

# CONSUMER AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

What is a consumer and community advisory group?

Consumer and community advisory groups provide input across a program of work (such as a research program or a Department's body of work), rather than one particular project.

What do consumer and community advisory groups do?

*Consumer and community advisory groups may:*

- Provide advice when planning the research program or a body of work
- Give feedback on research documents
- Offer a lived experience point of view when analysing data
- Assist in getting the research results out to the wider community

How many members should a consumer and community advisory group have?

A consumer and community advisory group is usually made up of 8-12 members.

How often should a consumer and community advisory group meet?

Most consumer and community advisory groups will meet about four times per year however this depends on the program (for example there may be important time points for the group to meet such as when a grant application is being submitted). Consumer and community advisory group meetings usually go for 1.5 – 2 hours in duration.

What are the costs involved with a consumer and community advisory group?

We advocate for honorarium payments for consumer and community advisory group members at a rate of \$37.50 per hour (*please refer to our honorarium payment guidelines*).

What else should I consider when planning for a consumer and community advisory group?

It is also important that there is someone who can support the administrative tasks of the group such as venue booking, circulating meeting document and taking minutes.

Consumer and community advisory group in practice

The Cancer Council Western Australia Cancer Epidemiology Network (CCEN) was an initiative designed to support and encourage cancer epidemiology and prevention research in Western Australia. An important aspect of the CCEN plan was to involve consumers in directing, supporting, advising and contributing to research projects. The CCEN worked with the Consumer and Community Involvement Program (CCIP) to form a Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) whose key areas of involvement were:

- Planning and organizing a community conversation for the general public
- Fostering consumer-researcher relationships to support research projects
- Building capacity for future consumer-researcher collaborations

Members of the council not only shared their lived experience and views of cancer, but also learned about their potential impact on the direction of cancer epidemiology and prevention research, particularly in Western Australia.

## Contact us

 [cciprogram.org](http://cciprogram.org)

 [admin@cciprogram.org](mailto:admin@cciprogram.org)

 08 6151 1071

## Connect with us

