

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 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.

Contact us



Telephone

07 3176 4400



Postal address

Cancer Alliance Queensland
Level 1, Burke Street Centre
C/O Princess Alexandra Hospital
199 Ipswich Road
Woolloongabba QLD 4102



Website

cancerallianceqld.health.qld.gov.au



Email

General enquiries:

CancerAllianceQld@health.qld.gov.au

QCR enquiries:

QCR@health.qld.gov.au

Data custodian approvals:

CancerDataQld@health.qld.gov.au

QCR
Queensland Cancer Register

What is the Queensland Cancer Register?

The Queensland Cancer Register (QCR) is prescribed under the *Public Health Act 2005* legislation 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.

Queensland legislation permits the collection of information without the need for patient consent.

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.

What information does the QCR collect?

- Personal information - details about an individual diagnosed with cancer. These include name, date of birth, sex and address.
- Cancer specific information – body site, type of cancer and date of diagnosis.
- Investigations - examinations and tests conducted to understand the cancer diagnosis. Any investigations that raise concerns about cancer may be notified and reviewed by the QCR. If it turns out there is no evidence of a cancer diagnosis, these records will be securely destroyed.
- Treatment and care - medical interventions used to manage and treat cancer (including palliative care, prevention and screening).
- Follow-up - information about treatment, recurrence and vital status.
- Name of institutions who supply information and name of the treating doctor.

The QCR assists in providing an accurate picture of the impact of cancer and the nature and extent of cancer throughout Queensland.

The QCR has strong privacy safeguards in place. Any personal information collected must be maintained in accordance with strict privacy and confidentiality obligations under the Information Privacy Act 2009.

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 publicly available.

No names or identifying information about people diagnosed with cancer 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.

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.