ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION TO:
SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Inquiry into:

A. The Supply of Chemotherapy Drugs
   I. Patient Access to Treatment
   II. Cost to Pharmacists and Suppliers
   III. Cost to the Private and Public Systems

B. Long Term Sustainable Funding Models

C. Related Matters

ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION BY:

SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL PHARMACY
SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

Dr Leon Clark
Group Chief Executive Officer
Adventist HealthCare Limited

Margaret Duffy
GM San Diagnostics and Pharmacy
Corporate Services Executive Officer
Adventist HealthCare Limited

28 March 2013

IMPACT ON/RISK TO COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF CANCER SERVICES

OVERVIEW

Chemotherapy Infusion Services are only one area of a wide range of integrated services and expertise that cancer patients and their carers require and benefit from during what can be an immensely physically and emotionally devastating period of their lives.

Chemotherapy Infusion is only one step in a patient's 'cancer journey' that includes progressing from screening through to diagnosis, to treatment, to recovery and rehabilitation, and to ongoing support/survivor services.

Each step of the progression through these services is critical to best practice cancer care.

Equally important, the ongoing availability of each service is influenced by/dependant on patient use of the other services.

Specialist Oncology Doctors choose facilities where patients are guaranteed access to the wide range of cancer services they require.

The ability of Sydney Adventist Hospital (SAH) to provide a range of cancer services will be compromised if it is no longer viable to provide infusion services because of reductions in chemotherapy funding (as detailed in the previous submission).

Cancer related data for 2012 shows extensive patient usage. SAH had 11,893 separate admissions for cancer related episodes of care including:

- 5166 patient admissions for over 8000 chemotherapy infusions for more than 730 patients at the San Day Infusion Centre
- 3159 plus patient admissions to the Poon Oncology Ward specifically for medical (pharmacological) cancer treatment
- 2617 plus patient admissions for surgical cancer treatment
- 873 cancer patient case studies benefit from group discussion at multidisciplinary cancer specialists meetings

The need for our services will only increase in the future.

This is evidenced by statistics that the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service has the greatest number of aged people of all the areas in NSW. It also has the greatest numbers of 'old old' (85+). The 75+ aged population was expected to increase by 10.8% in Northern Sydney (2001-2011) while the 85+ age group was projected to increase by 39%.

A 29% increase in cancer cases is expected in the Northern Sydney region between 2006 and 2021. Forward planning data commissioned by SAH estimates the increase in demand for our chemotherapy and medical oncology services from 2010-11 to 2016-17 could be 17.2% and 20% respectively.

Direct and indirect costs of cancer to the NSW economy have been estimated at $10 billion per annum.

As a not-for-profit institution motivated by the need to meet community needs and demonstrate '*Christianity in Action*', Sydney Adventist Hospital provides an essential complement to public sector cancer services in our region.

It would be unfortunate if service reductions were required as a result of continued underfunding of chemotherapy infusions.

COMPREHENSIVE CANCER SERVICES AT SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

"Sydney Adventist Hospital provides exemplary cancer care and is generally regarded as best practice. It has consciously managed to integrate supportive care, clinical services and community outreach. It is held in very high regard."

Dr Andrew Penman CEO (former) Cancer Council NSW

Chemotherapy Infusion Services at Sydney Adventist Hospital are one element of a range of integrated cancer services (See Attachment A).

Sydney Adventist Hospital cancer services maximise the ease and convenience of patient access to quality diagnostic and treatment services, and influence survival and recovery outcomes.

Easy and convenient access enables patients to continue to meet their family and work commitments, and helps maximise their psychosocial health.

The comprehensive range of facilities, services and expertise at Sydney Adventist Hospital which cancer patients utilise and benefit from includes:

- Over 800 qualified visiting accredited medical officers treating a broad range of conditions. These include but are not limited to general surgical, breast, urological, colorectal, gynaecological, and various medical, radiation, haematological and other Cancer specialists
- Diagnostic imaging - Mammogram, ultrasound, biopsy, interventional radiology, CT, MRI, X-Ray
- Nuclear Medicine (Northern Nuclear Medicine) including PET Scan
- Pathology
- Cancer Geneticist
- Day Infusion Centre
- Pre-Admission Clinic
- Specialist breast cancer nurse patient navigators
- Endoscopy/Day Surgery Facility/Operating Theatres/Recovery
- High Intensity Focused Ultrasound
- A da Vinci Surgical Robotic System
- Oncology Ward
- Radiation Oncology (Radiation Oncology Institute)
- Multidisciplinary specialist Doctor advisory teams
- Pharmacy
- Palliative Care
- Emergency Care
- Clinical Trials Unit
- Physiotherapy
- Speech Pathology
- Hospital in the Home program
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Cancer Support Centre (counselling and support services)
- Carer's subsidised on site residential accommodation (Jacaranda Lodge)
- Oncology massage and complementary therapies
- Cancer Council Information Centre

Access to this range of specialised cancer expertise is at risk if services are no longer viable or available due to a decrease in patronage or cost shifting required to cover other shortfalls in remuneration.

Listed are just some details on how four of these services are used.

1. Inpatient Admissions

Further to the information in the overview, within the 11,893 total separate admissions for cancer care the highest incidence includes:

- Breast 1612
- Prostate 911
- Colorectal/anal 1500
- Non Hodgkin Lymphoma 570
- Bladder Cancer 502
- Malignant Melanoma 183
- Lung Cancer 405
- Prostate Cancer 911
- Pancreatic Cancer 385

2. Day Infusion Centre

In 2012 San Day Infusion Centre had 5166 patient admissions for over 8000 chemotherapy infusions for more than 730 patients.

The most immediate impact of the chemotherapy funding reductions is on the viability of the San Day Infusion Centre with the funding shortfall in comparison to 2012 estimated at $800,000 - $1,000,000 by December 2013 (as detailed in the previous submission).

The 11 chair Day Infusion Centre meets a critical community need for access to cancer infusions for a wide range of conditions as shown by figures for patient use as at December 2012.

The Day Infusion Centre currently provides 100% of all chemotherapy services for the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai public hospital.

If patients were not able to attend the centre, attendance at alternative public facilities may result in treatment delays, more travel and reduced choice.

3. Multidisciplinary Specialist Doctor Teams

Cancer patients treated at Sydney Adventist Hospital have the benefit of access to multiple medical opinions and advice on their diagnosis and treatment because of their specialist's ability to participate in the innovative and best practice model of multidisciplinary specialist teams.

Multidisciplinary specialist teams for urological, breast, gastro-intestinal, colorectal, and gynaecological cancers meet fortnightly giving patients a more comprehensive individualised treatment program.

Since 2011 more than 873 cancer patients have had the benefit of having their cases discussed:

- 336 Breast cancer patients
- 207 Urology oncology patients
- 264 Gastro-Intestinal cancer patients
- 54 Gynaecological patients
- 12 Lung cancer patients

"The multidisciplinary approach provides the opinion of many specialists for a patient's diagnosis and treatment without the patient having to go and see them all…in many cases the management of the plans of the patient will be refined once discussed with the multi-disciplinary team."

Associate Professor Michael Hughes
Chairman Multidisciplinary Breast Care Team

4. San Cancer Support Centre

(Please see "What's on at the Cancer Support Centre" brochure – Attachment B)

The San Cancer Support Centre on site at the Hospital is assisted by Adventist HealthCare and the NSW Health NGO grant program.

The Centre provides free informational and education resources, advice, counselling, group and individual therapy sessions, and other services for cancer patients and their carers for both public and private patients regardless of where their treatment was provided.

7180 individual services were accessed by community members in 2012 including:

- 5600 attendances at 11 specialty support groups
- 550 attendances at counselling sessions
- 500 attendances at a variety of programmes to address psycho-social needs including loss of hair, fear of dying, grief, needs of carers, therapeutic art and writing and survivorship issues
- 280 attendances at specific cancer education information forums

BEST PRACTICE CANCER CARE

Any reduction or restriction in the range of cancer services would be contrary to best practice cancer care of integrating services to maximise survival and patient experience.

Best practice cancer care provides a comprehensive and wide range of diagnostic, medical and surgical treatment, radiation oncology, nurse practitioner, supportive counselling, chemotherapy/pharmacy and allied health services that provide a circle of cancer care.

Best practice ensures a comprehensive range of services that attract and ensure patient access to the wide range of specialist medical practitioners including oncologists, surgeons, haematologists, palliative care and other cancer specialists.

The Commonwealth has endorsed best practice cancer care and the integration of cancer services to maximise patient outcomes by providing funding to several integrated cancer centres nationally including:

- $426 of a $853million funding partnership with the Victorian Government for the Parkville Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Victoria
- $70million funding for the Garvan St Vincent's Cancer Centre in Sydney
- $160million funding for the LifeHouse (integrated Cancer Centre) at RPA
- The $65million Albury Wodonga integrated cancer centre

All these centres have at their core the philosophy that best practice cancer care provides an integration of cancer services geographically co-located and linked to provide a circle of cancer care.

The existing range of comprehensive cancer services at Sydney Adventist Hospital provides this circle of care and attracts the highest level of cancer expertise.

Any reduction in the range of services endangers this.

In addition it also puts at risk the development at Sydney Adventist Hospital of the new $20 million Integrated Cancer Centre currently being built and expected to open in 2014 which will enhance our current cancer services.

"We know through international experience that this new centre and the way in which it manages and coordinates care will change the journey of what traditionally can be a traumatic and distressing time for patients. It will maximise the outcomes in terms of both survival and quality of life."

Associate Professor Arthur Richardson
Chair Gastro-intestinal Multidisciplinary Team

SAN INTEGRATED CANCER CENTRE

The San Integrated Cancer Centre will provide a dedicated Centre of Excellence, providing a purpose-designed 'one-stop' integrated treatment centre. Currently patients have to consult multiple specialists at separate facilities.

As the only dedicated integrated cancer facility in the North West of Sydney it will provide a holistic approach to treatment of all major cancers through a single patient entry to one comprehensive, diagnostic, treatment, and support area.

The Centre will offer access to patient navigators who will guide patients through their cancer journey to address miscommunication, resolve inefficiencies, and improve care coordination to help extend lives.

The centre will utilise state-of-the-art information and communications equipment to maximise liaison and integration between all diagnostic, treatment, and support elements which will provide patients with a sense of continuity.

"The number 1 thing during cancer is anxiety…the lack of trust in the process or the fear that no-one aside from you really knows what is happening to you and is managing your care. …and often you're too sick to manage your own care. Knowing the team is working together on my behalf and not having to second guess advice or wonder if each of the doctors had the right information about me …that would have been a huge relief."

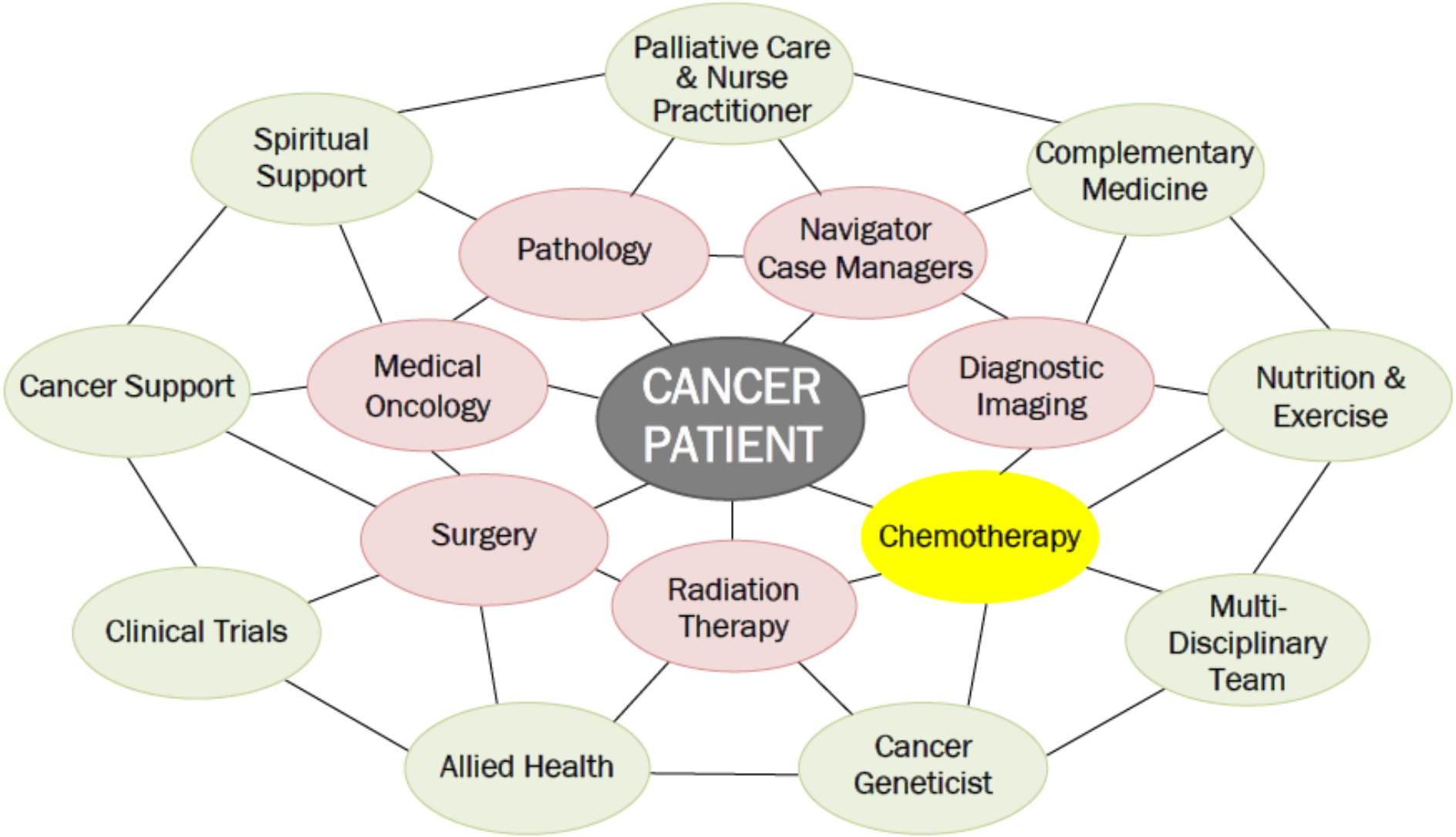
Jane Ewins, Cancer Survivor
(talking about the proposed new Integrated Cancer Centre and availability of patient navigators that the Centre will offer)

SUMMARY

Access to chemotherapy infusions is essential to the ongoing long term provision of other cancer services.

The reduction in funding for Chemotherapy drugs and dispensing (estimated at $800,000 to $1,000,000 in 2013 and detailed in the previous submission) puts the delivery of these other services in jeopardy with flow on affects to availability of services, staff numbers and demands on public sector facilities.

Integrated Cancer Care



Attachment A

San CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE

SUPPORT GROUPS 2013

Bowel Cancer Group
Alternate Thursdays 10-12noon

Breast Cancer Group
Tuesdays — 1-2.30pm

Breast Cancer Group—Young Women
Alternate Wednesdays
10.30am-12.30pm
(Not held during school holidays)

Neuroendocrine Tumour and Carcinoid Syndrome Group
Please contact the Centre for meeting dates

General Group
Wednesdays—10-12noon

Gynaecological Group
(currently in recess)

Life After Loss Support Group
A five week closed group that runs twice a year

Lung and Respiratory Cancer Group
Alternate Thursdays—10-12noon

Prostate Cancer Group
2nd Monday in month 2.30pm
4th Monday in month 7pm

Stoma Group
1st Wednesday in month 10-11.45am

Meditation
Each Thursday—10-11am
Support Group follows—11-12noon

Look Good Feel Better
Monthly Workshops

FINDING YOUR WAY....

While the Hospital is undergoing building work, we encourage visitors to take the main Hospital entrance and park in the visitors' parking area. From there, you can catch the shuttle bus to the Hospital, walk through the hospital and out to the Cancer Support Centre at the rear. For those less mobile, there are a few parking spots directly outside the Cancer Support Centre. To get there, take the second Hospital entrance, at the Fox Valley Medical & Dental Centre, 187 Fox Valley Rd. Drive around behind the Hospital and follow the signs to Jacaranda Lodge. Discounted parking is available when you come to the Centre.

Sydney Adventist Hospital
Cancer Support Centre
185 Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga NSW 2076

Telephone: (02) 9487 9061
Email: support@sah.org.au
Website: www.sah.org.au/Cancer-Support
Office Hours: 8.30am-5.00pm Monday - Friday

CAL/CSC/0213
Sydney Adventist Hospital, a division of Adventist HealthCare Limited ABN 76 096 452 925

San CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE

March 2013

What's On at the Cancer Support Centre

Tel: 9487 9061

Caring for you and your family

Attachment B

March 2013

Bowel Cancer Group
Thursday 7, 21 – 10 - 12 noon

Breast Cancer Group
Tuesday 5, 12, 19, 26 – 1.00 - 2.30pm

Breast Cancer Group Young Women
Wednesday 6, 20 - 10-12.30pm

Cancer Council Legal & Financial Seminar
"Getting Your Affairs in Order"
Wednesday 20 March 2013 - 2.30-3.30 pm

General Group
Wednesday 6, 13, 20, 27 – 10-12 noon

Gynaecological Cancer Group
(currently in recess)

Life Story Writing
Tuesday 5, 12, 19, 26 – 10-12 noon

Look Good Feel Better
Tuesday 26 - 10am - 12.30pm

Lung Cancer Education Forum
Tuesday 19 March - 7pm

Lung & Respiratory Cancer Group
Thursday 14, 28 – 10 -12 noon

Meditation
Thursday 7, 14, 21, 28 – 10-12 noon

Neuroendocrine Tumour and Carcinoid Syndrome Group
Next meeting 18 April

Prostate Cancer Group
Monday 11 - 2.30pm
Monday 25 - 7.00pm

Stoma Group
Wednesday 6 - 10-11.45am

San CANCER SUPPORT CENTRE

The Cancer Support Centre is assisted by Adventist Health Care and the NSW Health NGO Grant Program. Our services are free to both public and private patients, regardless of where treatment has been provided.

SUPPORT GROUPS

- Bowel Cancer (fortnightly)
- Breast Cancer (weekly)
- Breast Cancer—Young Women (fortnightly) (Does not meet during school holidays)
- General Group (weekly)
- Gynaecological Cancers (in recess)
- Lung Cancer (fortnightly)
- Neuroendocrine Tumour & Carcinoid Syndrome (monthly)
- Prostate Cancer (twice monthly)
- Stoma Group (monthly)
- Meditation (weekly)
- Look Good Feel Better (monthly)

New groups develop following sufficient interest

EDUCATION LECTURES

- Breast Cancer
- Prostate Cancer
- Bowel Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Stress Management
- Nutrition and Cancer
- Cancer and the Mind
- Exercise and Cancer
- Survivorship

Family members are welcome to attend Education Lectures

ACUPUNCTURE (Consultation Fee)

PHONE-IN AND DROP-IN

- During Crisis
- For support or information
- A quiet place to sit and rest or read

PERSONAL & FAMILY SUPPORT COUNSELLING

- At diagnosis
- During and After Treatments
- Associated Family Stress
- Telephone counselling
- Ward visits

INFORMATION

- Cancer Council Booklets
- Medical Journals
- Books
- DVD's/CD's
- Internet information

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

For families who lose a member through cancer

REFLEXOLOGY

Available by appointment various days and times

WRITING THERAPY

WIG LIBRARY

VOLUNTEER TRANSPORT

To Radiation Therapy or Doctor's appointments at the Sydney Adventist Hospital if family and friends are unable to assist.

For more information, times and dates for lectures and support group meetings, or to book a counselling session, massage or reflexology, please call us on 9487 9061.