2025

TROG CANCER RESEARCH

ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORT

Together, we can defeat cancer.

trog.com.au

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands across Australia and pay respect to Elders past, present and future.

We acknowledge Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa New Zealand and as Treaty partners with the Crown as agreed in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

TRANS TASMAN RADIATION ONCOLOGY GROUP LIMITED
Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission
Registered charity
ABN:45132672292

CONTENTS

TRANS TASMAN RADIATION ONCOLOGY GROUP (TROG) 2025 ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORT

OUR VISION

Improving outcomes of people affected by cancer.

OUR MISSION

To revolutionise cancer care through impactful radiation medicine research to cure cancer and improve quality of life.

OUR VALUES

Scientific Excellence

Unwavering in our commitment to excellence, we uphold the highest standards of research integrity, continuously evolving and adapting to maintain meticulous scientific practices.

Collaborative Discovery

Fostering a culture of unity and collaboration, we actively forge and nurture partnerships across academic, professional, healthcare and research sectors to drive innovation and collective wisdom in cancer research.

Innovative Research

We continuously pursue innovative breakthroughs, leveraging cutting-edge technologies and novel methodologies to redefine the limits of cancer treatment and care.

Impactful Outcomes

Our research is driven by the pursuit of tangible, impactful outcomes that advance cancer diagnosis, treatment and patient care; guided by measurable goals and a commitment to real-world benefits.

Compassion

Driven by deep empathy, we place patients, families and communities at the heart of our mission, ensuring our research priorities reflect compassionate care and support in every endeavour.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Embracing diversity in all its forms, we are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where every contribution is valued and research is accessible, inclusive of diverse patient populations, and focused on improving outcomes for all patients.

ABOUT TROG CANCER RESEARCH

The Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG) Cancer Research has been committed to advancing the delivery of radiation therapy treatment for cancer patients through impactful, high-quality scientific research, rigorous clinical trials, and the adoption of cutting-edge technology for more than 35 years.

Our primary focus is on generating evidence to refine radiation medicine technologies used across a broad spectrum of cancers.

Radiation therapy remains a cornerstone in the fight against cancer, alongside chemotherapy, surgery and immunotherapy. Approximately one in two individuals diagnosed with cancer may benefit from radiation therapy during their treatment journey, and there is growing recognition of the need to continually generate new evidence to underpin its use, not only to achieve optimal disease outcomes but also to improve patient experiences and reduce side effects.

Since TROG Cancer Research was formed in 1989 from a collaborative initiative among members from seven radiation oncology centres across Australia and New Zealand, the organisation has grown to become a highly respected, investigator-initiated clinical trials group with an international footprint.

Our extensive clinical trial portfolio covers research into all tumour types treatable with radiation therapy, yielding outcomes that drive real-world changes in clinical practice. These advances are introducing new and refined radiation medicine techniques that have significantly improved patient outcomes.

Our Strategic Plan 2024-2026

The TROG Cancer Research Strategic Plan outlines how we will further our vital work advancing and diversifying radiation medical research.

We are progressing with implementing the plan, which centres on four strategic goals:

1. Diversifying our research and enhancing access
2. Developing collaborative networks
3. Fostering member engagement and stakeholder communication
4. Enhancing funding, infrastructure, and sustainability.

Read more about the Strategic Plan.

To date, TROG has facilitated and collaborated on more than 130 clinical trials, supported by almost 16,000 clinical trial participants, contributing to more effective treatments and enhancing quality of life for those with cancer in Australia and globally.

With a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in all we do, TROG has fostered collaborations with a wide array of researchers and research institutions globally, as well as consumer and community groups – all united by the common goal of conquering cancer.

Our comprehensive research spans:

- An international network of more than 1,700 healthcare professional members
- More than 200 clinical trial sites worldwide.

TROG Cancer Research is one of 14 Collaborative Cancer Clinical Trials Groups (CCTGs) funded by the Australian Government to support the nation's capacity to develop investigator-initiated and industry-independent cancer clinical trials. Our work is also supported via grant funding and donations. We are the only CCTG devoted to generating evidence related to radiation medicine and one of the few groups encompassing multi-tumour stream research.

> ***TROG has facilitated and collaborated on more than 130 clinical trials ... contributing to more effective treatments and enhancing the quality of life for those with cancer in Australia and globally.***

TROG CANCER RESEARCH AT A GLANCE

2025

TROG CLINICAL TRIALS

189	15,749	130+	330+
Trial participants in 2025	Participants since inception	Clinical trials since inception	Publications since inception

OUR MEMBERSHIP (2025 DATA)

1719	245	1463	11
Total members	Full members	Affiliate members	Life members

FACILITY ALLIANCE MEMBERS

28 Facility Alliance Members across Australia and New Zealand in 2025

YEARS OF OPERATION 37+

200+ hospitals and cancer centres

INVOLVED IN TROG TRIAL ACTIVITY ACROSS THE WORLD

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD CHAIR

Associate Professor Puma Sundaresan

It is a privilege to present this President's report, reflecting a year of continued progress for TROG Cancer Research.

Guided by our mission, we have built on a strong foundation while positioning the organisation for future impact. In 2025, our work has focused on strengthening our core activities, delivering on our strategic priorities, and expanding our global collaborations.

TROG continues to deliver high-quality, practice-informing research, supported by a strong and engaged membership. Our portfolio of investigator-initiated trials remains active, with multiple studies progressing through development, activation, and recruitment. Importantly, the commencement of international collaborative trials, such as NRG-HN014, marks a significant milestone in TROG's evolution as a globally connected clinical trials group. Our trial teams have experienced several grant successes in 2025 including Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) and National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grants. I congratulate the Chief Investigators, their teams and the TROG central office team and acknowledge the tremendous efforts that were invested in the application processes.

Financially, TROG remains stable, supported by prudent governance and disciplined operational management. This stability has enabled continued investment in data management infrastructure and organisational capability, ensuring that TROG is well positioned to support increasingly complex and collaborative research initiatives and future secondary analyses initiatives more efficiently.

Our governance structures continue to evolve in line with organisational needs. The Board, strengthened through recent renewal and skills-based appointments, provides strong oversight across strategy, finance, and risk. I acknowledge the ongoing voluntary contributions of TROG's member-elected and Independent Board Directors, Scientific Committee leadership and members of TROG's many working parties and special interest groups as well as the TROG central office team, led by CEO Susan Goode, whose collective expertise and commitment underpin TROG's success.

TROG's strategic direction remains firmly anchored in the 2024–2026 Strategic Plan, which continues to guide our focus across four key priorities: diversifying research and enhancing access; developing collaborative networks; fostering stakeholder engagement and communication; and strengthening funding, infrastructure, and sustainability. A central theme of our work in 2025 has been diversification of our research and a strong commitment to incorporating the patient voice and lived experience into research questions, design and delivery, and to ensuring that our work is relevant and accessible.

Our commitment to strategic partnerships continues to deliver tangible outcomes. Engagement with national and international groups such as NRG Oncology, European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), and Head & Neck Cancer International Group (HNCIG) is strengthening TROG's global footprint and creating new opportunities for collaboration and innovation in radiation medicine research. These partnerships will be critical to ensuring that TROG remains at the forefront of practice-changing research. We also continue to invest in our membership and future workforce. The launch of the Emerging Investigator Special Interest Group and initiatives such as the Concept Development Workshop are important steps in building research capacity and supporting the next generation of clinician-researchers. These initiatives reinforce TROG's commitment to fostering an inclusive, collaborative, and sustainable research community.

As we look ahead, we recognise the ongoing challenges within the funding environment for investigator-initiated research. Addressing these challenges will require continued diversification of funding sources, including fostering industry & corporate partnerships, attracting philanthropy, and community engagement. I extend my sincere thanks to all TROG members, consumer partners, collaborators, and supporters. Your dedication, expertise, and commitment remain the driving force behind TROG's achievements and will enable us to continue improving outcomes for people affected by cancer.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ms Susan Goode

The year 2025 marked continued progress against the TROG 2024–2026 Strategic Plan, with significant advances across our strategic priorities and ongoing work to strengthen the organisation's long-term sustainability and impact.

Throughout the year, our focus remained on strengthening the capability, systems, partnerships and people required to support high-quality radiation medicine research in an increasingly complex environment. This included diversification of our research activities, strengthened operational and quality assurance infrastructure, improved member engagement, and expansion of TROG's national and international collaborations.

A key operational milestone was the activation of NRG-HN014/TROG 24.02, the first NRG Oncology trial opened under TROG following our acceptance as an NRG Oncology main member. We undertook considerable work across governance, contracts, quality assurance and trial operations to support this strategic initiative. This collaboration represents an important step in strengthening TROG's role as an internationally connected clinical trials and research organisation, and will support the expansion of collaborative research opportunities and the opening of additional clinical trials in the years ahead.

Responding to member feedback was another important focus in 2025. Work commenced to improve visibility of the trial development pipeline and strengthen communication around proposal pathways and opportunities for members to become involved in TROG research activity.

The establishment of the Emerging Investigator Special Interest Group also reflects TROG's commitment to support early-career researchers and build future research capacity across the radiation medicine community.

> ***Consumer engagement as well as equity, diversity and inclusion remained important organisational priorities.***
>
> **SUSAN GOODE, TROG CEO**

We continued working to involve consumers in all we do, including drawing on lived experience perspectives across our research activities and governance discussions. Throughout 2025, we continued to focus on improving equitable access, inclusiveness and the relevance of TROG's research programs, particularly for rural, regional and underserved communities.

A significant strategic appointment during the year was Alisha Moore's appointment to the new role of Head of Operations, Research and Quality Assurance. This role strengthens leadership and integration across TROG's operational, research support and quality assurance functions, including our Radiation Therapy Quality Assurance and Imaging QA programs, which remain central to TROG's strategic capability.

Despite ongoing pressures within the funding environment for investigator-initiated research, TROG remained financially stable during 2025. Maintaining a disciplined and sustainable operational approach continues to be a key priority as we balance investment in organisational capability with long-term sustainability.

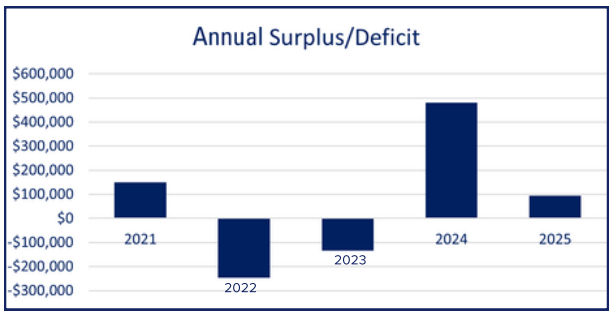
I sincerely thank the TROG Board, Scientific Committee, working parties, special interest groups, members, Facility Alliance Members, consumers, collaborators, donors and partners for their ongoing support and contribution throughout the year. I also particularly acknowledge the TROG Central Office staff for their professionalism, adaptability and commitment. Their work underpins our ability to support our members, trials, collaborators and strategic priorities.

Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to the patients and families who participate in TROG-supported research. Their contribution remains central to everything we do and continues to drive our commitment to improving outcomes and quality of life for people affected by cancer.

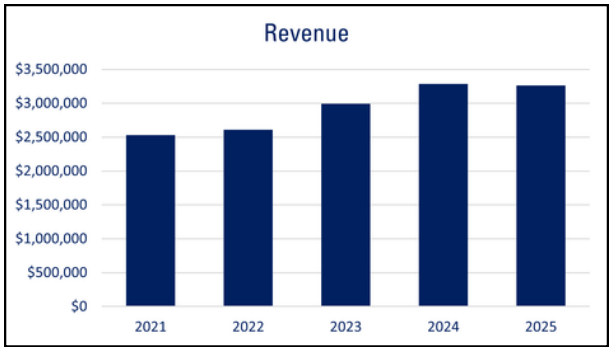
2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

A summary of the audited, full financial report for 2025 is detailed below.

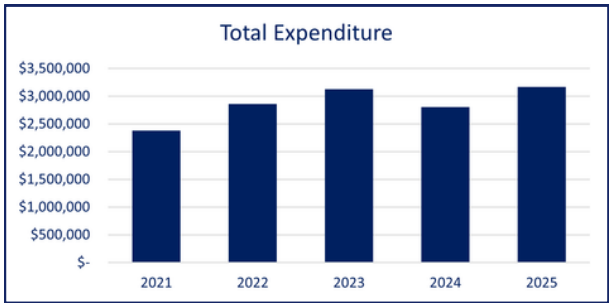
TROG Cancer Research delivered a surplus of $95,085 in 2025.



Revenue remained stable with the 2025 result decreasing by less than 1% when compared to the 2024 result. Given the material once off donation received in 2024, this was a pleasing result. Research Services again increased its annual revenue along with increases is fundraising, Facility Alliance Member support and membership subscriptions. Continuing strong interest rates also contributed to this revenue result.

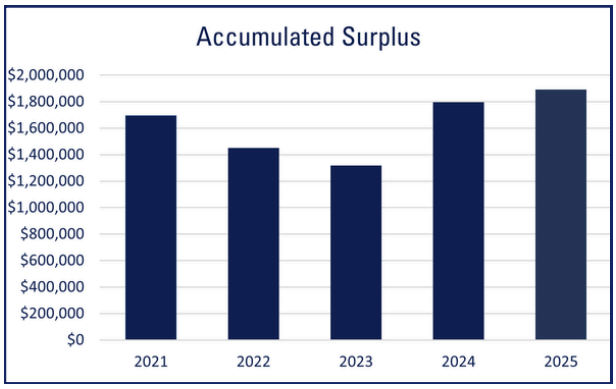


Increases in employment expenses, computer and information technology (IT) costs, communications and insurance expenses resulted in nearly 13% increase in expenses overall in 2025. Reduced costs in marketing and promotion and travel and meetings, assisted in TROG achieving the 2025 result.



The surplus generated in 2025 has further improved TROG's accumulated surplus (reserves for meeting future challenges).

These reserves of $1.89 million currently contain over $300k of donation funds to be utilised on specific activities.



See the 2025 Full Audited Financial Report:
https://trog.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/2025-Audited-Full-Financial-Report.pdf

MESSAGE FROM THE FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK MANAGMENT (FARM) COMMITTEE CHAIR

Mr Andrew Beck

In March 2025, I was pleased to take on the position of Chair of the Finance Audit & Risk Management Committee (FARM) from Dr Tim Kuypers, after his long term in the role.

The focus of the FARM in 2025 continued to be on working with Management to improve the efficiency and sustainability of the organisation. The FARM has monitored risks that arise within trials and worked successfully with Management to implement appropriate controls.

The work done in this space has led to us getting earlier insight into the indicators of risk and how best to intervene to manage these.

Consistent and reliable budgeting and forecasting has also enabled the FARM to oversee the financial status of the organisation. We continue to monitor legislative developments that could impact TROG.

FARM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Thank you to all the FARM Committee members for their valuable input in 2025:

- Dr Tim Kuypers: Former Independent Director and FARM Committee Chair; stepped down March 2025.
- Mr Andrew Beck, Independent Director; Appointed FARM Committee Chair March 2025.
- Mr Anthony Belcher, Independent Director.
- Prof Georgia Halkett, Elected Director.
- Mrs Sue Naeyaert, Independent Director.

Thank you to long-serving FARM Chair Dr Tim Kuypers

We thank Dr Tim Kuypers (pictured right), who stepped down as TROG Board Independent Director and Chair of the FARM Committee in March 2025, following more than 10 years of dedicated service to TROG.

Tim, a Principal Partner at Walbrook Partners and Special Advisor for HoustonKemp Economists, generously provided his time and expertise to the TROG Board since 2014.

We thank Tim for his incredible contribution and guidance during his tenure on the Board.

His contributions underpinned vital financial and business decision-making at TROG.

Tim's expertise was invaluable in guiding the organisation to successfully navigate difficult times including the COVID-19 pandemic, and funding challenges faced across the ever-changing research landscape.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Associate Professor Purnima (Puma) Sundaresan

Full Member, Director, President/Chairperson
(Elected as President March 2024)
MBBS, BSc (Hons), FRANZCR, PhD, GIACD
Consultant Radiation Oncologist Blacktown and Westmead Hospitals;
Clinical Academic, The University of Sydney;
Associate Editor, *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology*;
Immediate past Chair of Board, Head and Neck Cancer Australia.

Associate Professor Hien Le

Full Member, Director
Chair, TROG Scientific Committee
(Appointed June 2024)
MBBS, FRANZCR
Senior Consultant Radiation Oncologist and Head of Research,
Royal Adelaide Hospital;
Radiation Oncologist, ICON Cancer Centre;
Council Member RANZCR.

Professor Trevor Leong

Full Member, Director, Past President (April 2021-April 2024)
(Term ended March 2025)
MBBS, MD, FRANZCR
Radiation Oncologist and Past Director of Division of Radiation Oncology,
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

Professor Annette Haworth

Full Member Director
(Elected June 2019)
FACPSEM, PhD, MSc, BSc (Hons)
Professor of Medical Physics, University of Sydney;
Director, Institute of Medical Physics;
Director, Radiation Oncology Medical Physics, Western Sydney
Local Health District
Life Member of TROG with more than 20 years
serving on multiple clinical trials and TROG committees.

Dr Melissa James

Full Member, Director NZ
(Elected July 2021)
MBBS BSc (Hons), FRANZCR (UNSW)
Radiation Oncologist, Health New Zealand, Christchurch;
Senior Lecturer at Otago University,
Christchurch, New Zealand.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

Professor Georgia Halkett

Full Member, Director
Member, Finance, Audit & Risk Management Committee
(Elected March 2024)
PhD, FIR, BMedRad(Hons), GAICD
Senior Research Fellow, Curtin University;
Co-Domain Lead Cancer Domain of Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute, Curtin University;
WA Board Director Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT);
Board Member COGNO (Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology).

Dr Gerard Adams

Full Member, Director
(Appointed November 2025)
MbChB (Edin), MRCP, FRCR
Experienced Radiation Oncologist who has made a significant contribution to regional radiation oncology;
Served as Dean of RANZCR Faculty of Radiation Oncology;
Chair, RANZCR Maori, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Empowerment Committee (MATEC).

Dr Tuan Ha

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) Representative
(Appointed January 2025)
BSc, MBBS, FRANZCR
Consultant Radiation Oncologist and Regional Medical Director, GenesisCare, Queensland;
Senior Lecturer, Mentor and Examiner, School of Medicine, University of Queensland;
Dean, Faculty of Radiation Oncology, RANZCR.

Dr Tim Kuypers

Independent Director
Chair, Finance, Audit & Risk Management Committee
(Appointed October 2014; Stepped down March 2025)
GAICD, PhD Economics, ACCA Diploma (Acc and Fin);
Special Advisor at HoustonKemp Economists.
Member of Metro Trains Melbourne Board Safety Committee and Rail Industry Safety Standards Board Australia;
Experienced non-executive director and senior executive;
Significant expertise in highly regulated industries of transport and telecommunications.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

Mr Andrew Beck

Independent Director
Chair, Finance, Audit & Risk Management Committee
(Appointed April 2002; FARM Member from April 2022; Appointed FARM Chair March 2025)
BArts (Hons), BLaw(Hons)
Experienced in-house lawyer and Chief Legal Officer at Pacific National, Australia's largest rail freight operator;
Accomplished in improving processes and generating valuable business outcomes;
Focused on solutions and results with expertise in risk management.

Mr Anthony Belcher

Independent Director
Member, Finance, Audit & Risk Management Committee
(Appointed December 2024)
BCom, LLB (La Trobe), GradDipCA (CAANZ)
Director, Ashurst Risk Advisory, consulting arm of global law firm Ashurst.
Specialises in providing commercial, financial and risk advice on large-scale infrastructure projects and major government contracts.

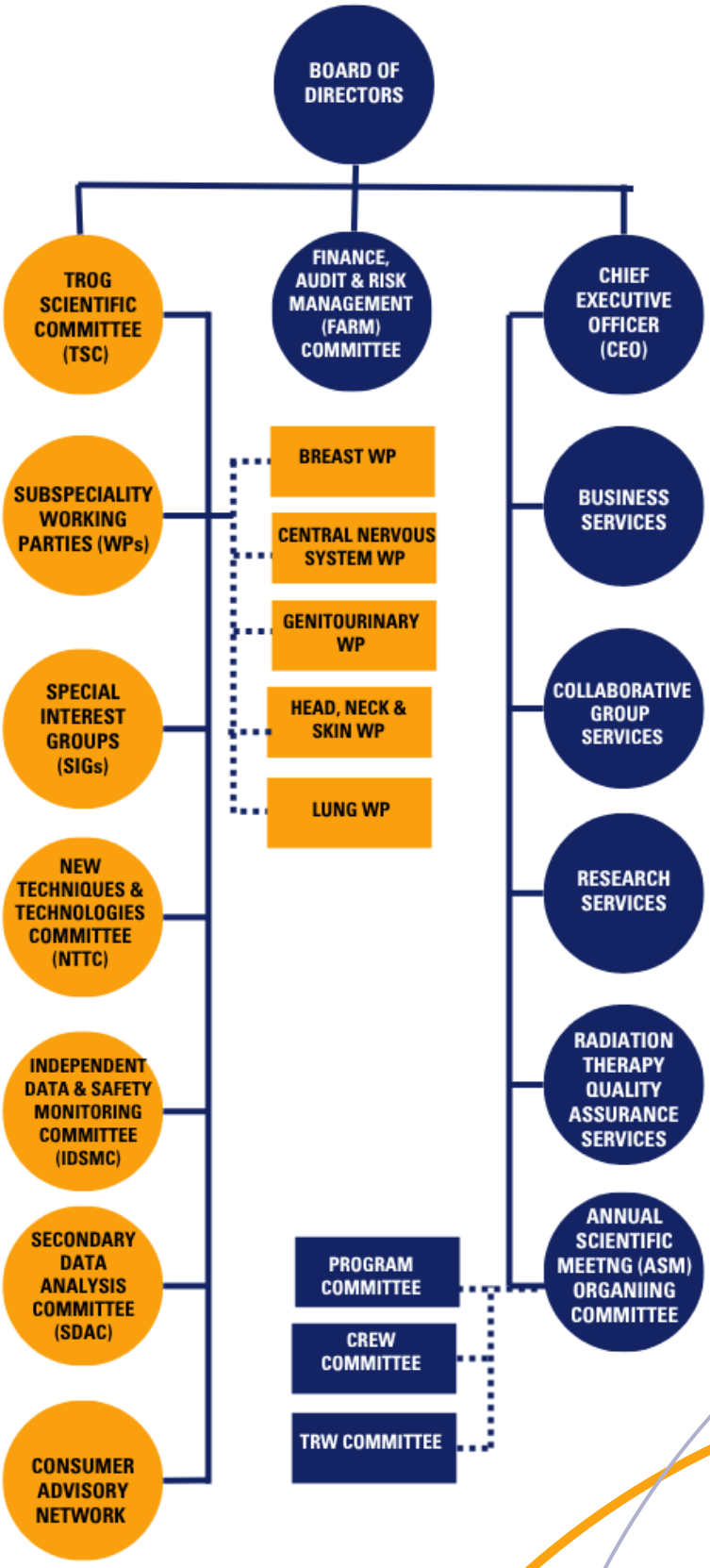
Mrs Susan Naeyaert

Independent Director
Member, Finance, Audit & Risk Management Committee
(Appointed November 2021)
BPharm, Grad Dip SC(Pharm) MCom
Strategic consultant in healthcare with over 20 years' experience in pharmaceutical industry, health economics, pricing and government policy;
Work experience in the US, Europe and Asia, with global and regional responsibilities;
Experience in cancer research within the pharmaceutical industry and government, including at EORTC;
Previously investigated the use of Quality of Life instruments using health economic techniques within randomised clinical trials.

Mr Murray McLachlan

Independent Consumer Representative Director
(Appointed April 2022)
Deputy Chair of Cancer Voices NSW;
Deputy Chair, Health Consumer NSW Board;
Volunteered with Cancer Council NSW;
Professional experience in the NSW public sector policy and advocacy;
Personal cancer experience as both a person diagnosed with prostate cancer (successful treatment 2009) and as a long-term partner and carer of a person diagnosed with pancreatic cancer (passing in 2007).

TROG ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



MESSAGE FROM THE TROG SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE CHAIR

Associate Professor Hien Le

The TROG Scientific Committee (TSC) had a highly productive 2025, marked by a steady pipeline of new proposals, strong trial activity, and several major grant successes

As of 31 December, TROG had 18 trials in development, two trials in start-up, and 21 active trials (including eight recruiting and 13 in follow-up).

Over the year, 190 participants were enrolled in TROG studies, and the organisation achieved 12 trial-related publications.

This year, TSC Deputy Chair A/Prof Sweet Ping Ng and I have worked to introduce several new initiatives including:

1. Expanding the TSC membership

- New voting members as follows:
  - Publications and Research Dissemination: The TROG publications committee has been dissolved and replaced by the new Publications and Research Dissemination position. The person in this role will work with appointed TROG Central Operations Office (TCOO) staff to review and report on TROG publications. The process of letting TROG know about trial publications has not changed and a member of TCOO will review the publication to ensure TROG is correctly identified.
  - TSC chair-appointed positions: Up to two additional members from any discipline may be appointed at the discretion of the TSC Chair based on the expertise needs of the TSC.
  - Subspecialty Tumour Stream Representatives from each working party (Breast, Central Nervous System (CNS), Genitourinary (GU), Head, Neck & Skin (HNS) and Lung). Each Subspecialty Working Party Chairperson will become a member of the TSC on their appointment.
- Additional ex officio positions as follows:
  - TROG representatives on international research group boards (as selected via the TROG spokesperson policy).
  - The Chairperson of the Emerging Investigator Special Interest Group.

The TSC Charter was updated to reflect these changes, and approved by the TROG Board on 12 March 2025.

2. Ensuring representation across groups

To strengthen collaboration and encourage the cross-pollination of ideas and expertise, each Working Party will include representation from key committees and groups across the organisation. Members from the New Technologies and Techniques Committee (NTTC), the Secondary Data Analysis Committee (SDAC), the Emerging Investigator Special Interest Group, and relevant Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will be embedded within every Working Party.

This structure is designed to:

- Bring diverse perspectives into trial development and oversight
- Facilitate the exchange of innovative methods, tools, and analytical approaches
- Ensure early-career researchers have a voice and opportunities to contribute
- Promote consistent communication and alignment across committees
- Strengthen the overall coherence and quality of trial activity.

> ***By integrating representatives from these groups, Working Parties will benefit from a broader range of expertise and maintain strong connections across the wider network.***
>
> **A/PROF HIEN LE, TSC CHAIR**

3. Forming an Emerging Investigator Group

The establishment of an Emerging Investigator Special Interest Group (EISIG) created a dedicated structure for fostering the development of early-career researchers and supporting their active involvement in TROG. The group serves as a platform for emerging investigators to build confidence, strengthen their skills, and contribute meaningfully to the broader research agenda by:

MESSAGE FROM THE TSC CHAIR (CONT.)

- Fostering and supporting early career researchers by providing opportunities for mentorship, collaboration, and leadership within TROG
- Encouraging the exchange of ideas, peer support, and shared learning within a structured community
- Enhancing visibility and recognition of emerging investigators across the organisation
- Building long-term capacity by nurturing the next generation of methodological and clinical trial leaders.

4. Updating the new proposal submission process, workflow and communication pathways

A dedicated New Proposal email address has been set up: NewProposals@trog.com.au. The email will be continuously monitored and timelines for responses and actions will be provided.

- Communication plans will be implemented by TCOO in 2026, with scheduling communication touch points for each proposal in development.
- The list of trials in development and EOI questionnaire will be made available on the TROG website in 2026.

OTHER NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Other highlights include a number of other trial milestones and achievements over the past 12 months.

- New proposals submitted: 11 (Cat A = 3, Cat B = 4, Cat C = 1, Cat D (SDA) = 3). Trial proposals reviewed and accepted for development: 2
- Four trials were opened to participant accrual:
  - **TROG 25.08 (Cat A | Prof Penny Schofield)**: Qualitative study of the lived experiences of patients with non-low-risk ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), 10 years post-randomisation. The aim of 25.08 is to explore the lived experiences of participants who participated in the BIG 3-07/TROG 07.01 DCIS trial via interview, regarding their diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.
  - **(TROG 24.02) NRG-HN014 (Cat B | Prof Danny Rischin):** Randomized Phase III Trial of Immunotherapy with Response-Adapted treatment versus Standard-of-Care Treatment for Resectable Stage III/IV Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma. Activated in October, this trial marks the first NRG trial opened under TROG.
  - **(TROG 21.08) VITaL (Cat C | USyd | Prof Paul Keall):** The Ventilation Imaging for Thoracic Lung cancer radiation therapy trial. This trial was developed in collaboration with the TROG Lung Working Party and RTQA team.
  - **(TROG 21.06) MR STAR (Cat C | AGITG | Dr Trang Pham):** Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)-Guided Stereotactic Adaptive Radiotherapy for Targeting Abdominal Malignancies. Trial developed in collaboration with the TROG MR in RT Special Interest Group and RTQA team.
- **TROG 19.06 DECREASE:** Recruited the final participant in June 2025, bringing total recruitment to 70 participants. DECREASE aims to determine whether adding targeted stereotactic radiotherapy to darolutamide can better delay disease progression in men with non-metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer detected on PSMA-PET imaging.
- **TROG 15.03 FASTRACK II:** All participants completed follow-up in April 2025. Open since July 2016 across 12 sites thoughtout Australia and Netherlands, this study showed that stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) provides excellent local control for primary renal cell carcinoma in patients who cannot undergo surgery. It demonstrated high efficacy with minimal significant toxicity, supporting SABR as a safe and effective non-invasive treatment option.
- **TROG 07.01 DCIS**: The database was locked in July 2025, 18 years after the first trial site was opened for recruitment. TROG would like to thank all involved in this TROG flagship trial, especially the trial chair, Prof Boon Chua, the 1608 participants and the trial staff over the 118 sites, 11 countries and eight collaborating groups!

Emerging Investigators Group breaks down barriers for new researchers

This year saw the launch of our new EISIG to support and connect early-career researchers working across the field of radiation medicine.

The Group, chaired by Dr Anna Lawless (right) met for the first time in September, bringing together 14 members from a range of disciplines including radiation oncology, radiation therapy, physicists and trial management. Dr Lawless said the group aimed to build a strong and accessible mentorship network, a pool of projects that emerging investigators could join or lead, a national community where early-career researchers felt supported and to provide practical workshops in trial design, research skills and scientific communication.

MESSAGE FROM THE TSC CHAIR (CONT.)

TROG has had an exceptionally successful year in competitive grant funding across our Category A and Category B trials, securing more than $3.62 million in support. Congratulations to:

- Dr Neda Haghighi, awarded Mark Hughes Foundation Centre for Brain Cancer Research funding (April 2025) for TROG 23.02 SMART trial, with additional site funding awarded to Royal Adelaide Hospital (A/Prof Hien Le) and Princess Alexandra Hospital (Prof Mark PInkham) for local participation.
- Prof Shankar Siva, awarded $1.5 million Medical Research Future Fund – National Critical Research Infrastructure/Innovative Trials funding (June 2025) for TROG 21.10 PRIME-Lung trial.
- Prof Wee Loon Ong, awarded $1.9 million Medical Research Future Fund – Clinical Trial Activity/International Clinical Trial Collaborations (ICTC) (June 2025) for TROG 24.09 HIGH FIVE trial (NRG-GU013). This represents the first radiation oncology trial to receive MRFF ICTC funding.

The TSC would also like to acknowledge Prof Paul Keall for securing NHMRC CTCS funding of $1.86 million for the Category C (TROG 21.08) VITaL trial led by the University of Sydney.

TROG and the Scientific Committee remain committed to working closely with our members to ensure our trials and new proposals continue to address the key priorities in radiation oncology and deliver meaningful impact for patients..

A/PROF HIEN LE, TSC CHAIR

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

We also acknowledge the leadership transitions across our Working Parties and Special Interest Groups in 2025:

- **BREAST WP:** Chair Farshad Foroudi (outgoing Feb 25); Steven David (appointed Feb 25)
- **CNS WP:** Chair Mark Pinkham (outgoing Sept 25); Kylie Jung (appointed Sept 25)
- **HNS WP:** Chair; Charles Lin (outgoing Mar 25); Lachlan McDowell (appointed Mar 25). Deputy chair; Sweet Ping Ng (appointed May 25)
- **LUNG WP:** Chair Fiona Hegi-Johnson (outgoing, Jul 25); Yu Yang Soon (appointed Aug 25). Deputy Chair; Neil Wallace (appointed Dec 25)
- **MR in RT SIG:** Chair Trang Pham (outgoing Nov 2025); Michael Jameson (appointed Nov 2025)

(See more about member contributions, next page).

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the more than 188 members across the TSC, the subspecialty Working Parties, the TSC sub-committees, and our Special Interest Groups for their dedication and active engagement throughout the year. Your expertise, ideas, partnerships, and collaborations continue to strengthen TROG's mission to advance radiation medicine research and improve outcomes for people affected by cancer.

TROG MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

The contributions made by the many members of our Committees, Working Groups and Special Interest Groups are vital for TROG's success.

We thank members for their enormous efforts, particularly as the majority of this work is performed on a voluntary basis. We'd like to recognise the contributions of all TROG members and consumer representatives, including:

Professor Trevor Leong who completed his term on the TROG Board in March 2025. Trevor has provided invaluable, long-running contributions to TROG's work over many years. He served as TROG President from April 2021–April 2024 and contributed in a number of capacities over many years, including as TROG Scientific Committee Chair. Most recently, he led the AGITG AG0407GR/TROG 08.08 TOPGEAR trial to completion and disseminated the practice-changing findings on the world stage.

A/Prof Fiona Hegi-Johnson stepped down as Chair of the Lung Working Party in August 2025, having generously contributed to the group for more than a decade. She was inaugural chair of the Lung Subspeciality Group which later became the Lung Working Party. Fiona is also a co-chair of the TROG 17.02 OUTRUN trial and previously served as a valued member of the TROG Board, including making significant contributions to the FARM Committee.

Prof Peter Greer served on the New Techniques and Technologies Committee (NTTC) since it was established in 2013. He made significant contributions to TROG's work, particularly in radiation therapy quality assurance. He served as NTTC Chair from 2015 to 2022 and continued as a member of the committee until stepping down in 2025, providing guidance and expertise across numerous initiatives.

A/Prof James Lynam completed two terms as TROG Scientific Committee – Medical Oncology Discipline representative in August 2025. He was appointed to the TSC in 2019, and served for six years, providing a wealth of expertise and knowledge to the Committee throughout that time.

A/Prof Charles Lin completed his term as Chair of the Head, Neck and Skin Working Party, having served from 2020-2025 and been a member since 2018. He remains a member of the Working Party.

Prof Mark Pinkham completed two terms as chair of the Central Nervous System Working Party. He was inaugural Chair from 2021-2025 and remains a member of the Working Party.

Mr John Stubbs AM (right) stepped down as Consumer Representative on the TSC in March 2025, having provided invaluable consumer insights to the Committee in the role since June 2016.

WELCOME NEW TSC MEMBERS

We were delighted to welcome three new members to the TSC this year:

Ms Louise Dillon joined the TSC as Consumer Representative in March 2025. Louise has more than 20 years' experience as a medical consumer advocate, and is committed to improving access and equity in public healthcare for rural and regional communities.

Dr Dorothy Chilambe Lombe, joined as Discipline Representative – Radiation Oncology in August 2025. Dorothy is a consultant radiation oncologist at Palmerston North Hospital in New Zealand and serves as Associate Dean Palmerston North for the University of Otago, Wellington.

Dr Katrina Woodford, PhD, joined as Discipline representative – Radiation Therapy in August 2025. Katrina is Lead Radiation Therapist Clinician Scientist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, where she oversees the radiation therapy research portfolio across their five campuses.

2025 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

See the **full list** of TROG 2025 Committee, Working Party and Special Interest Group members

ICON CANCER CENTRE

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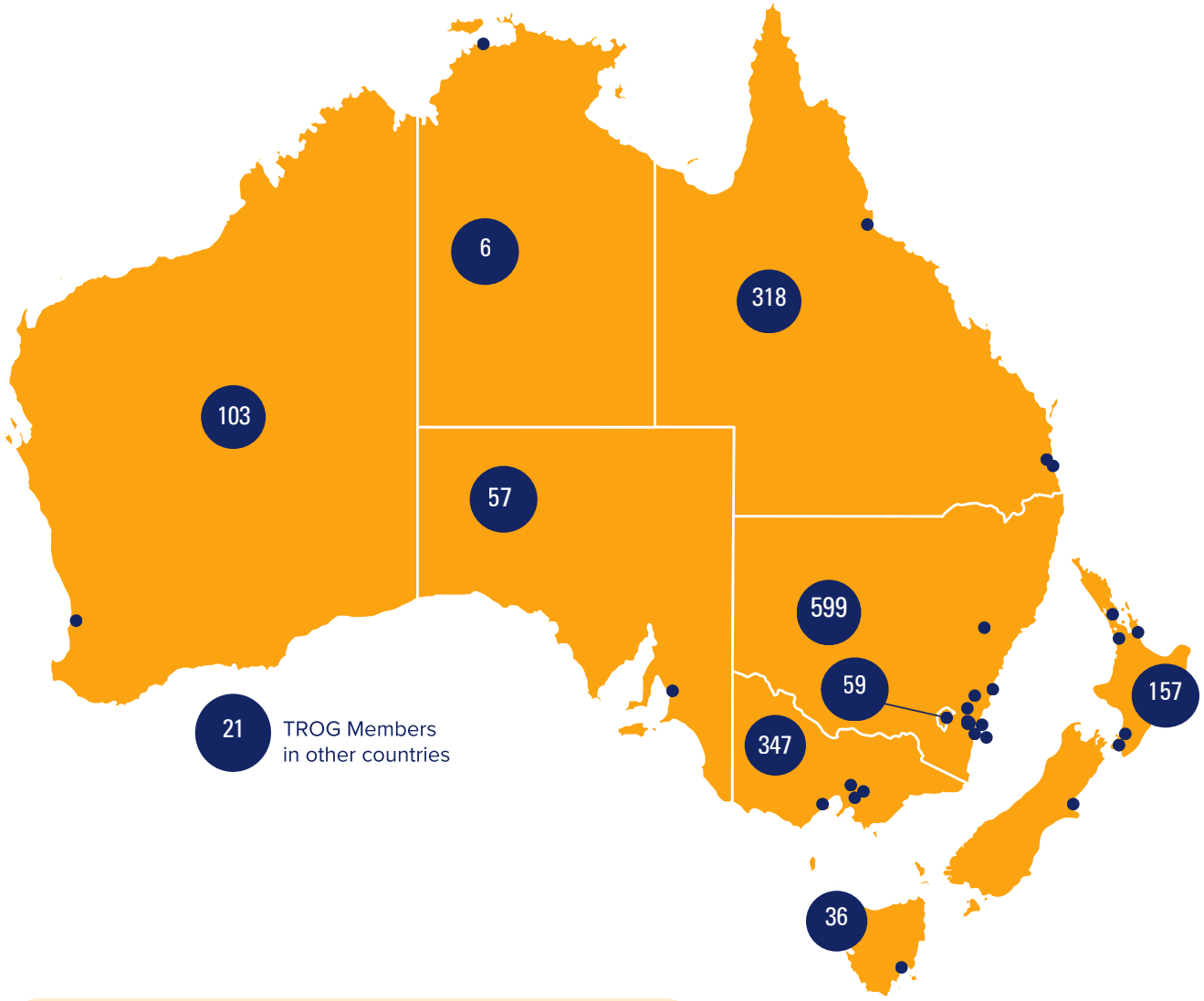
Icon is committed to delivering the best care possible, as close to home as possible. We proudly offer:

- **40+** years experience delivering cancer care
- **45** cancer centres (and growing)
- **250+** internationally recognised specialists
- **Australia's largest** private cancer clinical trials program
- **Rapid access** to consultation and treatment
- **World-class** technology and techniques

TROG MEMBERSHIP

We continue to attract a strong membership base from across Australia and New Zealand, as detailed below.



Key

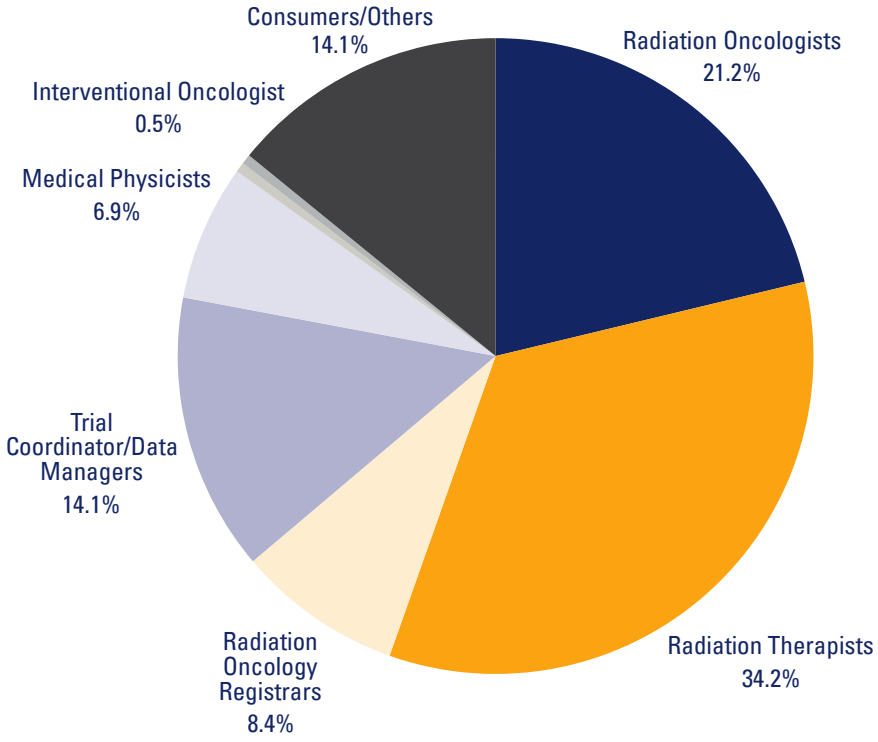
TROG Members Australia and New Zealand*

Facility Alliance Member (FAM) Centres and Sites. FAM is also represented throughout Australia and New Zealand by Icon Cancer Centres.

*Location data unavailable for 16 TROG Members.

TROG MEMBERSHIP

TROG Members by Discipline



DISCIPLINE	2025	FULL AND LIFE MEMBERS	AFFILIATE MEMBERS
Radiation Oncologists	364	174	190
Radiation Therapists	586	21	565
Radiation Oncology Registrars	144	6	138
Trial Coordinators/Data Managers	234	4	230
Medical Physicists	119	25	94
Medical Oncologists	14	8	6
Interventional Oncologists	8	1	7
Statisticians	8	1	7
Consumers/Other	242	16	226
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	1719	256	1463

FACILITY ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to new Facility Alliance Members

We were thrilled to engage two new Facility Alliance Members (FAMs) to join our already strong 26 partners, bringing our total membership to 28 sites in 2025.

Wellington Blood and Cancer Centre, New Zealand, and Central Coast Cancer Centre, NSW, Australia (pictured below left) were welcomed into the Facility Alliance Membership and are enjoying the benefits of collaboration with TROG across all areas of radiation therapy medicine and supporting clinical trials, not only across our South Pacific region but worldwide.

We enjoyed visiting and meeting with several of our member facilities during 2025 to share insights into how we can work together towards a common vision.

TROG Head of Operations – Research and Quality Assurance, Alisha Moore, had the opportunity to meet with staff from two FAM sites:

- In February, Alisha had a valuable virtual meeting with staff from the Ballarat Austin Radiation Oncology Centre and Austin Health Radiation Oncology at the Olivia Newton-John Cancer and Wellness Centre in Melbourne.
- In September, it was great to meet face-to-face with staff from one of our newest FAM members, Central Coast Cancer Centre, on the NSW Central Coast.

As always, we thank all our dedicated FAM partners for their unwavering support and commitment to radiation therapy clinical trials.

FACILITY ALLIANCE MEMBER SITES SUPPORT AWARENESS-RAISING EVENTS

TROG FAM sites got in the spirit of **National Clinical Trials Day** on 20 May 2025, highlighting the crucial value of clinical trials to advance medical science, including in radiation therapy.

The radiation oncology staff at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in Perth, WA, set up information stands to reach out to both cancer patients and the wider hospital community.

At Royal Hobart Hospital's WP Holman Clinic, TROG Management Accountant Narelle Hagger enjoyed a celebratory morning tea with Director of Radiation Oncology, Dr Marketa Scala, and fellow staff (pictured below middle).

Many of our FAM sites also joined TROG in celebrating the inaugural **World Radiotherapy Awareness Day** (WRAD) on 7 September 2025, helping to spread the word about the vital impact of radiotherapy.

The Radiation Therapy team from Waikato Regional Cancer Centre in New Zealand manned an information stall to help educate others about radiotherapy, and celebrated with an array of orange foods, from carrots to cupcakes, to match the day's theme (pictured below right).

In Otautahi Christchurch in New Zealand, the Radiation Therapy team celebrated by bringing together radiation therapists, radiation oncologists, and physicists for a lunch outdoors.

A TURNING POINT FOR ARC THERAPY

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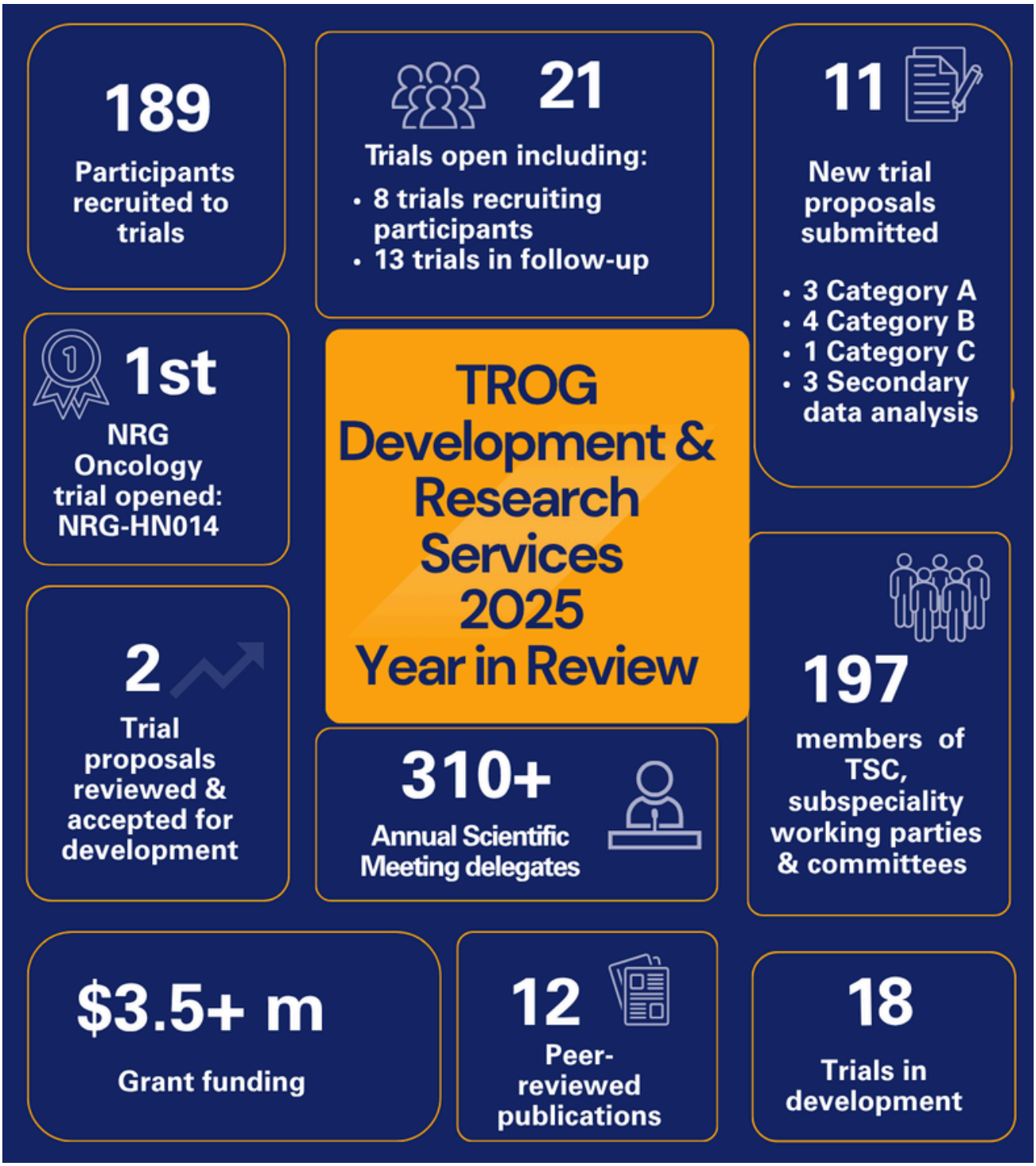
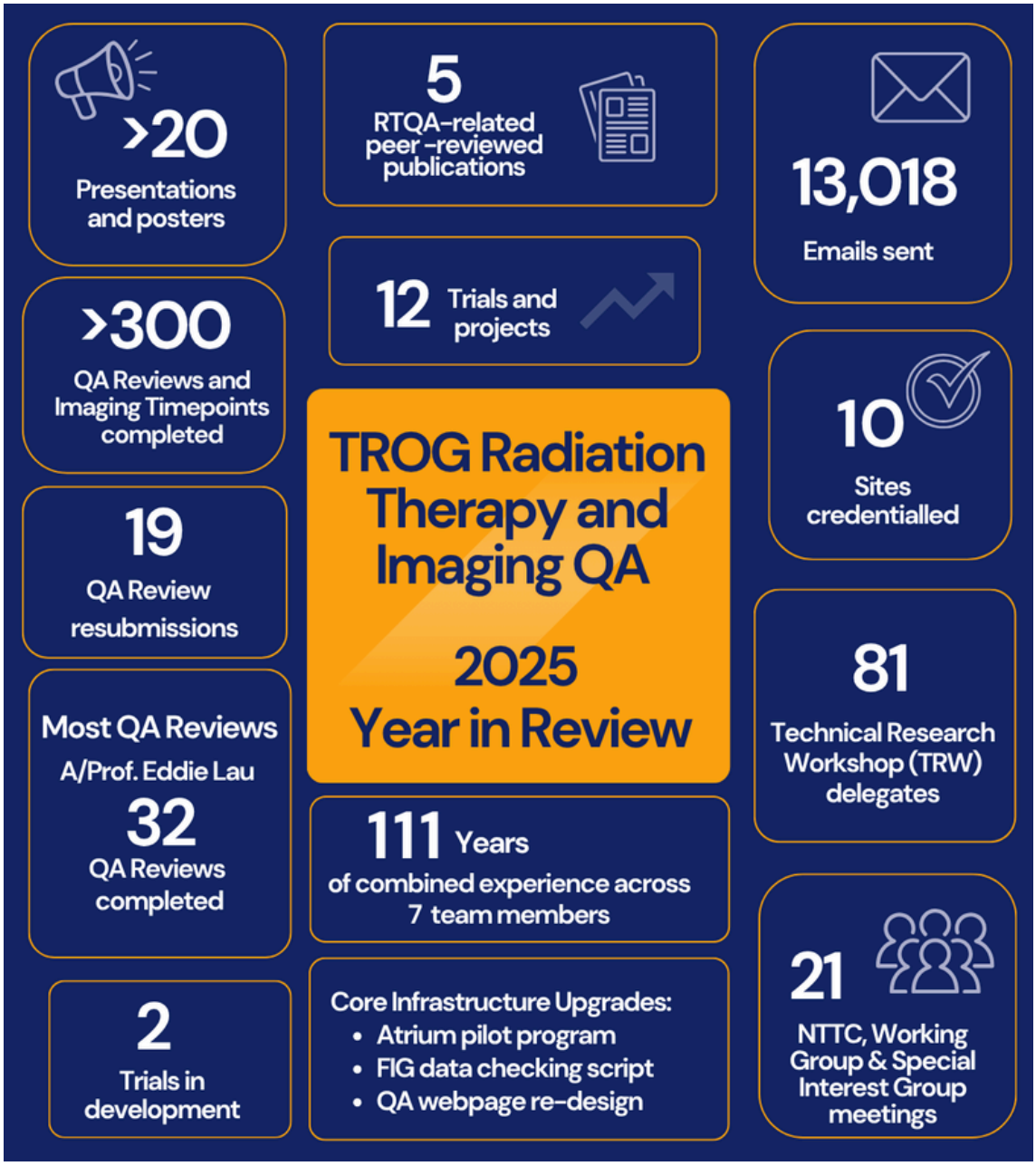
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Throughout 2025, we facilitated the development of a significant number of new trials, marked significant milestones in our ongoing trials and continued to disseminate research outcomes in peer-reviewed journals, as demonstrated in the snapshot below.



RADIATION THERAPY QUALITY ASSURANCE HIGHLIGHT

TROG's Radiation Therapy Quality Assurance (RTQA) and Imaging Quality Assurance programs provide a framework to monitor protocol compliance and data quality for clinical trials.



With advanced software and customised databases, the RTQA team ensures medical imaging and radiation therapy planning and treatment data can be collected and analysed.

As highlighted in the infographic below, we provide a wide range of vital quality assurance services for trial sites.

including: risk assessment and monitoring; secure data transfer; robust data collection, storage and management; guideline and protocol development; new technology implementation; site credentialling and support; and centralised peer-review.

2025 RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY

TOUR DE CURE GRANTS TO PROGRESS TRIALS

The **TROG 21.07 – SOCRATES HCC** (A randomised controlled trial of Standard Of Care versus RadioAblaTion in Early Stage HCC) trial received a $200,000 grant from cancer charity Tour de Cure. Led by Professor Alan Wigg from Flinder University, Adelaide and A/Prof David Pryor from Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, the study aims to determine whether stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR), can offer a safer, more effective treatment for early-stage hepatocellular cancer (HCC).

While more than 70 participants from across Australia had been recruited by early 2025, the grant is enabling the trial to expand its outreach and extend recruitment by an additional year. This will help the trial reach the recruitment target of 218, to provide valuable evidence to inform use of SABR in HCC. A second Tour de Cure grant of $50,000 was awarded for **TROG 23.02 – SMART** (Single versus Multi-frAction preoperative Radiosurgery (Pre-SRS) for patienTs with brain metastases) Trial, which will compare single and multi-fraction pre-SRS for patients with brain metastases.

Led by Dr Neda Haghighi from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, the trial will provide high quality data to determine whether giving one dose or three smaller doses of Stereotactic Radiosurgery (multi-fraction SRS) prior to surgery provides better outcomes for patients with brain metastases. The trial has the potential to be practice-changing, contributing to global evidence aimed at defining optimal radiation therapy techniques for the management of brain metastases.
Read more

MARCH

TROG – 21.07 SOCRATES HCC TRIAL: ALL AUSTRALIAN SITES OPEN

The **TROG 21.07 – SOCRATES HCC** trial reached a significant milestone in March, with the opening of the final Australian trial site. St George Hospital in Sydney, NSW, was the 20th and final Australian centre opened to recruit participants to the trial, which is investigating the use of stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) for early-stage hepatocellular carcinoma.
Read more

APRIL

MHF GRANT FOR TROG 23.02 – SMART TRIAL

The Mark Hughes Foundation (MHF) Centre for Brain Cancer Research at the University of Newcastle announced a $120,000 grant for the **TROG 23.02 – SMART** trial in April, enabling further progress on developing the study which is investigating stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) for brain metastases.

The trial was among six research projects awarded grants as part of the MHF Innovation Grant Rounds, where researchers are encouraged to 'think big' on blue-sky research into brain cancer.

The aim is to open one or two initial trial sites in Victoria and Queensland, before procuring further grant funding to expand to sites across Australia throughout 2026/27.
Read more

MAY

TROG 21.08 VITAL TRIAL BOOSTED BY NHMRC GRANT

A $1.86 million National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grant was welcomed by investigators for the **USyd/TROG 21.08 – VITaL** (Ventilation Imaging to reduce Toxicity for patients with Lung cancer) trial, which will investigate use of a new imaging modality called Computed Tomography (CT) ventilation imaging.

The research team, led by Prof Paul Keall from the Image X Institute at the University of Sydney (pictured above), have invented and pioneered the CT ventilation imaging modality to reduce the risk of potentially damaging impacts from radiation therapy.

A total of 165 participants with lung cancer will be recruited to the randomised controlled trial, to assess whether the CT ventilation imaging approach confers better quality of life and fewer adverse effects than usual treatment.

TROG is partnering with the trial sponsor, the University of Sydney, and will lead the radiation therapy quality assurance program, ensuring high quality, standardised treatment and protocol compliance.
Read more

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE

TROG 19.06 DECREASE TRIAL REACHES RECRUITMENT TARGET

A significant milestone was reached for the **TROG 19.06 – DECREASE** trial in June, with the with the final participant recruited to take part.

Led by trial chairs Prof Shankar Siva (pictured right) and Prof Arun Azad from Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, the trial recruited its first participant in mid-2021, going on to successfully randomise a total of 70 participants from 15 sites across Australia plus one site in Singapore.

DECREASE (DarolutamidE + Consolidation RadiothErapy in Advanced proStatE cancer detected by PSMA) is investigating whether adding radiation therapy to the currently indicated treatment of hormone therapy with the androgen receptor inhibitor Darolutamide can improve outcomes for these patients by controlling further spread of prostate cancer.

In the era of PET imaging, many sites of disease that are not visible on conventional imaging are found on PSMA (prostate specific membrane antigen) PET scans.

The trial involves men with castration-resistant prostate cancer (not treatable with testosterone-lowering therapy) who have no evidence of metastases on conventional imaging, however, have detectable disease on PSMA-PET scans.

TROG provides trial coordination and is the primary sponsor of the study, which is funded by Bayer. TROG's role includes conducting comprehensive radiation therapy quality assurance (RTQA) for the trial.
Read more

> *"I'm very grateful to all the investigators for their tireless efforts, as well as patients and their families for participating in the trial and thanks to my co-PI Arun Azad.*
>
> **PROF SHANKAR SIVA,**
> **TROG 19.06- DECREASE CO-CHAIR**

JUNE

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF FASTRACK II TRIAL SUPPORTS KIDNEY CANCER TRIAL FINDINGS

Treating inoperable kidney cancer with stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) is both more effective and less expensive than traditional ablative therapies in Australia, according to a new economic analysis of **TROG 15.03/ANZUP 16001 FASTRACK II** (Focal Ablative STereotactic RAdiosurgery for Cancers of the Kidney - a Phase II Clinical Trial) trial data.

The publication of the economic evaluation in the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics* (*Red Journal*) in June 2025 came as the FASTRACK II trial completed follow-up of all participants and the dataset was locked to enable final analysis of outcomes.

The trial investigated whether the newer, non-invasive SABR technique could control cancer within the kidney and prove an alternative to traditional techniques of radiofrequency ablation (RFA) and cryoablation (CA) for patients with primary renal cell cancer where surgery is not an option.

Led by Prof Shankar Siva, and run by TROG in collaboration with the Australian and New Zealand Urogenital and Prostate Cancer Trials Group (ANZUP), the FASTRACK II trial found that SABR is an effective treatment strategy for kidney cancer, with an acceptable side-effect profile and no observed local failure or cancer-related deaths.
Read more

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE

NEW 21.01 PRIME-LUNG TRIAL RECEIVES MRFF GRANT

Investigators for a new TROG-sponsored trial to investigate a novel radiation therapy approach for advanced lung cancer welcomed a $1.5 million Medical Research Future Fund grant in June.

The **Primary Radiotherapy in Metastatic Lung (TROG 21.01 PRIME-Lung)** trial will study whether adding radiation therapy to the standard treatment for patients with advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) can improve overall survival, as well as patients' quality of life.

Lead researcher Professor Shankar Siva said the phase III registry-based trial would enrol 420 patients with advanced lung cancer from multiple cancer centres globally.

TROG is collaborating on the trial with the Thoracic Oncology Group of Australasia (TOGA) and the AURORA registry database, which will be used to collect and manage the trial data, as well as exploring potential collaborations with international groups.
Read more

JULY

MAJOR MILESTONE FOR LONG-RUNNING BIG 3-07/TROG 07.01 DCIS STUDY

The **BIG3-07/TROG 07.01 DCIS** trial celebrated a major milestone in July, when the database was locked – 18 years after the first site was activated and a decade after the last study participant completed treatment.

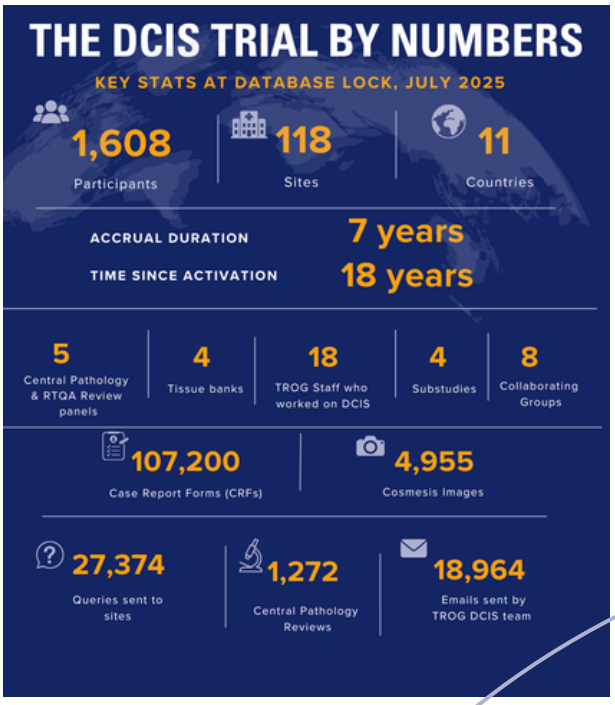
Congratulations to Chair and Principal investigator, Professor Boon Chua from UNSW Sydney, and the many collaborative groups and researchers who have worked tirelessly on this major study into radiation therapy for ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) of the breast.

The randomised phase III study investigated the long-term efficacy and safety of different radiation doses and number of radiation therapy sessions for women with DCIS of the breast, to reduce the risk of recurrence, and improve the safety and convenience of care.

The study involved 1,608 participants from 118 centres across 11 countries.

The trial findings have been detailed in several impactful papers, including the five-year analysis published in *The Lancet* in 2022, showing that tumour bed boost radiation after postoperative whole breast irradiation significantly reduced recurrence in patients with non-low-risk DCIS but increased some treatment side-effects. The finding that a shorter course of 16 radiation therapy sessions was as safe and effective as the longer course of 25 sessions is helping reduce the treatment burden for patients.

Final 10-year analysis of the study, as well as a novel qualitative study (TROG 25.02) to explore the lived experiences of the diagnosis, treatment and survivorship among women in the study, are now underway.
Read more



RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

JULY

TROG 20.01 – CHEST-RT TRIAL PROTOCOL PUBLISHED

The **TROG 20.01 – CHEST RT** trial will add to the evidence regarding whether radiation therapy could be a safe and useful addition in the management of an aggressive form of lung cancer, as outlined in the trial protocol paper published in *BMJ Open* in July 2025.

Led by trial chairs Prof Eric Hau, from Westmead Hospital in NSW, and Dr Sagun Parakh, from Austin Hospital in Victoria, CHEST RT (A phase II study of platinum and etoposide chemotherapy, durvalumab with thoracic radiotherapy in the first line treatment of patients with extensive-stage small-cell lung cancer) is investigating the addition of thoracic radiation therapy to chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatment for patients with extensive stage small-cell lung cancer (ES-SCLC). The single-arm, open-label, prospective, multi-centre phase II trial aims to establish the primary endpoints of safety and feasibility of the treatment approach.
Read more

SEPTEMBER

TROG TRIALS ON WORLD STAGE AT ASTRO2025

Prof Shankar Siva presented new analysis of pooled results from the **FASTRACK** and **TROG 15.03/ANZUP 16001 – FASTRACK II** trials at the American Society for Radiation Oncology #ASTRO25 meeting in San Francisco, USA.

The trials investigated the use of stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) to treat inoperable renal cell carcinoma (RCC) or kidney cancer. Prof Siva reported that the pooled data indicated SABR using high-dose single fraction and three fraction approaches was highly effective and nephron-sparing, with a low rate of severe events. The findings supported the use of ultra-hypofractionated SABR schedules for primary kidney cancer, he told the conference.

Prof Jarad Martin also presented at the ASTRO2025 conference, highlighting a novel approach to clinical trial QA used in the **TROG 18.01 – NINJA** (Novel Integration of New prostate radiation therapy schedules with adJuvant Androgen deprivation) trial to successfully integrate knowledge-based, real-time planning into the assessment of clinical plans.

SEPTEMBER

MRFF GRANT TO OPEN INTERNATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER TRIAL IN AUSTRALIA

TROG is set to open the Australian arm of an international trial that aims to change practice in the treatment of high-risk prostate cancer, after the research team was awarded a $1.9 million Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) grant.

Marking a new era of international collaboration, TROG is partnering with the US-based clinical trial organisation NRG Oncology Group on the **NRG-GU013 HIGH-FIVE** (The phase III High Five trial five fraction radiation for high-risk prostate cancer) trial.

Prof Wee Loon Ong from Monash University (pictured above) is leading the Australian arm of the phase III randomised HIGH-FIVE trial, which is comparing current prostate cancer treatment involving 20-45 daily treatments with external beam radiation therapy (EBRT), with five treatments using stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT). The primary endpoint of the trial is metastases-free survival.

The study could herald a new standard-of-care radiation therapy option for high-risk prostate cancer.
Read more

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER

TROG COLLABORATION SEES INTERNATIONAL SKIN CANCER TRIAL OPEN IN AUSTRALIA

TROG opened the new Australian arm of an international trial aimed at preventing skin cancer recurrence in October, following the groundbreaking collaboration with US cancer clinical trials group, NRG Oncology.

The **NRG-HN014** phase III trial is targeting patients with cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (CSCC) that is locally advanced (stage III or IV), but still removable by surgery. The trial is investigating whether adding immunotherapy drug Cemiplimab prior to surgery for CSCC – either with or without radiation therapy – can extend the length of time patients remain cancer-free and improve outcomes with fewer side effects. The trial, led by NRG Oncology, is already underway at cancer centres across the US and Canada.

Having played important roles in the development of the study, the lead Medical Oncologist for the Australian arm of the trial is Prof Danny Rischin from Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and A/Prof Bruce Ashford from Wollongong Hospital is a lead surgeon.

TROG opened its first trial site at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse in Sydney in October, which recruited its first participant in November 2025. It is expected to involve 123 Australian participants from 11 sites.
Read more

NOVEMBER

TRIAL FINDINGS SIGNAL CHANGE IN BREAST CANCER TREATMENT

Ten-year follow up from an international trial on which TROG collaborated has shown that radiotherapy can be safely omitted as a treatment for many breast cancer patients who have had a mastectomy and are taking anti-cancer drugs.

Findings from the **BIG 2-04/MRC/TROG 11.01 – SUPREMO** trial were published in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine* in November 2025, providing evidence for a change in practice in treatment of some breast cancers.

The randomised controlled trial was led by the University of Edinburgh, and involved 1607 participants from 17 countries. TROG collaborated on the Australian arm of the study, conducted at 10 sites across the country.

The findings showed that patients with early-stage breast cancer who underwent a mastectomy had similar 10-year survival rates, whether or not they received radiation therapy.

Experts said the findings should help guide treatment discussions, as many patients who currently qualify for radiation therapy after mastectomy under existing guidelines may not actually need it.

DECEMBER

TROG TRIAL FINDINGS DISSEMINATED AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

It was fantastic to see 10-year analysis of the **BIG 3-07/TROG 07.01 DCIS** trial presented at the world's largest breast cancer research meeting in the US in December.

Prof Boon Chua presented final analysis from the trial at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS) (pictured above).

The long-term findings from the study, which spanned 11 countries and involved more than 1600 participants, demonstrate the efficacy of tumour-bed boost radiation after postoperative whole breast irradiation in women with non-low-risk ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS).

Meanwhile, findings from the **TROG 20.01 CHEST RT** trial were presented at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Asia Congress in Singapore in December 2025.

Trial co-chair Prof Eric Hau gave a poster presentation outlining findings from the phase II study showing that combining consolidation thoracic radiation with chemo-immunotherapy is safe and feasible in patients with extensive stage small-cell lung cancer.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

TROG Concept Development Workshop sows seeds for innovative new research.

TROG provided a kick-start for a number of exciting new research ideas at a Concept Development Workshop held on 2 December 2025.

A total of 11 research concepts were submitted by TROG members from across a variety of disciplines (radiation oncology, radiation therapy and medical oncology), over a diverse range of sub-specialities.

Research ideas covered areas included breast cancer, salivary gland carcinoma, gioblastoma, endometrial cancer, adverse reactions and data collection.

The workshop was convened by TROG President A/Prof Puma Sundaresan and TROG Scientific Committee Chair A/Prof Hien Le.

"The goal of today is to produce a one-page concept, so you can then take this onto the next step in terms of trial development," A/Prof Le told the workshop. "At TROG, we understand this whole process is about sowing as many seeds as possible so that some will germinate, grow and develop into something significant."

> ***"This Workshop shows our commitment to broadening TROG's research and making trials truly accessible – empowering our members to design innovative, inclusive studies that reach those who need them most."***
>
> **SUSAN GOODE, TROG CEO**

He gave the example of the TROG 23.02 SMART trial, which was first proposed at TROG's 2023 Concept Development Workshop, went on to gain grant funding this year, and will open in 2026.

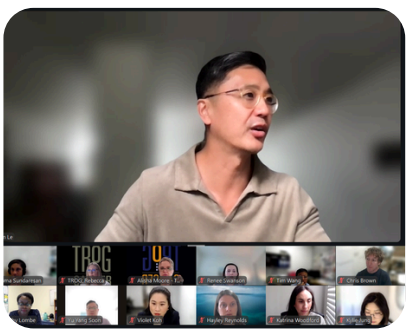
Biostatistician Chris Brown gave a presentation on steps to develop a trial concept and trial design. Smaller group discussions were then led by Mr Brown and Radiation Oncologist Dr Yu Yang Soon, where each idea was workshopped in a multidisciplinary and collaborative manner.

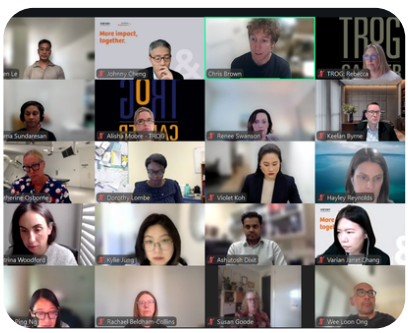
By the end of the workshop, the 11 research proponents each developed a one-page outline of their concept for further development into a trial protocol, proposal or grant submission.

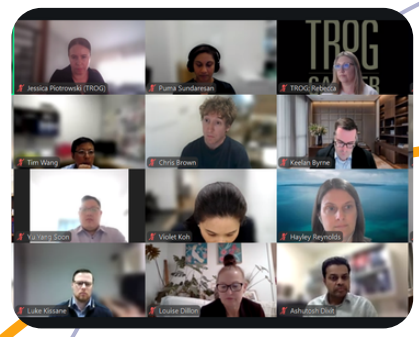
Prof Wee Loon Ong rounded off the workshop with an insightful address on his experiences in finding grant funding for new research.

Thank you to workshop sponsor Varian, and to the many TROG members who contributed their time and expertise: A/Prof Sweet Ping Ng, Dr Katrina Woodford, Prof Danny Roos, Dr Kylie Jung, Prof Steven David, Prof Trevor Leong and A/Prof Tim Wang; and the representatives of the National Technical Services: CREST, Prof Richard De Abreu Lourenco and CQUEST, Dr Carrie-Anne Ng.

Thank you also to long-standing oncology consumer advocate and TROG Scientific Committee Consumer Representative, Louise Dillon, who offered a valuable consumer perspective on the research proposals.







INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

TROG Cancer Research continues to strengthen its international research profile through strategic collaborations with leading global cooperative clinical trials groups, radiation oncology networks and research organisations.

These collaborations expand access to international investigator-initiated clinical trials, collaborative translational research, promote harmonised radiation therapy quality assurance (RTQA) approaches and enhance global scientific exchange.

NRG ONCOLOGY

TROG's collaboration with US-based NRG Oncology continues to mature, reinforcing TROG's role as a trusted international clinical trials partner. As an Australian NRG Main Member site, TROG has expanded national affiliate membership, supported activation of NRG trials locally and advanced shared RTQA and governance initiatives. Key activities include:

- Establishing nine NRG affiliate member sites across five states under TROG (with more pending)
- Activation of the NRG-HN014 trial in Australia in August 2025, with site activations and recruitment underway (See page 31)
- Securing Medical Research Future Fund – International Clinical Trial Collaborations funding to support the activation NRG-GU013 HIGH FIVE trial in Australia (see page 30)
- Ongoing engagement with NRG Radiation Oncology leadership on RTQA and international participation pathways
- Collaboration initiatives including RTQA and credentialing processes, trial governance requirements and opportunities for cross-group engagement
- Engagement with NRG Oncology representatives at TROG's Annual Scientific Meeting, including keynote contributions from Prof Quynh-Thu Le, co-chair of NRG Oncology.

EORTC

TROG formalised its collaboration with the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) through the signing of a TROG–EORTC Collaboration Memorandum of Understanding in May 2025. This collaboration provides an important platform for building stronger links between TROG's Australasian radiation medicine research network and EORTC's international cancer clinical trials program.

Key activities include:

- Regular leadership meetings to identify opportunities for strategic collaboration.
- Joint discussions on shared priorities in cancer clinical trials and radiation medicine research
- Strengthened foundations for future multinational clinical trial and research collaboration.

HEAD AND NECK CANCER INTERNATIONAL GROUP (HNCIG)

TROG formalised its collaboration with the Head and Neck Cancer International Group (HNCIG) through execution of a partnership Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) in June 2025.

Key activities include:

- Establishing biannual leadership meetings to maintain strategic alignment
- TROG member involvement on HNCIG priority-setting, governance model development and trial platform planning
- Strengthening links between TROG's head and neck cancer research community and HNCIG's global network
- Developing a structured framework to support ongoing international collaboration.

GLOBAL HARMONISATION GROUP

TROG continues to contribute to the Global Quality Assurance of Radiation Therapy Clinical Trials Harmonisation Group (Global Harmonisation Group), supporting international alignment of RTQA standards across cooperative clinical trials groups, contributing to international discussions on RTQA standards, risk-adapted QA models, new radiation oncology technologies and ways to improve consistency and reduce duplication in multinational clinical trials.

This work builds on TROG's established RTQA program, including credentialling, benchmarking, treatment plan review and protocol compliance monitoring.

Key activities and working groups in 2025 include:

- RTQA Reporting in Clinical Trials
- Proton Therapy
- RTQA Evaluation Definitions
- Organ at Risk contouring and naming standardisation
- Adaptive Radiation Therapy
- Quality Assurance for Satellite/Network Sites
- RTQA Impact on Patient Outcomes.

PUBLICATIONS IN 2025

TROG-led studies

TROG 99.03 – FOLLICULAR LYMPHOMA

Erku D, Tobin JWD, Seymour JF, MacManus M, Scuffham P, Hapgood G. **An Economic Evaluation of the TROG 99.03 Trial: Systemic Therapy After Radiotherapy in Early-Stage Follicular Lymphoma**. *eJHaem*. 2025 Feb 12;6(1):e70002. doi: 10.1002/jha2.70002.

TROG 15.03 – FASTRACK II

Vargas C, Carrello J, Bressel M, Sidhom M, Lin C, Vanneste B, Moon D, Appu S, Swaminath A, Ruben J, Pryor D, Higgs B, Davey R, Hardcastle N, Montgomery R, Siva S, Lourenço RA. **SABR versus Radiofrequency Ablation and cryoablation for primary renal cell carcinoma: an economic evaluation of the FASTRACK II trial.** *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2025 June (Epub ahead of print). Final citation: 2026;125(1):173-184. doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2025.05.089.

TROG 20.01 – CHEST RT

Parakh S, Gee H, Lim A, Vinod S, Wheeler C, Rooney B, Montgomery R, Harden S, Moore M, Lehman M, Bettington C, Moodie T, Barber J, Schmidt L, Dizon J, Leigh L, Oldmeadow C, Mitchell P, Hau E. **Platinum and etoposide chemotherapy, durvalumab with thoracic radiotherapy in the first-line treatment of patients with extensive-stage small-cell lung cancer: CHEST-RT (TROG 20.01) Trial – protocol for a phase II study.** *BMJ Open.* 2025 Jul 7;15(7):e101571. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2025-101571.

TROG 12.01 – HPV OROPHARYNX

Hughes R, Corry J, Rischin D, Bressel M, Kenny L, Lehn B, Wishart L, Minslow LA, Frowen J. **Swallowing and Communication Outcomes Post Chemoradiotherapy for Low-Risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV)-Associated Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Substudy of TROG 12.01.** *Head Neck.* 2025 Dec;47(12):3310-3320.10. doi: 10.1002/hed.28245.

TROG 18.01 – NINJA

Chlap P, Min H, Martin J, Sidhom M, Chan LX, Whitehead A, Moore A, Dowling J, Field M, Haworth A, Ebert MA, Vinod SK, Holloway L. **Implementation of an automated contour quality assurance tool within the TROG 18.01 NINJA trial.** *Radiother Oncol.* 2025 Nov 7:111269. (Epub ahead of print). Final citation: 2026;214:111269. doi: 10.1016/j.radonc.2025.111269. Epub ahead of print.

Collaborative studies and projects

TROG 17.11 – C-POST

Rischin D, Porceddu S, Day F, Brungs DP, Christie H, Jackson JE, Stein BN, Su YB, Ladwa R, Adams G, Bowyer SE, Otty Z, Yamazaki N, Bossi P, Challapalli A, Hauschild A, Lim AM, Patel VA, Walker JL, De Liz Vassen Schurmann M, Queirolo P, Cañueto J, Ferreira da Silva FA, Stratigos A, Guminski A, Lin C, Damian F, Flatz L, Taylor AE, Carr DR, Harris S, Kirtbaya D, Quereux G, Rutkowski P, Basset-Seguin N, Khushalani NI, Robert C, Ju H, Joseph C, Bansal S, Chen CI, Seebach F, Yoo SY, Lowy I, Goncalves P, Fury MG; C-POST Trial Investigators. **Adjuvant Cemiplimab or Placebo in High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous-Cell Carcinoma**. *N Engl J Med.* 2025 May;393(8):774-785. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2502449.

GLOBAL HARMONISATION GROUP COLLABORATIVE STUDY

Brooks FMD, Hussein M, Lye J, Nelson CL, Mitsuhiro N, Glenn MC, Diez P, Patel R, Shaw M, Silvestre Patallo I, Barry M, Clark CH, Lehmann J, Kry SF. **Developing reference plans for evaluating global clinical trials credentialing and PSQA systems.** *J Appl Clin Med Phys.* 2025 May 29;26(7):370113. doi: 10.1002/acm2.70113.

TROG 20.03 – AVATAR

David S, Connolly E, Bressel M, Tan J, Hanna GG, Alomran R, Yip E, Morton C, Siva S, White M. **Stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy for oligoprogressive estrogen receptor–positive breast cancer (TROG 20.03 AVATAR): A phase II prospective multicenter trial.** *JCO Oncology Advances.* 2025;2(1):e2500031. doi: 10.1200/OA-25-00031.

PUBLICATIONS IN 2025

Collaborative studies and projects (continued)

AGITG AG0407GR/TROG 8.08 –TOPGEAR

Leong T, Smithers BM, Michael M, Gebski V, Boussioutas A, Miller D, Simes J, Zalcberg J, Haustermans K, Lordick F, Schuhmacher C, Swallow C, Darling G, Wong R. **TOPGEAR: a randomised phase III trial of perioperative ECF chemotherapy versus preoperative chemoradiation plus perioperative ECF chemotherapy for resectable gastric cancer (an international, intergroup trial of the AGITG/TROG/EORTC/NCIC CTG)**. *BMC Cancer.* 2015 Jul 21;15:532. doi: 10.1186/s12885-015-1529-x.

IAEA COLLABORATION: E33039 STUDY

Corry J, Ng WT, Moore A, Choi HSC, Le Q-T, Holmes S, Munandar A, Wang S, Camacho A, Setakornnukul J, Jiarpinitnun C, Hiep PN, Laskar SG, Faheem M, Ammar CNB, Fidarova E, Hopkins K, Rosenbaltt E, Abdel-Wahab M, Lee AWM. **Can radiation therapy quality assurance improve nasopharyngeal cancer outcomes in low and middle-income countries — reporting the technical component of the second phase of a prospective International Atomic Energy Agency study (E33039).** *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* Published online 2025 Sep 5. Final citation: 2026 Feb 1;124(2):311-319. doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2025.08.057.

TROG 14.03 – EORTC 1219

Alyamani N, Abrunhosa-Branquinho A, Corning C, Sharabiani M, Castadot P, Giralt J, Kazmierska J, Grant W, Christiaens M, Tomsej M, Bar-Deroma R, Monti AF, Stelmes JJ, Clementel E, Fortpied C, Collette S, Hurkmans CW, Grégoire V, Overgaard J, Weber DC, Andratschke N. **Radiotherapy quality assurance of the prospective randomised EORTC-1219/DAHANCA-29 trial: an individual case review analysis.** *Radiother Oncol.* 2025 Dec;213:111141. doi: 10.1016/j.radonc.2025.111141. Epub 2025 Sep 21.

TROG 14.03 – EORTC 1219

Grégoire V, Tao Y, Kaanders J, Machiels JP, Vulquin N, Nuyts S, Doornaert P, Alsner J, Overgaard J. **An international placebo-controlled randomized multicenter trial of nimorazole with accelerated chemo-radiotherapy for locally advanced HPV-negative squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck (HNSCC)**. *Radiother Oncol.* 2025 Oct 23;214:111227. doi: 10.1016/j.radonc.2025.111227. Epub ahead of print.

SEAFARER RTQA PROJECT

José Antonio Baeza-Ortega, Lauren May, Mohammad Hussein, Sarah Porter, Alisha Moore, Peter B Greer, Catharine H Clark, Joerg Lehmann. **A proof of concept for improving comparability of dosimetry audits through centralised planning.** *Phys Imaging Radiat Oncol.* 2025 Nov 29;36:100879. doi: 10.1016/j.phro.2025.100879.

TROG 11.01 – SUPREMO

Kunkler IH, Russell NS, Anderson N, Sainsbury R, Dixon JM, Cameron D, Loncaster J, Hatton M, Westenberg H, Clarke J, McCarty H, Evans R, Geropantas K, Wolstenholme V, Alhasso A, Woodings P, Barraclough L, Bayman N, Welch R, Muturi F, McEleney T, Burns J, Riddle K, Macdonald E, Dunlop J, Sergenson N, van Tienhoven G, Taylor KJ, Bartlett JMS, Piper T, Velikova G, Aird E, Chua B, Hurkmans C, Venables K, Williams LJ, Thomas JS, Hanby AM, Maclennan M, Cleator S, Verghese ET, Li Y, Wang S, Canney P; SUPREMO Trial Investigators. **Ten-year survival after postmastectomy chest-wall irradiation in breast cancer**. *N Engl J Med.* 2025 Nov 6;393(18):1771-1783.
doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2412225.

ALTG 14/002/CT0135/TROG 16.01 – NIVORAD

Kothari G, O'Byrne KJ, Brown C, Stockler MR, Walker M, Hardcastle N, Kron T, Le HV, Kosmider S, Cameron L, Lao L, Mitchell P, Siva S. **A randomized phase 2 trial of Nivolumab and stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) in advanced non-small cell lung cancer, progressing after first- or second-line chemotherapy (NIVORAD)**. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* Epub ahead of print. 2025 Dec 19:S0360-3016(25)06610-6. Final citation: 2026;124(5):1363-70 doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2025.12.021.

37th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

With a theme of inclusivity and innovation, our Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) brought together researchers, health professionals and consumers from across Australia and New Zealand with the common goal of advancing cancer care through vital research.

More than 310 delegates gathered for the TROG Cancer Research 37th ASM in Brisbane (Meanjin), Queensland, from 18-21 March 2025, for four days of fantastic collaboration, networking and shared learning.

Convened by Ms Narelle Wallace, Dr Lachlan McDowell and Mr Rob McDowall, the ASM program saw more than 65 speakers share their expertise and learnings. From the moving Welcome to Country by Songwoman Maroochy, the meeting offered updates on current TROG trials and new trial opportunities, the latest radiation oncology research developments and a focus on improving access and diversity in clinical research.

INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS

We were delighted to host international guest speaker Prof Quynh-Thu Le from Stanford University (pictured bottom left), who is co-chair of the NRG Oncology Group of the NCI-sponsored US National Clinical Trial Network. TROG was accepted as a member of NRG Oncology in 2024, opening the way for participation in NRG trials, and Prof Le presented an outline of the themes, funding cycles and opportunities for collaborative research.

Other international speakers included Dr Laird Cameron from the University of Auckland (Waipapa Taumata Rau), a Medical Oncologist who leads an innovative project on optimising immunotherapy for Māori with advanced non-small cell lung cancer, and Dr Gabriel Adrian, from Skåne University Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Sweden, whose research focus is on fractionation studies and FLASH radiotherapy.

FOCUS ON CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT

A record number of consumers joined us for the Meeting as speakers, panellists and delegates, as we focused on ways to boost inclusivity, access and consumer collaboration in clinical trials.

As well as an insightful consumer panel (pictured below right), a session on clinical trial access and inclusivity for unrepresented groups explored ways of increasing trial participation among rural and remote Australians, First Nations people and older patients, who are often excluded from trials.

2025 ASM BY NUMBERS

Delegates: 313 across the four days.
Speakers: 69
Presentations: 98
CREW workshop: 58 participants (including 17 virtual attendees)
TRW workshop: 81 participants
SMART workshop: 57 participants

WORKSHOP SUCCESS

The workshops were also a wonderful opportunity for exchange of ideas and practical learning experiences: the Lego-themed **Technical Research Workshop (TRW)** attracted 81 participants, while the **Clinical Education Research Workshop (CREW)** included virtual participants for the first time.

We extend our gratitude to the consumers, speakers and delegates, as well as to the many exhibitors and sponsors whose support enabled us to host an ASM of this magnitude.

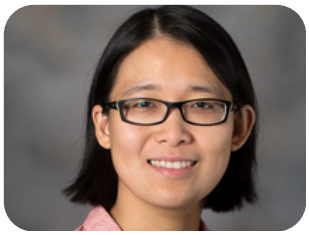
TROG RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

TROG Members' valuable contributions to our work and to advancing radiation medicine clinical trial research were recognised in our 2025 Research Excellence Awards, presented at the ASM in Brisbane in March.

Lifetime Membership Award: Prof Farshad Foroudi, who has been an active and committed TROG member for more than 15 years, during which his significant contributions include leading and being involved in several collaborative clinical trials, successfully obtaining competitive grants and mentoring young investigators. He has served asTROG President, Chair of the TROG Scientific Committee and Chair of the TROG Breast Cancer Working Party, and was instrumental in establishing and chairing the TROG MR in Radiation Therapy special interest group.

Trial Excellence Award: Prof Trevor Leong and the AGITG AG0407GR/TROG 08.08 TOPGEAR trial team. The practice-changing TOPGEAR trial, which investigated preoperative chemoradiotherapy for gastric cancer, was led by the Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group (AGITG), with TROG successfully conducting the radiation therapy quality assurance program. Involving 574 patients across 15 countries, the trial helped determine the optimal adjuvant therapy regimen for potentially curable gastric cancer, with globally significant results presented internationally and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Outstanding Contribution Award: Prof Val Gebski, who has made exceptional contributions to TROG clinical trial design and statistical methodology over more than 30 years. This includes Prof Gebski's role as biostatistician on the TROG Scientific Committee, and his involvement in trials including TROG 96.01 trial on head and neck cancers, and TROG 03.04 RADAR trial on androgen deprivation therapy in prostate cancer.



Emerging Clinical Researcher Award: A/Prof Sweet Ping Ng, who has made an outstanding scientific contribution at an institutional, national and international level since completing her primary qualification seven years ago. This includes publishing 92 peer-reviewed research papers, gaining US medical qualification to work as a Head and Neck and GI Radiation Oncology Fellow at the MD Anderson Cancer Centre in the US, and participation and leadership across multiple professional societies including TROG.

Secondary Data Analysis Award: A/Prof Wee Loon Ong, who has contributed to multiple secondary data analyses using data from TROG-96.01 (Prostate-Androgen Deprivation) and TROG 03.04 (RADAR) trials, resulting in high-impact scientific publications that have generated new insights, especially in genitourinary cancer. He is one of the few invited Australian members of the international MARCAP (Meta-Analyses of Randomised Trials in Cancer of the Prostate) Consortium, contributing to multiple meta-analyses using TROG clinical trial data.

Peer Recognition Award: Ms Kelly Skelton, who has made significant contributions to the field of cancer research, data management and clinical quality. Kelly is Project Manager for TROG 21.12 Australian Particle Therapy Clinical Quality Register (ASPIRE) and has taken on leadership roles including serving as co-convenor for the TROG 2023 ASM and co-chairing the 2025 ASM Clinical Research Education Workshop (CREW).

CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT

TROG recognises that consumer engagement plays a vital role in clinical trials – from design stage through to dissemination – strengthening our research and ensuring it delivers meaningful outcomes.

A key objective in our Strategic Plan 2024-2026 is to diversify our research and enhance access, including incorporating patient-informed research and patient-centric study design. In 2025, we strengthened our commitment to consumer engagement through a number of initiatives, including strong consumer involvement in the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Brisbane.

A record 15 consumers from across NSW, Queensland and New Zealand participated in the ASM as speakers, panellists and delegates, as we focused on ways to boost inclusivity, access and consumer collaboration in clinical trials. A session on clinical trial access and inclusivity for unrepresented groups explored ways of increasing trial participation among rural and remote Australians, First Nations people and older patients, who are often excluded from trials.

Mr Karl McKenzie (pictured below left), a Koori Man of the Parundji people and Chair of the Townsville Community Justice Group, shared his personal, harrowing story of the racism and abuse he was subject to from childhood, providing valuable insights into experiences endured by First Nations people. He urged researchers to be clear about why they wanted Aboriginal people to be a part of their research, and to make the effort to build real relationships with communities before putting forward research ideas.

Dr Laird Cameron (pictured below centre), a thoracic Medical Oncologist from the University of Auckland (Waipapa Taumata Rau) described an innovative project called Te Rōpu Kāwanatanga, in which a group of Māori patients with lung cancer are guiding research priorities and governing lung cancer research in northern New Zealand.

Another highlight of the meeting was the panel session (pictured above) involving people with lived experience of cancer, consumer advocates and researchers, which explored ways to improve partnerships and collaborations between researchers and consumers. TROG Board Independent Consumer representative Mr Murray McLachlan urged researchers to take the innovative step of involving consumers as chief investigators or investigators on clinical trials, demonstrating true collaboration on all aspects of trial development and conduct.

OTHER CONSUMER INITIATIVES IN 2025

- **Consumer Leadership and Governance:** Mr Murray McLachlan (pictured below right) continued to serve as Independent Consumer Director on the TROG Board, providing strategic guidance and advocating for consumer representation in decision-making.
- **Awareness-raising:** Consumer engagement campaigns shared on our social media platforms highlighted Clinical Trials Day (20 May) and World Radiotherapy Awareness Day (7 September) to raise awareness about participation in clinical trials.
- **Social media campaign:** A social media campaign run in partnership with RANZCR Targeting Cancer to share content aimed at raising awareness about radiation therapy and the value of clinical trials.
- **Consumer Involvement in TROG committees:** Our TROG Scientific Committee Independent Consumer Representative Ms Louise Dillon helped ensure consumer perspectives are embedded in discussions and decision-making about TROG trials.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our new Consumer Engagement Charter, to be launched in 2026, will provide guiding principles for engaging with consumers, and detail our commitment to listen to consumer voices in all we do.

STUDY PORTFOLIO: TRIAL STATUS

TROG Portfolio – status by trial category

		CATEGORY				
		A	B	C	D	TOTAL
TRIAL STATUS	NEW PROPOSAL	2	3	1	0	6
	DEVELOPMENT	9	5	4	0	18
	START UP	1	0	1	0	2
	OPEN	9	4	8	0	21
	CLOSED	22	7	8	0	37
	COMPLETED	40	8	3	0	51
	DATA REQUESTS	0	0	0	31	31
	TOTAL	83	27	25	31	166

CATEGORY KEY
A: TROG initiated and sponsored trial
B: International trial with TROG as Australian Sponsor
C: Not led by TROG but TROG collaborates with the Sponsor
D: Data requests for secondary analysis of trial data

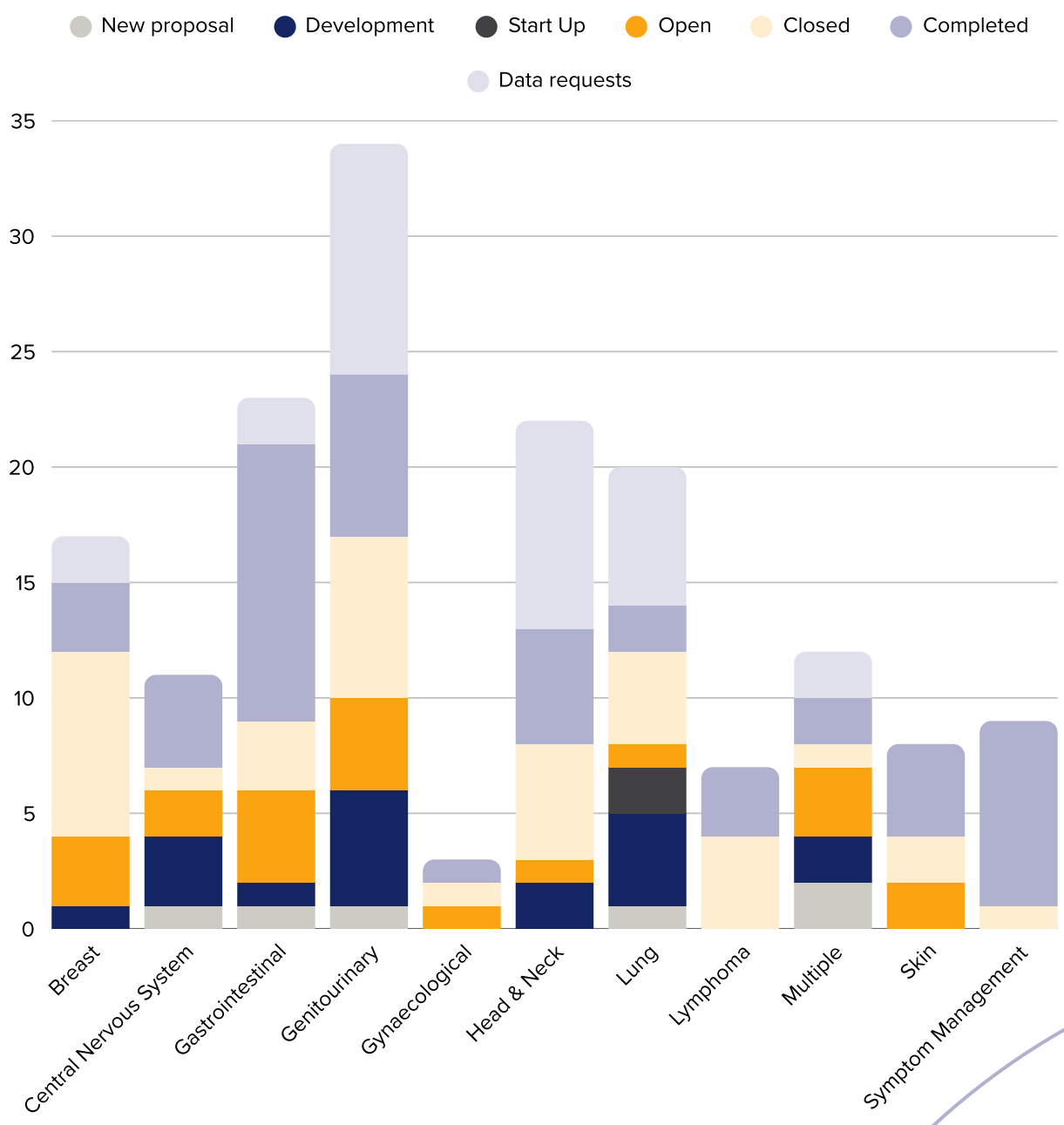
STUDY PORTFOLIO: SUB-SPECIALITY

TROG Trials – Sub-specialty by trial stage

	BREAST	CNS	GI	GU	GYNAE	H & N	LUNG	LYMPH-OMA	MULTIPLE	SKIN	SYMPTOM MANAGE-MENT	TOTAL
New Proposal	0	1	1	1	O	O	1	0	2	0	0	6
Develop-ment	1	3	1	5	0	2	4	0	2	0	0	18
Start Up	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Open	3	2	4	4	1	1	1	0	3	2	0	21
Closed	8	1	3	7	1	5	4	4	1	2	1	37
Completed	3	4	12	7	1	5	2	3	2	4	8	51
Data Requests	2	0	2	10	0	9	6	0	2	0	0	31
TOTAL	17	11	23	34	3	22	20	7	12	8	9	166

STUDY PORTFOLIO: SUB-SPECIALITY

TROG Trials – Sub-specialty by trial stage



STUDY PORTFOLIO: RECRUITING TRIALS

We were actively recruiting patients to the following trials in 2025:

BREAST

TROG 25.02

Prof Penelope Schofield
Category A Breast
Title: Qualitative study of the lived experiences of patients with non-low-risk ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), 10 years post-randomisation
Overview: Qualitative study of the lived experiences of patients with non-low-risk ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS), 10 years post-randomisation. The aim of TROG 25.02 is to explore the lived experiences of participants who participated in the BIG 3-07/TROG 07.01 DCIS trial via interview, regarding their diagnosis, treatment and survivorship.
Sponsor: TROG Cancer Research
Supporters: LaTrobe University
Funded by: National Health and Medical Research Council
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened 9 October 2025 | Sites activated: 4 | Accrual: 13 of 20-30
Study email: DCIS@trog.com.au

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

TROG 18.06 FIG

A/Prof Eng-Siew Koh and Prof Andrew Scott
Category A Central Nervous System
Title: Prospective, multicentre trial evaluating FET-PET In Glioblastoma
Overview: The FIG trial is investigating how the addition of FET-PET imaging to standard MRI imaging affects radiation target volume delineation and treatment planning for Glioblastoma, as well as determining the accuracy and management impact of FET-PET in distinguishing pseudoprogression from true tumour progression and/or tumour recurrence.
Sponsor: TROG Cancer Research
Collaborators: The Australasian Radiopharmaceutical Trials Network (ARTnet) and The Cooperative Trials Group for Neuro-Oncology (COGNO)
Funded by: Medical Research Future Fund, Cure Brain Cancer Foundation and the Australian Brain Cancer Mission/Cancer Australia
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened 14 December 2021 | Sites activated: 11 of 11 | Accrual: 283 of 310
Registry: ANZCTR, ACTRN12619001735145
Website: https://trog.com.au/trials/trog-18-06-fig/
Study email: FIG@trog.com.au

STUDY PORTFOLIO: RECRUITING TRIALS

We were actively recruiting patients to the following trials in 2025:

GENITOURINARY

TROG 18.01 NINJA

Prof Jarad Martin and Dr Mark Sidhom
Category A Genitourinary
Title: Novel Integration of New prostate radiation schedules with adJuvant Androgen deprivation
Overview: In men with intermediate and high-risk prostate cancer, the NINJA trial is comparing two different radiation therapy treatment schedules called stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT). The aim is to develop better methods of treatment for prostate cancer using this type of treatment, and further understand what causes some of the side effects of treatments. It is hoped this research will potentially improve the accuracy and quality of radiation therapy treatment in prostate cancer.
Sponsor: TROG Cancer Research
Collaborators: Australian and New Zealand Urogenital and Prostate Cancer Trials Group (ANZUP).
Funded by: Investigator-Initiated grant from Mundipharma, Cancer Australia PdCCRS Grant, investigator funds and in-kind support from recruiting sites.
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened 16 January 2019 | Sites activated: 21 of 21 | Accrual: 453 of 472
Registry: ANZCTR, ACTRN12618001806257
Website: https://trog.com.au/trials/trog-18-01-ninja/
Study email: NinjaTrial@calvarymater.org.au

GASTROINTESTINAL

TROG 21.07 SOCRATES HCC

Prof Alan Wigg and A/Prof David Pryor
Category A Gastrointestinal
Title: A randomised controlled trial of Standard Of Care versus RadioAblaTion in Early Stage HCC
Overview: Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) has one of the fastest rising incidence and mortality rate of any cancer, however, treatment options remain limited and 5-year survival is poor. Unlike most other cancers, the majority of people presenting with early-stage HCC are unable to receive curative intent local therapies or may progress following initial treatment with thermal ablation or transarterial therapies. Emerging data supports a role for stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) as a well-tolerated, non-invasive treatment with high rates of local control with some centres now considering it a new standard of care. However, randomised evidence comparing the various treatment options in the first line setting is lacking and the majority of guidelines do not currently endorse its use leading to highly variable utilisation around Australia and internationally. SOCRATES HCC seeks to address this evidence gap by comparing SABR to other current first line treatments (thermal ablation, transarterial therapies) for non-surgical candidates with solitary (≤8cm) early-stage HCC. SOCRATES HCC aims to set a new benchmark in the management of HCC, improving access to effective curative intent therapies and enhancing inter-disciplinary collaboration.
Sponsor: TROG Cancer Research
Collaborators: Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group (AGITG)
Supporters: Abdominal Radiology Group of Australia and New Zealand (ARGANZ) and Gastrointestinal Society of Australia (GESA)
Funded by: Medical Research Future Fund (RCRDUN, 2021); Tour De Cure, 2024
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened 10 October 2022 | Sites activated: 20 of 20 | Accrual: 123 of 218
Registry: ANZCTR, ACTRN12621001444875
Website: https://trog.com.au/trials/trog-21-07-socrates-hcc/
Study email: SOCRATES_HCC@trog.com.au

STUDY PORTFOLIO: RECRUITING TRIALS

We were actively recruiting patients to the following trials in 2025:

HEAD, NECK & SKIN

NRG – HN014/TROG 24.02

Prof Danny Rischin
Category B Head, Neck & Skin
Title: Randomized Phase III Trial of Immunotherapy with Response-Adapted treatment versus Standard-of-Care Treatment for Resectable Stage III/IV Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma
Overview: This phase III trial compares the effect of adding cemiplimab to standard therapy (surgery with or without radiation) versus standard therapy alone in treating patients with stage III/IV squamous cell skin cancer that is able to be removed by surgery (resectable) and that may have come back after a period of improvement (recurrent). The usual treatment for patients with resectable squamous cell skin cancer is the removal of the cancerous tissue (surgery) with or without radiation, which uses high energy x-rays, particles, or radioactive seeds to kill cancer cells and shrink tumors. Immunotherapy with monoclonal antibodies, such as cemiplimab, may help the body's immune system attack the cancer, and may interfere with the ability of tumor cells to grow and spread. Cemiplimab has been approved for the treatment of skin cancer that has spread or that cannot be removed by surgery, but it has not been approved for the treatment of skin cancer than can be removed by surgery. Adding cemiplimab to the usual treatment of surgery with or without radiation may be more effective in treating patients with stage III/IV resectable squamous cell skin cancer than the usual treatment alone.
Sponsor: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
Supporters: TROG Cancer Research, NRG Oncology, USA.
Funded by: National Cancer Institute (NCI)
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened by TROG 25/09/2025 | TROG Sites activated: 3 | TROG sites accrual: 6
Registry: ClinicalTrials.gov, NCT06568172
Website: https://www.nrgoncology.org/Clinical-Trials/Protocol/nrg-hn014/
Study email: trials@trog.com.au

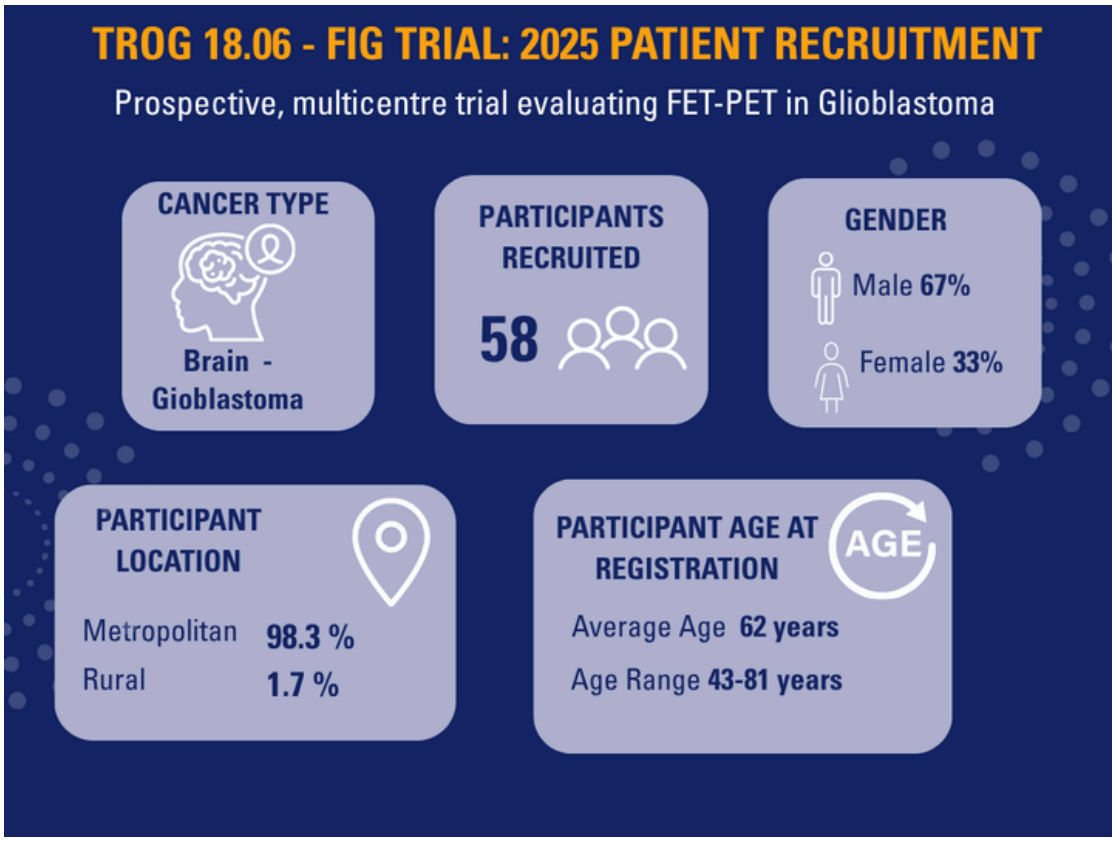
MULTIPLE

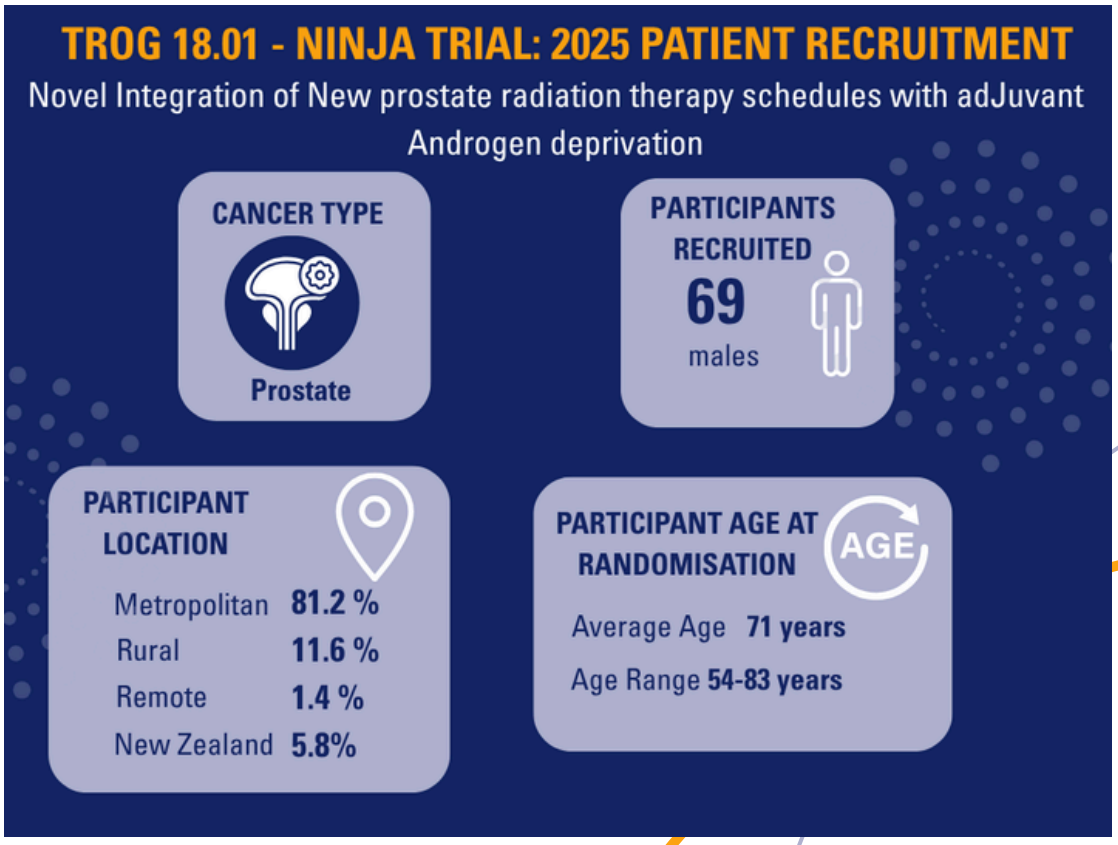
SAHMRI/TROG 21.12 ASPIRE

A/Prof Hien Le
Category A Multiple Cancers
Title: Australian Particle Therapy Clinical Quality Registry (ASPIRE)
Overview: ASPIRE is a prospective, observational, longitudinal study of paediatric, adolescent, young adult and rare adult tumour patients from a select group of tumour streams treated with radiation therapy. The aim of the ASPIRE registry is to enrol >5000 patients who have been treated with radiation therapy in order to better understand and compare the short and long-term benefits of the different types of radiation therapy. The information collected will help researchers learn more about radiation treatment.
Sponsor: South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) (Australian Bragg Centre for Proton Therapy and Research (ABCPTR) parent company)
Supporters: TROG Cancer Research
Funded by: Hospital Research Foundation Group grant
Status at 31/12/2025: Opened 27 March 2022 | Sites activated: 6 | Accrual: 446
Registry: ANZCTR, ACTRN12622000026729
Website: https://sahmri.org.au/research/programs/registry-centre/groups/australian-particle-therapy-clinical-quality-registry-aspire
Study email: ASPIRE@sahmri.com

STUDY PORTFOLIO: RECRUITING TRIALS

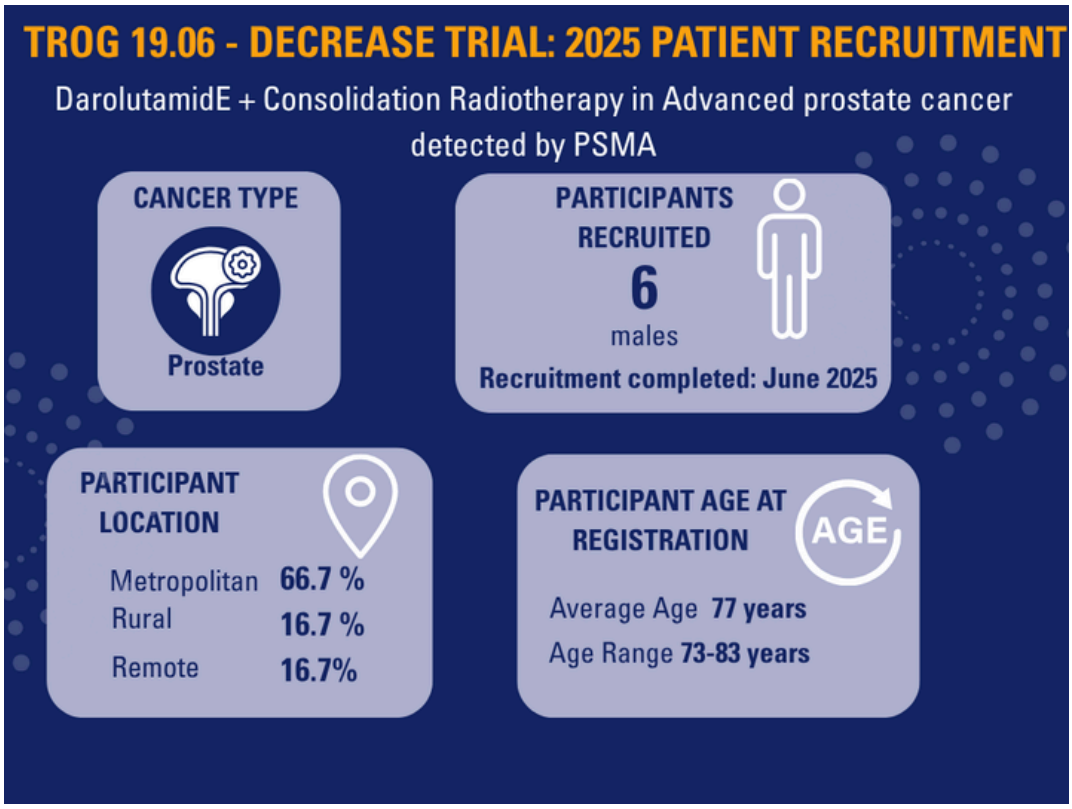
The diagrams below show demographics of patients recruited to TROG trials in 2025

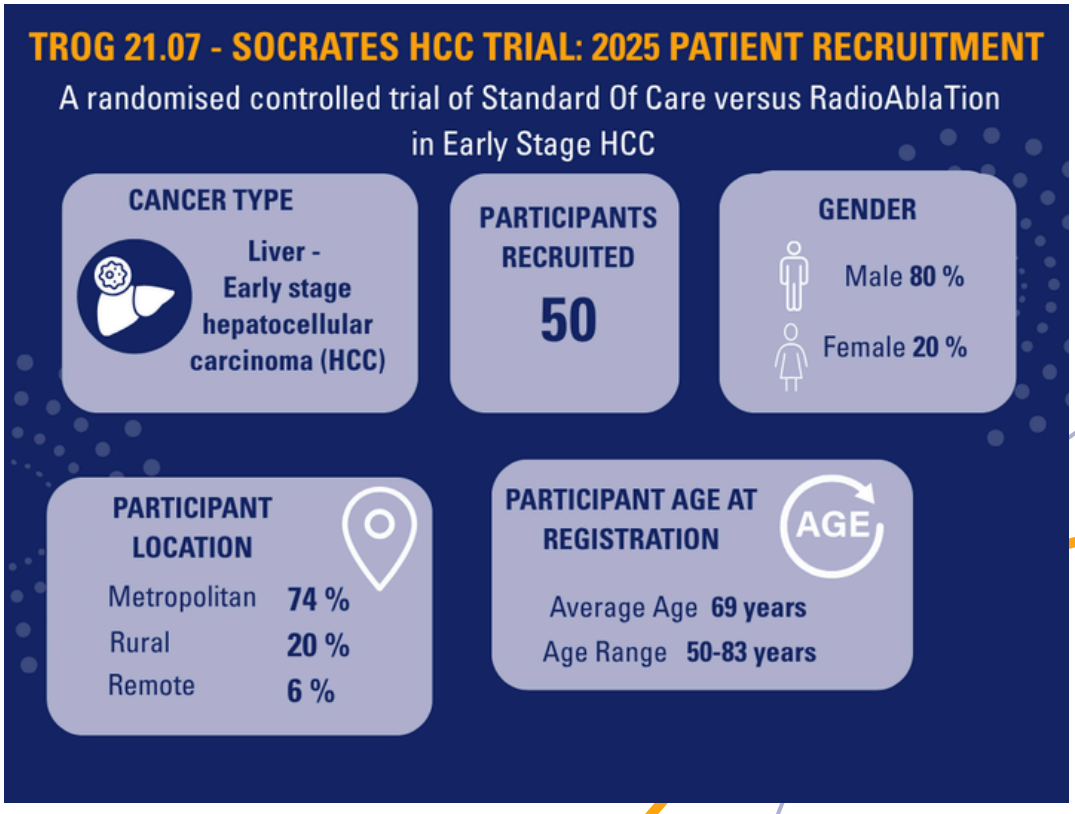




STUDY PORTFOLIO: RECRUITING TRIALS

The diagrams below show demographics of patients recruited to TROG trials in 2025





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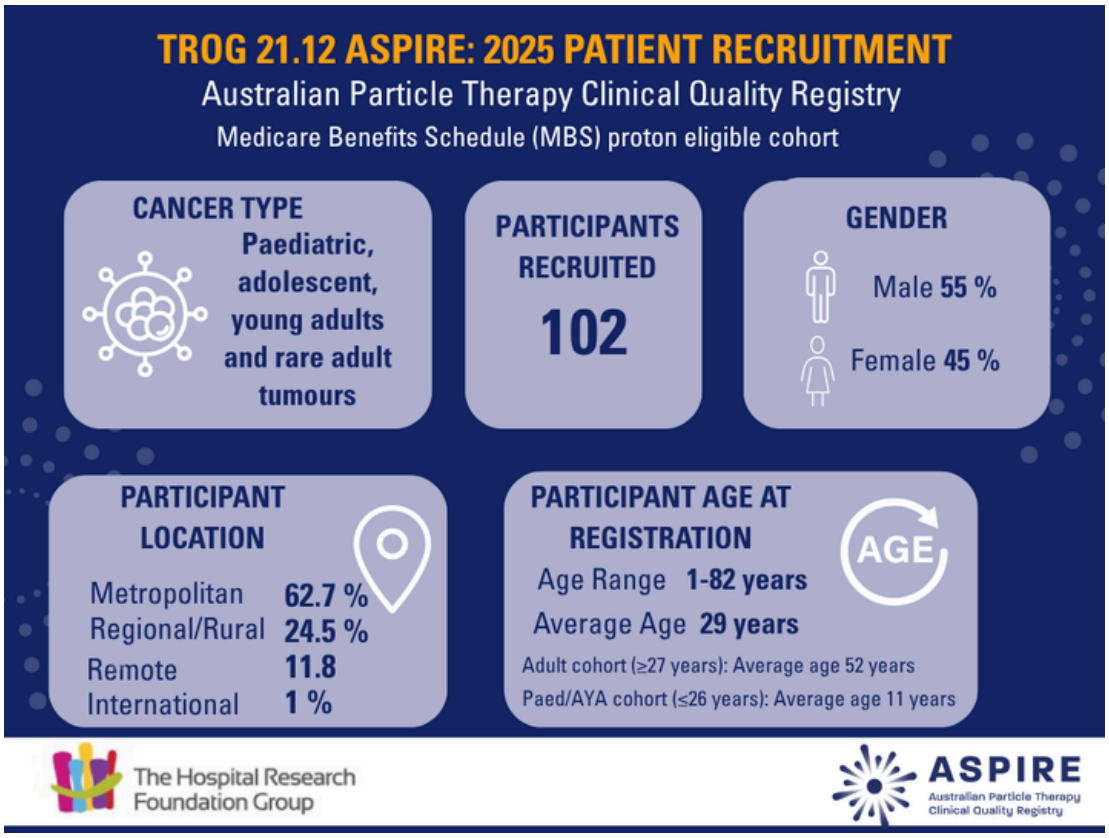
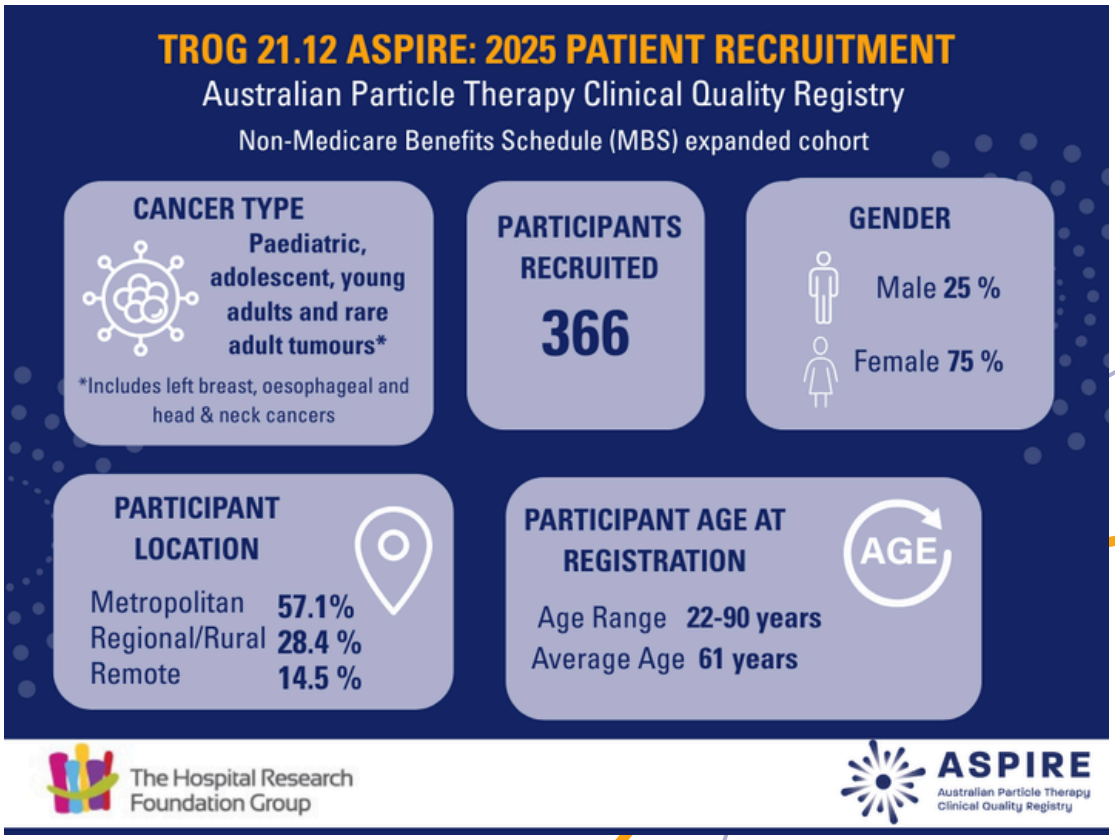




STUDY PORTFOLIO: TRIALS IN FOLLOW-UP

The following trials had participants in follow-up during 2025:

BREAST

TROG 08.06 STARS

Category A
Study title: A randomised comparison of anastrozole commenced before and continuing during adjuvant radiotherapy for breast cancer versus anastrozole and subsequent anti-oestrogen therapy delayed until after radiotherapy
Lead Researcher: Prof Peter Graham
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: TROG Cancer Research
Study email: SESLHD-StarsTrial@health.nsw.gov.au

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

EORTC 1308/TROG 15.02 ROAM

Category B Central Nervous System
Study title: Radiation versus Observation following surgical resection of Atypical Meningioma: a randomised controlled trial (The ROAM trial)
Lead Researcher: Dr Neda Haghighi
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: EORTC (TROG Cancer Research)
Study email: ROAM@trog.com.au

GENITOURINARY

ICR-CTSU/2014/10049/TROG 14.02 RAIDER

Category B Genitourinary
Study title: A randomised phase II trial of adaptive image guided standard or dose escalated radiotherapy in the treatment of transitional cell carcinoma of the bladder
Lead Researcher: Prof Farshad Foroudi
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: ICR (TROG Cancer Research)
Study email: RAIDER@trog.com.au

TROG 19.06 DECREASE

Category A Genitourinary
Study title: DarolutamidE + Consolidation RadiothErapy in Advanced ydneyt cancer detected by PSMA
Lead Researchers: Prof Shankar Siva and A/Prof Arun Azad
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: TROG Cancer Research
Study email: DECREASE@trog.com.au

LUNG

TROG 20.01 CHEST RT

Category A Lung
Study title: Chemotherapy and Immunotherapy in extensive stage small cell lung cancer with thoracic radiotherapy (CHEST RT)
Lead Researchers: Dr Eric Hau an Dr Sagun Parakh
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: TROG Cancer Research
Study email: CHESTRT@trog.com.au

STUDY PORTFOLIO: TRIALS IN FOLLOW-UP

The following trials had participants in follow-up during 2025:

MULTIPLE

ICR-CTSU/2015/10052/TROG 16.03 CORE

Category B Multiple
Study title: A randomised trial of Conventional care versus Radioablation (stereotactic body radiotherapy) for Extracranial oligometastases
Lead Researchers: Prof Farshad Foroudi and A/Prof David Pryor
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: ICR (TROG Cancer Research)
Study email: CORE@trog.com.au

USYD/TROG 17.03 LARK

Category A Multiple
Study title: Liver Ablative Radiotherapy utilising Kilovoltage intrafraction monitoring (KIM)
Lead Researchers: Dr Yoo Young (Dominique) Lee an A/Prof Tim Wang
Primary Sponsor or Lead Organisation: University of Sydney
Study email: shona.silvester@sydney.edu.au

STUDY PORTFOLIO: OTHER TRIALS

Trials that TROG collaborates on, which are led by other Australian organisations:

PRIMARY SPONSOR AND/OR LEAD ORGANISATION	TRIAL NUMBER (TROG TRACKING NUMBER)	STUDY ACRONYM	STUDY TITLE	SUB-SPECIALITY	STATUS
Breast Cancer Trials (BCT)	ANZ 1601/BIG 16-02 (16.04)	EXPERT	A randomised phase III trial of adjuvant radiotherapy versus observation following breast conserving surgery and endocrine therapy in patients with molecularly characterised low-risk luminal A early breast cancer	Breast	In follow-up
GI Cancer Trials (formerly Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group: AGITG)	(21.06)	MR STAR	Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Guided STereotactic Adaptive Radiotherapy for Targeting Abdominal Cancer	Gastro-intestinal	Recruiting
	(21.03)	RESOLUTE	Randomised Phase II Trial to Evaluate the Strategy of Integrating Local Ablative Therapy with First-Line Systemic Treatment for Unresectable Oligometastatic Colorectal Cancer	Gastro-intestinal	In follow-up
	CTC 0245/ AGITG AG0118PS (18.04)	MASTERPLAN	Randomised phase II study of Mfolfirinox And STEreotactic Radiotherapy for Pancreatic cancer with high risk and Locally AdvaNced disease	Gastro-intestinal	In follow-up
Australian and New Zealand Urogenital and Prostate Cancer Trials Group (ANZUP)	ANZUP 1303 (14.01)	ENZARAD	Randomised phase 3 trial of radiation plus androgen deprivation therapy with or without enzalutamide for high risk, clinically localised, prostate cancer	Genitourinary	In follow-up

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

STUDY PORTFOLIO: OTHER TRIALS

Trials that TROG collaborates on, which are led by other Australian organisations:

PRIMARY SPONSOR AND/OR LEAD ORGANISATION	TRIAL NUMBER (TROG TRACKING NUMBER)	STUDY ACRONYM	STUDY TITLE	SUB-SPECIALITY	STATUS
Australia New Zealand Gynaeco-logical Oncology Group (ANZGOG)	ANZGOG 1910/2020 (21.04)	ADELE	ADjuvant tislelizumab plus chemotherapy after post-operative pelvic chemoradiation in high risk EndometriaL cancer: a randomised phase 2 trial	Gynaeco-logical	Recruiti ng
Melanoma and Skin Cancer (MASC) Trials	MASC 03.18 (21.01)	I-MAT	Immunotherapy Merkel Adjuvant Trial	Skin	In follow-up
Regeneron Pharmaceut-icals	R2810-ONC-1788 (17.11)	CPOST	A randomised, placebo-controlled, double-blind study of adjuvant Cemiplimab versus placebo after surgery and radiation therapy in patients with high risk cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma	Skin	In follow-up

QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECTS

The TROG RTQA team collaborate on a range of special projects. Some highlights from 2025 are outlined below.

QA EXPERTISE SHARED WITH NATIONAL AND GLOBAL AUDIENCES

TROG collaborative QA projects gained widespread attention in 2025, through a number of presentations at major conferences.

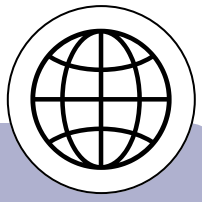
Findings from the SEAFARER project were presented at the IUPESM World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering (29 September–4 October 2025, Adelaide).

Also related to the work, a second oral presentation focused on the data collection tool, which can also be applied to other areas: "*SEAFARER harmonised information platform (SHIP): development of an interactive beam model data entry and parameter comparison tool*", by Lauren May, José Antonio Baeza-Ortega, Sarah Porter, Michael Barnes, Mohammad Hussein, Mallory Glenn, Alisha Moore, Peter Greer, Stephen Kry, Catharine Clark, and Joerg Lehmann.

TSC Medical Physics discipline representative and TROG QA Physicist Prof Joerg Lehmann also shared knowledge of TROG QA projects with international audiences, after being awarded the Richard Bates Travel Award by the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM) in October 2025.

Prof Lehmann undertook a collaborative visit to the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) in Finland to exchange expertise in dosimetry audits, a critical component of quality assurance in clinical trials.

The visit program also gave Joerg the opportunity to present on VESPA and our work via the SEAFARER project assessing sensitivity of clinical patient specific quality assurance (PSQA) systems through purposefully introduced errors.



SEAFARER

Sensitivity assessment systems to improve quality in radiation oncology treatments (SEAFARER) is a novel project that seeks to systematically and remotely test the sensitivity of a centre's Patient Specific Quality Assurance (PSQA) procedures, in order to detect clinical relevant treatment delivery problems.
The Primary Investigator of this project is Professor Joerg Lehmann.

VESPA

Virtual Electronic Portal Imaging Device (EPID) Standard Phantom Audit (VESPA) is a novel remote method for external dosimetric auditing of intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) and volumetric modulated arc therapy (VMAT) for clinical trials using an EPID.
The Primary Investigator of this project is Professor Peter Greer.

TROG FUNDRAISING

Community support for TROG's mission to tackle cancer

SUCCESSFUL INAUGURAL KM's FOR CANCER RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Our inaugural charity event, "Km's for Cancer Research" brought together the community to support TROG's work.

Throughout October 2025, 90 individual participants and nine passionate teams laced up their shoes, jumped on bikes, hit the pool, and got active in all kinds of ways to raise awareness and funds for TROG.

Participants included TROG Members, Board and staff, families and the wider community, who jogged, walked, pushed prams, hiked, ran, cycled, swam, logging every step of their journeys. Together, they achieved inspiring results:

- **6,761 km** covered –an average of more than
- **75 km** per person.
- **$9,930** raised to support TROG's innovative cancer research.

> *"It is truly heartening to see so many people getting active to support TROG's Cancer Research work."*
>
> **SUSAN GOODE, TROG CEO**

VETERANS GOLF CLUB SWINGS BEHIND TROG

Thank you to the Myall Coast Veteran Golfers who continued their tradition of holding an annual fundraising golf day to support TROG.

Together with donations from The Hawks Nest Veteran Golfers, the Hawks Nest Lady Veteran Golfers and the Hawks Nest Golf Club Social Club and an incredibly generous $2,000 donation from an individual member, the day raised a total of $5,690.

LAUNCH OF FUNDRAISING PORTAL

We launched a new fundraising platform in 2025, helping to engage community members in either donating or conducting their own fundraising events to support TROG. The "GoFundraise" platform promotes opportunities for people to donate, conduct a challenge, give in memory, plan a fundraising event or seek donations to TROG in lieu of gifts for a special occasion.

KOKODA CHALLENGE FOR TROG

A team of five intrepid trekkers hiked the arduous 96 km Kokoda Trail in Papua New Guinea in June, driven by the desire to honour Australia's WWII soldiers while making a difference to the lives of those with cancer by fundraising for TROG.

The remote Kokoda Trail, renowned as the location of the World War II battle between Japanese and Australian forces in 1942, can only be traversed on foot, single-file.

TROG CEO Susan Goode's husband David Goode and daughter Jasmine Goode (pictured below right) joined with Shane Blundell, Michael Nolan and Damien Alexander to undertake the epic trek across the Owen Stanley Ranges over eight days, crossing rugged and isolated terrain and reaching a height of 2,190 metres.

They raised an impressive $6,485 for TROG, surpassing their goal of $5,000.

"Cancer touches everyone's life in one way or another. I believe that any contribution that I can make to cancer research is worth it," Jasmine said.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE YOUR WAY.
Fundraise or donate at
www.trogfundraising.gofundraise.com.au

2025

Our Year in Pictures

TROG SPONSORS 2025

We are grateful to the following organisations for their support and sponsorship:

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