

## How can I gain access to information?

Individuals can apply for access to documents held by the Queensland Government under the *Right to Information Act 2009*. The *Information Privacy Act 2009* details privacy principles and allows you to apply for access and amendment of personal information.

*The QCR provides an accurate picture of the impact of cancer, and the nature and extent of cancer throughout Queensland.*

## Contact us



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**qcr**  
queensland cancer  
register

The *Public Health Act 2005* prescribes the authority to collect information about cancer health.

## What is the Queensland Cancer Register?

The Queensland Cancer Register (QCR) is prescribed under the *Public Health Act 2005* to receive notification of cancer in Queensland. Metro South Hospital and Health Service manages the operation of the Register for Queensland Health.

The QCR maintains a register of all cases of cancer diagnosed in Queensland since the beginning of 1982.

*The QCR is an essential data collection that is used to help support key activities such as health service planning and cancer research – ultimately benefitting the thousands of Queenslanders who are diagnosed with cancer each year.*

## What information is in the QCR?

Information collected about patients with Cancer includes:

- Name and address
- Date of birth
- Country of birth
- Cancer site and cell type
- Medicare number
- Marital Status
- Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- Information about the patient's hospital stay
- Where the patient was treated and their doctor.

## What is the information in the QCR used for?

- Monitor the number of **new cancer cases** and **deaths** from cancer in Queensland
- Assist in **planning** for the care of cancer patients in Queensland
- Monitor and evaluate the **quality** of cancer **treatment** and the **outcomes** of cancer care
- Provide data for research to **determine** the **cause** of cancer and to improve the quality of cancer services
- Contribute to **national** monitoring of cancer cases and cancer deaths
- Develop **education** programs to educate our community on the risks of cancer

*All information sent to the register is kept strictly confidential, held under tight security and protected by the Queensland Public Health Act 2005.*

## Who has access to information in the QCR?

Information about the number of new cancer cases and deaths from cancer are published regularly in reports that are available for all to see. Aggregate data, such as age group, sex and cancer site is available in the public domain.

No names or identifying information about cancer patients can be seen. All information sent to the register is kept strictly confidential, held under tight security and protected by the Queensland *Public Health Act 2005*.

## Cancer research

Researchers requesting information about identified cancer cases must make an application under the *Public Health Act 2005* and receive approval from the Director General of Queensland Health. Strict criteria must be met in accordance with the *Public Health Act 2005*.

Each request for data access is assessed by the Data Custodian, against the legislation and privacy laws. These procedures are in place to protect personal information recorded in the register from breaches of privacy as well as ensuring ethical integrity and scientific merit of proposals seeking data access.