

# ENHANCING THE UNDERSTANDING OF FINANCIAL TOXICITY IN PEOPLE WITH CANCER IN AUSTRALIA: DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF A PATIENT-REPORTED OUTCOME (PRO) MEASURE FOR ASSESSING FINANCIAL TOXICITY

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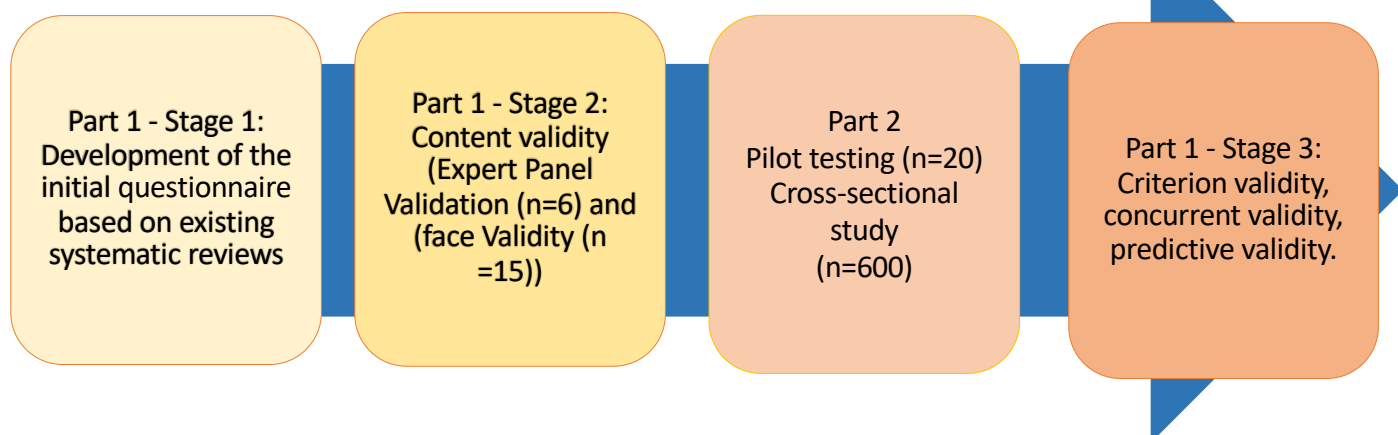
## INTRODUCTION

- Financial toxicity (FT) is increasingly recognised as a common distressing effect following a cancer diagnosis in Australia and globally.
- A validated, comprehensive Patient-Reported Outcome (PRO) measure for subjectively assessing FT suitable for the Australian healthcare system is lacking.

## OBJECTIVES

- Develop a comprehensive PRO-measure for FT appropriate for the Australian healthcare setting.
- Quantify the experiences of FT in people with cancer and the factors associated with these experiences.

Figure 1. An overview of the overall approach of the methods used to develop financial toxicity PRO Measure.



## METHODOLOGY

- Project guided by the Consensus based on the Standards for the selection of health Measurement Instruments (COSMIN)
- Initial PRO-measure items generated from the recent systematic review and other reviews
- Screening of items for content and internal validity through expert consultation (n=6) and people with cancer (n=15)
- Use of Item Response Theory (IRT) and Classical Test Theory (CTT) to reduce items
- Retained items form a pilot PRO-measure for psychometric testing
- Cognitive interview "think loud" method used with 20 participants for question suitability and understanding
- Cross-sectional survey of 600 people with cancer recruited via Princess Alexandra Hospital and nationally through social media

## OUTCOMES

- Development of a validated PRO-measure for assessing FT in people with cancer in the Australian context, meeting the standards set by COSMIN.
- Identifying and quantifying key factors contributing to FT experiences among people with cancer in Australia, providing insights into the prevalence and impact of FT in this population.

## TAKE HOME MESSAGE

The development of a comprehensive PRO measure specifically tailored to the Australian healthcare context will provide healthcare practitioners with a standardised tool to effectively assess and address financial toxicity faced by individuals navigating cancer care.

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