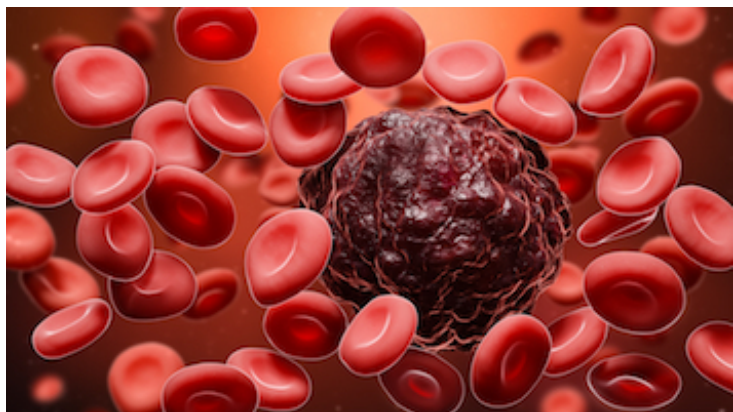


Australia to give better care and treatment for blood cancer patients

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The Morrison Government and Leukaemia Foundation are working together to fund priority recommendations



Australians with blood cancer will receive improved treatment and care through new and continued funding from the Morrison Government, working in close partnership with the Leukaemia Foundation.

Blood cancers develop when blood cells aren't made properly. In 2021, around 18,485 new cases of blood cancer were diagnosed in Australia and there were 5,789 deaths. The five-year survival rate for blood cancer is 69.7 per cent.

The Morrison Government acknowledges the significant impact blood cancer has on the Australian community, which is why we're investing \$995,000 to develop five new Optimal Care Pathways and a new set of clinical guidelines for a range of blood cancers.

This builds on the \$750,000 provided in 2019-20 to the Leukaemia Foundation to develop and implement the National Strategic Action Plan for Blood Cancers, establish the Blood Cancer Taskforce, and complete the first tranche of six new Optimal Care Pathways.

Minister for Health and Aged Care, Greg Hunt, said the Optimal Care Pathways and Australian-specific clinical guidelines will provide health professionals and patients with the best information to diagnose, manage and treat blood cancer.

To complement the Government's combined investment of more than \$1.75 million, the Leukaemia Foundation is also providing more than \$900,000 from its charitable resources for a collaborative research roadmap for blood cancer, and to promote better understanding of blood cancer within First Nations communities.