

# This is Me - Exploring opportunity to integrate what matters most to older adults with cancer into multidisciplinary team meetings (MDMs).

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## BACKGROUND

- International guidelines recommend routine pre-treatment geriatric screening and assessment for older adults with cancer<sup>1,2,3</sup>.
- *This is Me* was co-designed to support age friendly health care and embed older adults' preferences for care and treatment into discussions about treatment planning and goals of care
- **AIM** To explore opportunity to integrate information from *This is Me* into cancer MDMs.

## METHODS

- Qualitative focus groups and interviews.
- Patients (≥70 years), carers and MDM healthcare professionals (HCPs) were purposively recruited from Melanoma and Multiple Myeloma (MM) services at Peter Mac.
- Data collection and analysis was guided by the AACTT Framework<sup>4</sup>.
- Data were analysed using manifest content analysis.

The patient is the best person to complete *This is Me* with or without partner/significant other input  
A proxy is acceptable

Consumers and HCPs

*This is Me* is easy to complete. The information collected is straightforward, not invasive and relevant

Consumers

Most of the *This is Me* domains form part an initial consultation

HCPs

Asking 'What matters most?' is not commonplace when discussing treatment plans

HCPs

**Consumers and health professionals endorsed the importance of *This is Me* being used early in patients' care, however MDMs were not the optimal context**



This is Me



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## RESULTS

- 14 consumers (9 patients, 5 Carers) and 11 HCPs participated.

The information generated by *This is Me* supports a holistic understanding of a person's needs

Consumers and HCPs

It is an opportunity to engage in conversations that might not otherwise be raised

Consumers and HCPs

The MDM function is to ensure adherence to evidence-informed and best practice treatment guideline recommendations and discuss complex cases

HCPs

How often are these MDMs? Is this information fed back to patients?  
We've not had an MDM

Consumers

The MDM is not the most appropriate context for the information generated as it does not align with key functions of the MDM as described

Consumers and HCPs

The resource could be used by patients and HCPs early in the patient's illness pathway

Consumers and HCPs

There is some wording ambiguity within *This is Me*, there is a need to revise the resource

Consumers and HCPs

## WHAT'S NEXT

- HCPs, patients and carers advocated for further engagement and re-design of *This is Me* resource.
- Resource re-design is underway.
- A national survey of multidisciplinary cancer clinicians is planned to explore potential for *This is Me* as a component of usual care.

### References

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