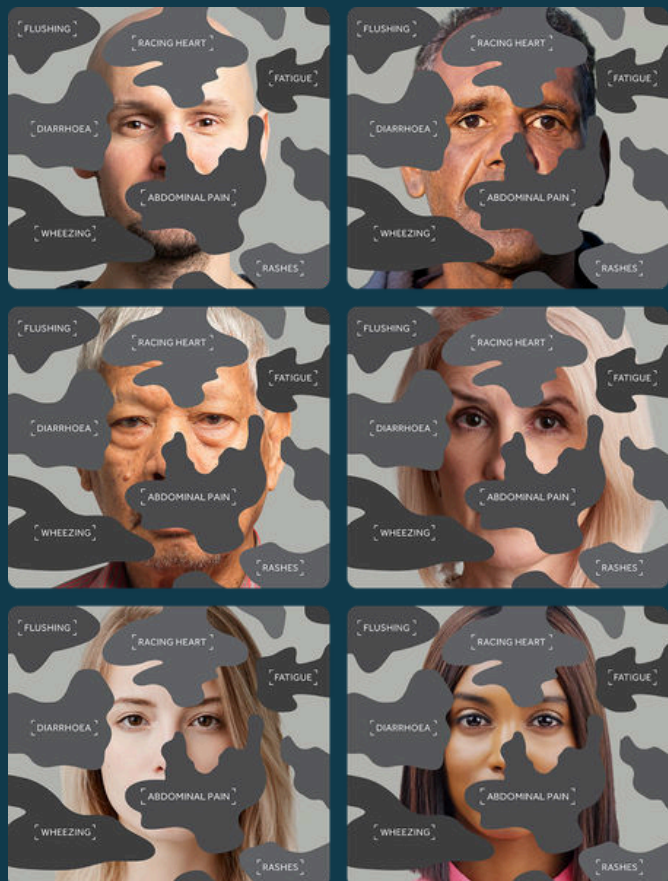
National Symptom Awareness Campaign

NECA's National Symptom Awareness Campaign shines a light on the often subtle and confusing symptoms of neuroendocrine cancer.

The campaign helps Australians recognise when something is not right and encourages earlier conversations with health professionals. It also supports clinicians with clear information to aid timely diagnosis.

The campaign features patient stories, clinician insights, symptom information and education resources that can be shared across community, clinical and media channels.

Campaign assets and resources



Brand Assets & Guidelines



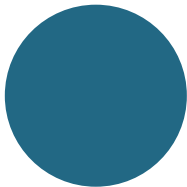
[Download Social Media Assets](#)
[#LetsTalkAboutNETS](#) [#NECA](#)



[Download NECA logos](#)



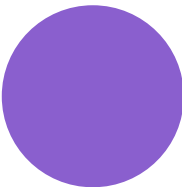
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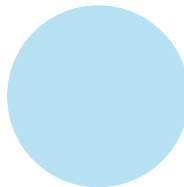
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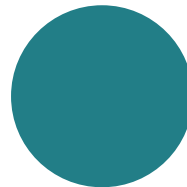
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Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy

NECA Calendar and Activity

Neuroendocrine Cancer Day

Held every year on 10 November, this global awareness day brings together patients, clinicians, supporters and organisations to shine a light on NETs and amplify the call for better care.

March4NETs

A national movement held each March that encourages supporters to walk, run or complete a personal challenge to raise awareness and vital funds for neuroendocrine cancer. March4NETs brings communities together and highlights the importance of early diagnosis, support and equitable care.

Patient Forums and Education Events

State-based forums and online education sessions that connect patients and carers with clinicians, specialists and the broader NET community.



Support



Education



Research



Awareness

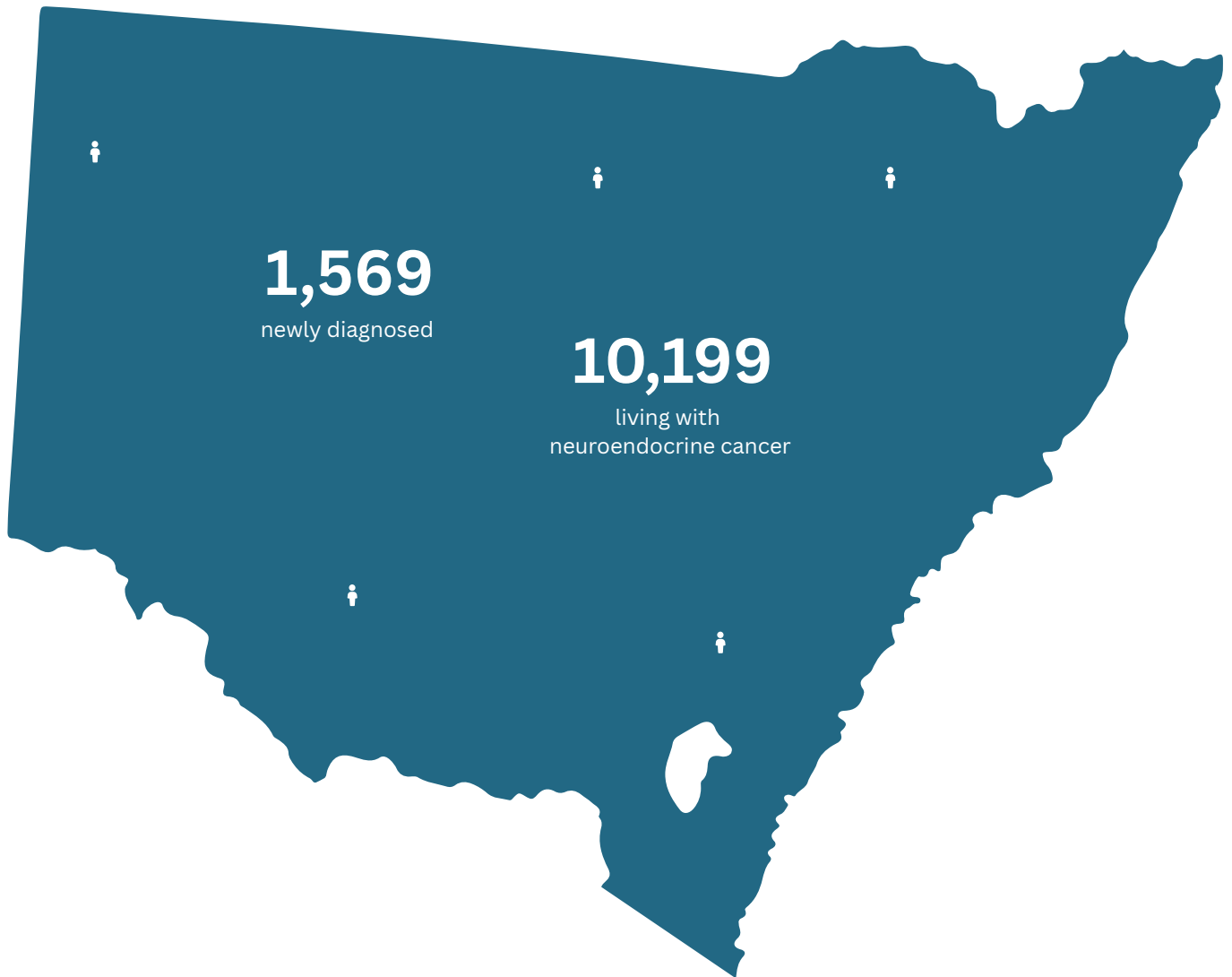


Advocacy

State Snapshots



NSW



”

I experienced a year of ‘I don’t know what’s wrong with me, but something is up. The ongoing assumption was that I was simply going through menopause.

—Bronwyn Wallace (Manning Valley)



Support



Education



Research

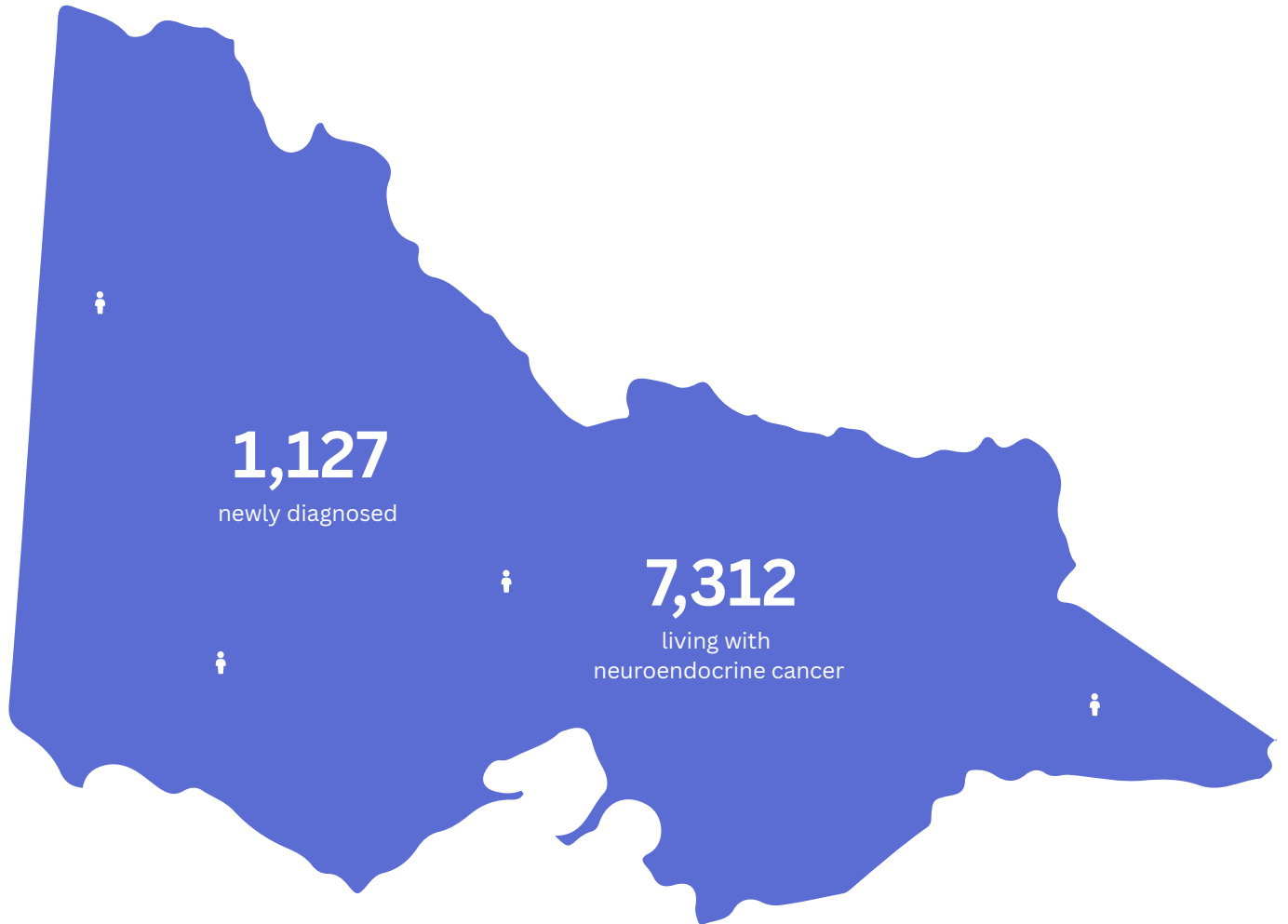


Awareness



Advocacy

Victoria



”

I went to the local GP because I couldn't burp... I was feeling fine and thought that this was a total waste of the doctor's time.

—Daniel Renfrey (Melbourne)



Support



Education



Research

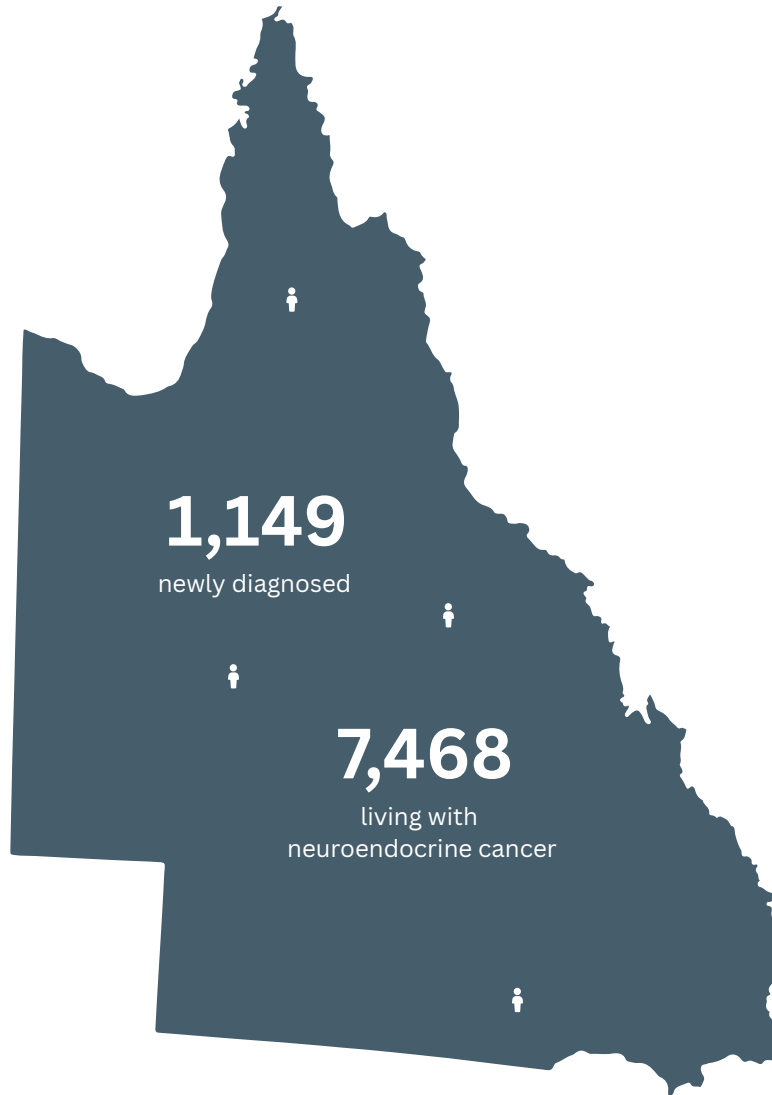


Awareness



Advocacy

Queensland



”

I'm a 36-year-old mum of three little humans – things like this just don't happen to people like me. Until all of a sudden it does, and everything changes.

—Cassie Miller (Sunshine Coast)



Support



Education



Research

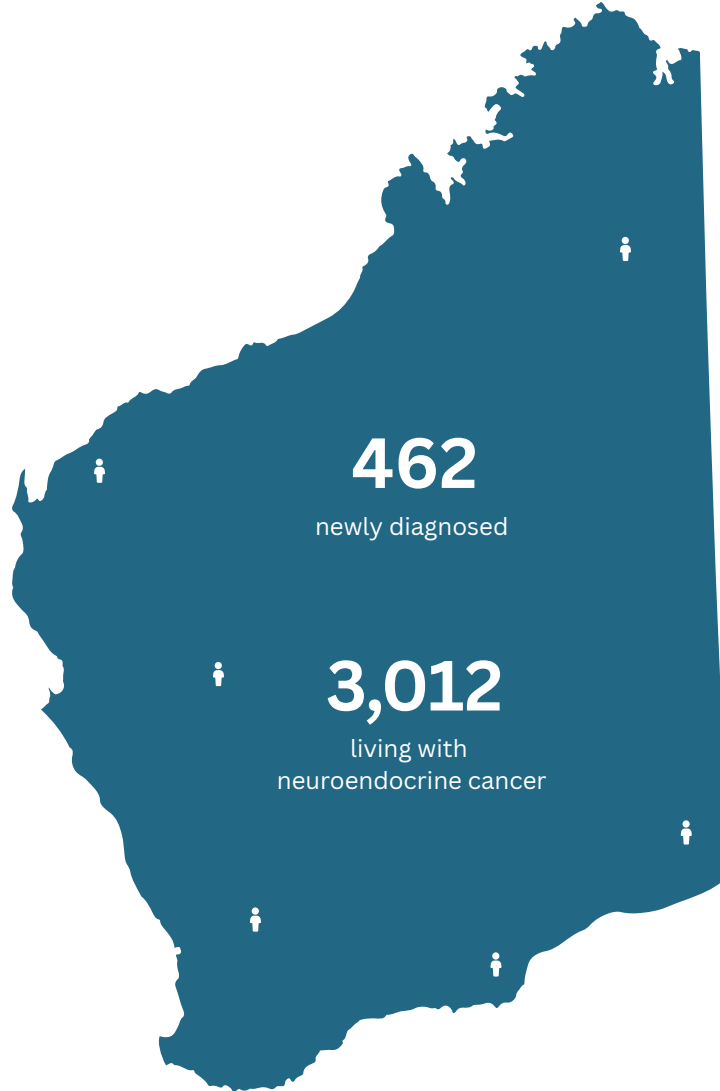


Awareness



Advocacy

Western Australia



”

They found a tumour about the size of a tennis ball on my pancreas... It's a shame that it takes a diagnosis like this to change the way people live their life.

—Mel Taylor (Hannans)



Support



Education



Research

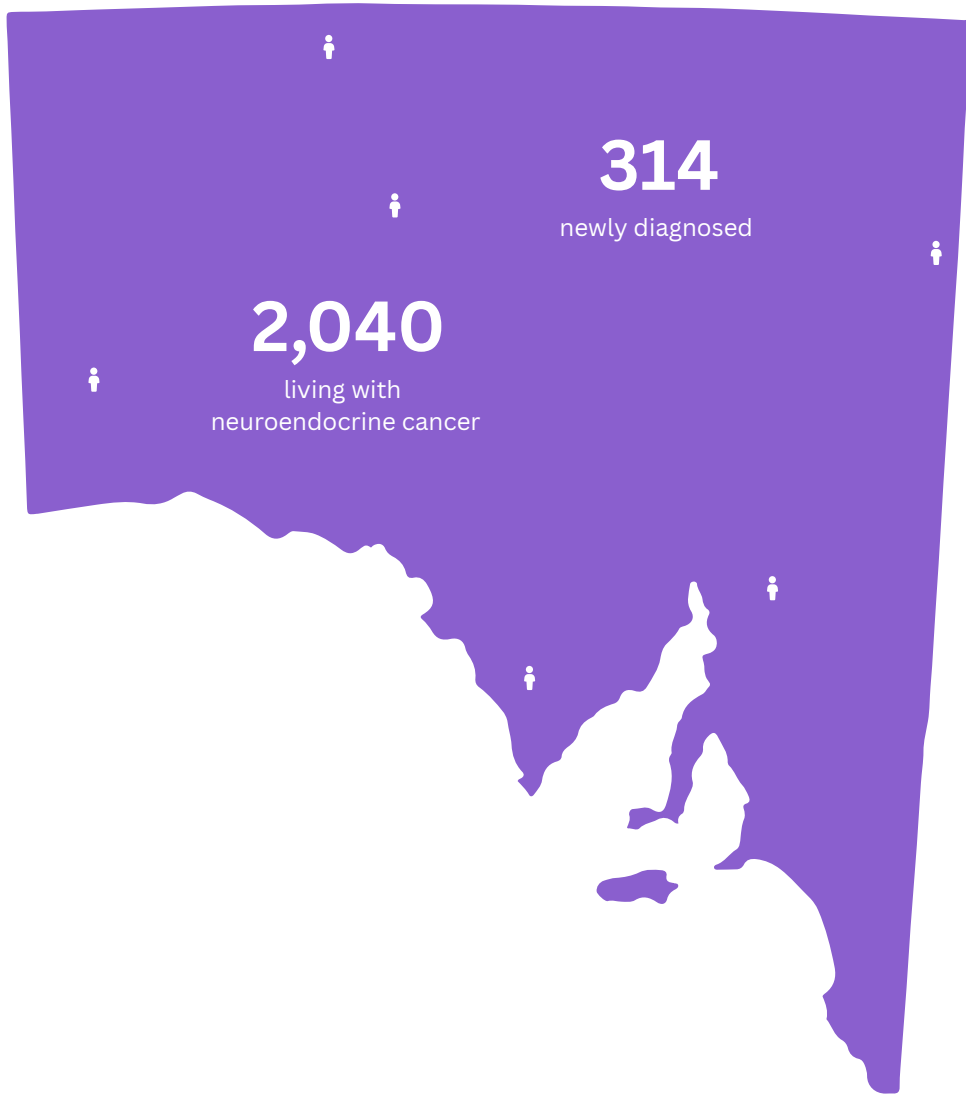


Awareness



Advocacy

South Australia



”

A week later, the primary neuroendocrine tumour was removed, the diagnosis was confirmed but then came the word I had been dreading, metastatic.

—Karen Vial (Adelaide)



Support



Education



Research

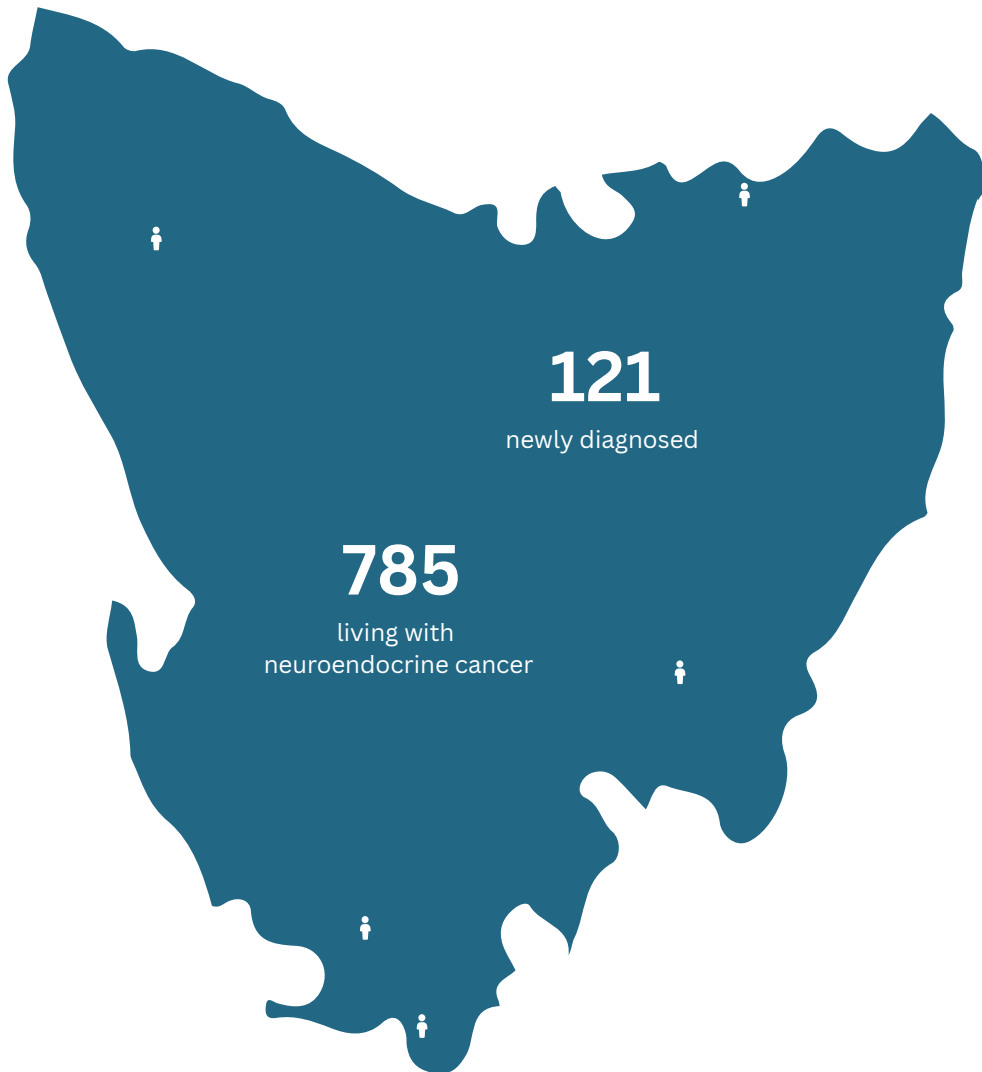


Awareness



Advocacy

Tasmania



”

The hardest part is knowing that if I had a different type of bowel cancer, these same treatments would be fully funded by the Australian government.

—Lauren Rayner (North West Coast)



Support



Education



Research

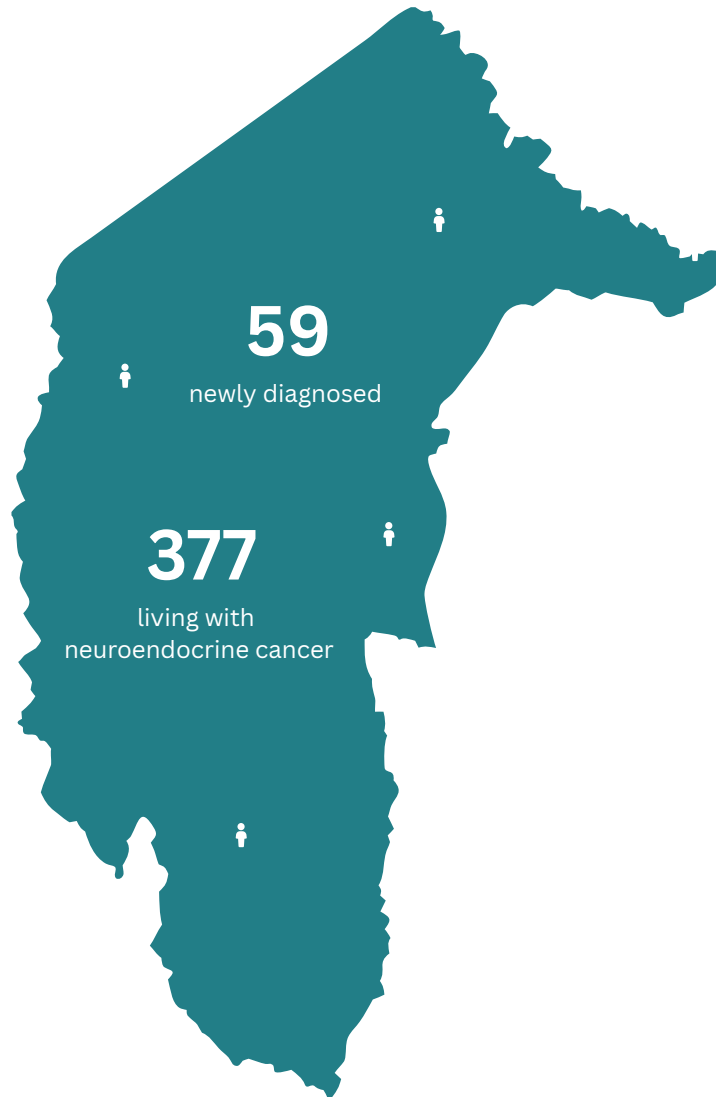


Awareness



Advocacy

Australian Capital Territory



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What has been difficult is how little is known about neuroendocrine cancer, both in the community and even among some healthcare professionals.

—Roxanne Coughlin (Canberra)



Support



Education



Research

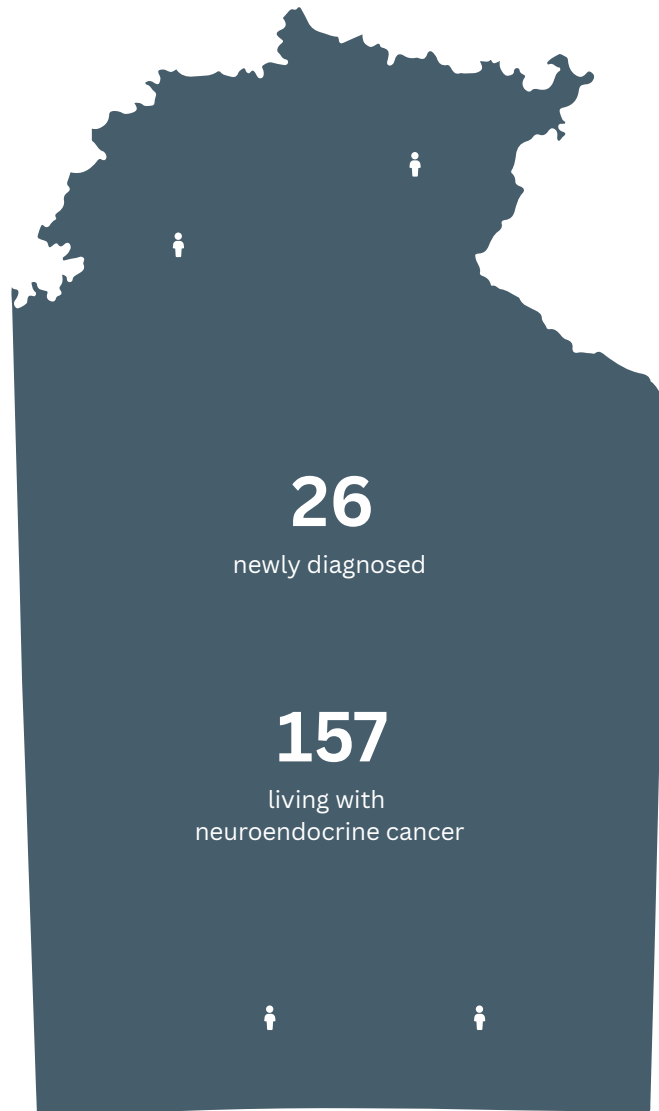


Awareness



Advocacy

Northern Territory



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I find it very difficult that just because my cancer is not in my breast I cannot have access to the same activities and support services as someone with breast cancer.

—Suzanne Stewart (Darwin)



Support



Education



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