

## What is the purpose of the EdCaN learning resources?

Every nurse will at some stage be involved in caring for people affected by cancer. EdCaN provides a national professional development framework for cancer nursing which describes nurses' varying contributions at all phases of the cancer continuum. The Framework outlines the competency standards required of nurses working in different roles, in different settings, and at different points along this continuum (see Figure 1). EdCaN also provides a suite of learning resources to help nurses acquire the competencies outlined in the Framework.

It doesn't matter if you've been working in cancer care for many years or you're a nurse new to working with people affected by cancer, the EdCaN learning resources are freely available to develop your ability to meet the health needs of people affected by cancer.

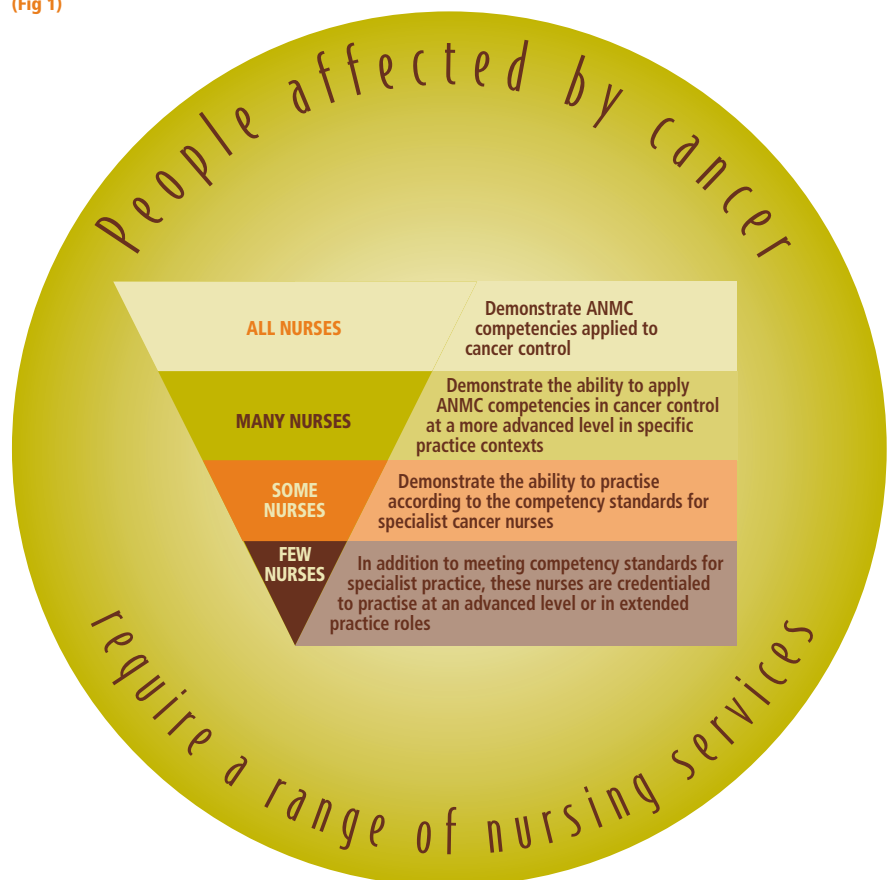
## EdCaN learning resources at a glance

Available on-line [www.cancerlearning.gov.au/edcan\\_resources](http://www.cancerlearning.gov.au/edcan_resources)

- Case based learning resources following a person's cancer journey
- Supporting modules on key cancer control concepts
- Competency assessment tools and resources
- Professional development portfolio template
- Educator resources

## Professional development model for nursing in cancer control

(Fig 1)



## Case based learning resources

Eleven case studies are available. Each case study follows the person's cancer journey. The resources include an aim, objectives, evidence based information, links to other key reference sources, video, and learning activities.



**John** is a 65 year old husband and grandfather with colorectal cancer.



**Jane** is 36 years old. She is concerned about her husband and children as she undergoes treatment for ovarian cancer.



**Harold** is 75 years old and having treatment for lung cancer. He lives in a small country town and is worried about the farm.



**Ellie** is 4 years old. She and her parents need support to cope with her diagnosis of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.



**Ted** is 60 years old. He and his wife are faced with difficult treatment decisions for his prostate cancer.



**Jenny** is a 55 year old single mother with melanoma.

## Supporting resources

1. The cancer journey and domains of Specialist Cancer Nursing practice
2. Population health concepts in cancer control
3. The biology of cancer
4. Cancer treatments
  - Part 1: Cancer treatment planning
  - Part 2: Fundamentals of cancer surgery
  - Part 3: Fundamentals of radiotherapy for cancer
  - Part 4: Fundamentals of antineoplastic therapy
  - Part 5: Fundamentals of biological and molecular targeted therapies
  - Part 6: Fundamentals of haematopoietic stem cell transplantation
5. Supportive care
6. Cancer Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

## How can the learning resources be used?

The EdCaN learning resources were developed to be:

- Self-directed learning activities
- Adapted to the level of nursing practice required
- Delivered flexibly in terms of time, place, and delivery mode (ie. via the web or data stick)
- Tailored to the needs of particular professional development opportunities
- Used as whole or in part

Educator resources are available on-line to assist educators to use the EdCaN learning resources.

These resources include workshop outlines and presentations for specific cancers, assessment fact sheets, competency assessment tools, and implementation guides.

“Have gained a great amount of information – the use of video was really useful in understanding how people react to their disease.”

Participant feedback from an implementation workshop

## For the individual nurse

- Use the competency standards for Specialist Cancer Nurses as a tool
  - for determining your professional development needs
  - for evaluating different postgraduate programs in cancer nursing.
- Use the Framework to plan your career path.
- Use the EdCaN learning resources to undertake self-directed learning.
- Use the portfolio to document your professional development.
- Refer students or those new to working with people affected by cancer to the resources.

## For the staff development educator or manager

- Review your professional development opportunities to incorporate EdCaN learning resources relevant to your learners scope and level of practice.
- Develop in-service programs for nurses in generalist or specialist settings to improve their ability to apply relevant competencies for nurses in cancer control.
- Evaluate position descriptions for specialist registered nurses against the competency standards for Specialist Cancer Nurses.

## For the academic

- Map the applied competencies for nurses to your current entry-to-practice curriculum and adapt the EdCaN learning resources within your curriculum to support students to meet these competencies.
- Utilise the competency standards for Specialist Cancer Nurses to review your specialist cancer nursing program and integrate the EdCaN learning resources to support students to meet these competency standards.
- Utilise the competency standards for Specialist Cancer Nurses to assess prior learning programs that might be suitable for credit in your postgraduate courses.
- Review and develop methods of assessing learning that reflect the level of capability or competency described in the Framework.

## For health-service planners and policymakers

- Use the Framework to define workforce capabilities in different practice settings and regions, according to population needs.
- Allocate resources to support preparation of the workforce to match required service capabilities.
- Develop service models that support the principles inherent in the Framework, including person-centred care, continuity of care, multidisciplinary practice, and partnerships between nurses at various levels of practice.

## For consumers of cancer services

- Use the Framework to develop an understanding of the various roles of nurses in delivery of cancer care.
- Use the Framework in advocacy efforts to improve cancer service delivery.
- Advise nurses about the existence of the Framework and EdCaN learning resources in efforts to improve cancer services.

## Case based learning resources (cont'd)

**Libby** is 48 years old and is diagnosed with a second primary breast cancer. She is trying a number of strategies to minimise the effects of her treatment.



**Burt** is 68 years old. He has a drinking problem, lives in a hostel and has been diagnosed with oesophageal cancer.



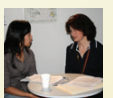
**Justin** is a 16 year old with osteosarcoma who thought cancer was something old people got.



**Arthur** is 78 years old. He cares for his wife with Dementia and is diagnosed with lymphoma.



**Li Xiang** is a 58 year old Chinese woman with head and neck cancer who speaks no English.



Specialist Cancer Nurses support people to:	Reduce risk	Find the condition early	Have the best treatment and support during active treatment	Have the best treatment and support between and after active treatment	Have the best care at the end of life	
Domain 1:	Professional practice					
Domain 2:	Critical thinking and analysis					
Supporting Module (1)	The cancer journey and domains of specialist cancer nursing practice (across all domains)					
Supporting Module (2)	Population health concepts in cancer control (across all domains)					
Domain 3:	Provision and coordination of care (utilises case based scenarios of 11 disease types across the 4 practice dimensions)					
Supporting Module (3)	The Biology of Cancer					
Practice Dimension 1:	Disease and treatment related care					
Supporting Module (4)	Cancer Treatments					
Disease and treatment related care for a 65 yr old male with colorectal cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Colorectal cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> <li>Prevention strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Screening issues</li> <li>Responding to symptoms or a positive screening test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staging</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Stoma care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjuvant therapy</li> <li>Targeted therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Promoting quality of life</li> </ul>	
Disease and treatment related care for a 36 yr old female with ovarian cancer Special focus: Issues for younger women with cancer		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ovarian cancer in Australia</li> <li>The challenge of diagnosis</li> <li>Initial symptoms</li> <li>Screening issues</li> <li>Early detection methods</li> <li>Genetic risk</li> <li>Issues for younger women</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staging and grading</li> <li>Multidisciplinary Care</li> <li>Surgical approaches and specialist gynaecologic oncology services</li> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conventional versus trial therapy</li> <li>Intraperitoneal therapy</li> <li>Neoadjuvant therapy</li> <li>Targeted therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Survivorship issues</li> <li>Younger women's concerns</li> <li>Relapse and management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specialist palliative care</li> <li>Managing late-stage symptoms</li> <li>Supporting preferences</li> <li>Choosing where to die</li> </ul>
Disease and treatment related care for a 75 yr old male with lung cancer Special focus: Issues for the person with cancer living in rural Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lung cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> <li>Smoking prevention</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Responding to a new symptom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staging and grading</li> <li>Principles of treatment planning</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> <li>Radiotherapy</li> <li>Supportive care needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Symptoms of disease progression</li> <li>Palliative emergencies</li> <li>Managing symptoms of advanced disease</li> </ul>
Disease and treatment related care for the 4 yr old female with ALL		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Childhood cancer in Australia</li> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Diagnostic and staging investigations</li> <li>The experience of diagnosis</li> <li>Paediatric care delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types and risk group classification of ALL</li> <li>Treatment approaches for childhood ALL</li> <li>Cancer clinical trials and children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supportive care needs</li> <li>Supportive care needs during procedures</li> <li>Childhood development during the cancer journey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Late effects of treatment</li> </ul>	
Disease and treatment related care for a 60 yr old male with prostate cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prostate cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Screening issues</li> <li>Screening for men at above average risk</li> <li>Responding to a new symptom</li> <li>Follow up diagnostic investigations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staging and grading</li> <li>Prognostic indicators</li> <li>Treatment decision making</li> <li>Multidisciplinary care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Radiotherapy</li> <li>Androgen deprivation therapy (ADT)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Cancer recurrence</li> <li>Promoting quality of life</li> </ul>	
Disease and treatment related care for a 55 yr old female with melanoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skin cancers in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> <li>Prevention strategies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Screening issues</li> <li>Responding to a new symptom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staging and grading</li> <li>Diagnostic investigations</li> <li>Prognostic indicators</li> <li>Multidisciplinary care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clinical trials</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Adjuvant therapy</li> <li>Psychological issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Managing Lymphoedema</li> <li>Promoting quality of life</li> </ul>	
Practice Dimension 2:	Supportive care					
Practice Dimension 4:	Information provision and education					
Supporting Module (5)	Supportive care					
Supportive care, and Information provision and education for a 48 yr old female with breast cancer Special focus: Issues for the person with cancer living in rural Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breast cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Screening issues</li> <li>Responding to a new breast symptom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types and staging of breast cancer</li> <li>Supportive care needs</li> <li>Social influences</li> <li>Rural issues</li> <li>Specialist breast care nurses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> <li>Endocrine therapy</li> <li>Targeted therapy</li> <li>Radiotherapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surviving breast cancer</li> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Adverse physical and emotional effects</li> </ul>	
Supportive care, and Information provision and education for a 68 yr old male with oesophageal cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oesophageal cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of diagnosis</li> <li>Treatments and their impact</li> <li>Treatment decisions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> <li>Radiotherapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Social and community supports</li> <li>Nutritional issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition to palliative care</li> <li>Grief and bereavement</li> </ul>
Supportive care, and Information provision and education for a 16 yr old male with osteosarcoma		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cancer in AYA in Australia</li> <li>Impact of cancer in AYA</li> <li>Early detection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types and staging of osteosarcoma</li> <li>Experience of diagnosis</li> <li>Fertility preservation</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radiotherapy</li> <li>Clinical trials</li> <li>AYA supportive care needs</li> <li>Challenges in the management of AYA</li> <li>AYA care delivery models</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition to palliative care</li> <li>Grief and bereavement</li> <li>Self care and the SCN</li> </ul>
Practice Dimension 3:	Coordinated care					
Coordinated care for a 78 yr old male with lymphoma Special focus: Issues for the older person with cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lymphoma in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Responding to symptoms</li> <li>Follow-up diagnostic investigations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types and classification of lymphoma</li> <li>Prognostic indicators</li> <li>Supportive care needs at diagnosis</li> <li>The older person with cancer</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> <li>Radiotherapy</li> <li>Clinical trials</li> <li>Targeted therapy</li> <li>Haematopoietic stem cell transplant</li> <li>Early treatment and disease effects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up care</li> <li>Carer needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition to palliative care</li> <li>Palliative care in residential care facilities</li> <li>Advance care planning</li> <li>Grief and bereavement</li> </ul>
Coordinated care for a 58 yr old female with head and neck cancer Special focus: Issues for people from CALD background with cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Head and neck cancer in Australia</li> <li>Risk factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early detection</li> <li>Cancer risk reduction in culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Types and staging of head and neck cancer</li> <li>Multidisciplinary care</li> <li>Surgical approaches</li> <li>Antineoplastic therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radiotherapy</li> <li>Targeted therapy</li> <li>Complementary and alternative medicines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up</li> <li>Head and neck cancer recurrence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treatment approaches during the palliative phase</li> <li>Palliative assessment</li> <li>Cultural considerations</li> </ul>
Domain 4:	Collaborative and therapeutic practice					
Supporting Module (6)	Cancer Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples					