

[Home](#) > [News & Trends - Medical Technology](#)

News & Trends – Medical Technology

AANMS welcomes funding win for men with prostate cancer

Health Industry Hub | July 4, 2022 |



MedTech News: Australian men with higher risk prostate cancer will now have access to a nuclear medicine scan to help detect and treat metastatic disease, after it was listed on the Medical Benefits Schedule (MBS) from 1 July 2022.

In 2021 over 18,000 Australian men were diagnosed with prostate cancer, resulting in over 3,000 lives being lost – and making prostate cancer Australia's second most common cause of cancer death in men.

Australia has led the world in the research and development of this scan using a relatively novel radiotracer, known as [PSMA PET/CT](#). The availability of funding for PSMA PET/CT scans is a major win for patients, who until now have either paid for these tests themselves or found the scans unobtainable because of the cost.

The Australasian Association of Nuclear Medicine Specialists (AANMS) welcomed the MBS funding which it says will help improve outcomes for thousands of men with a higher risk prostate cancer.

“PSMA PET/CT imaging enables highly specific detection of tumour sites throughout the body with far greater sensitivity compared to other conventional scans. This enables doctors to make more accurate diagnoses than is currently possible with other MBS-funded scans, and which in turn can be lifesaving for some patients,” said AANMS President, Associate Professor Sze Ting Lee.

[Advances in robotics surgery to pave the way for wider access, says Professor Tony Costello](#)

The AANMS has worked closely with partners to achieve this important milestone in the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer.

“We would like to acknowledge the work of Dr Robert Ware from Cyclotek in generating the original funding application and their ongoing support in steering the application with AANMS during the tenure of my predecessor, Dr Geoff Schembri. We also extend our thanks to all those who supported the application, including AstraZeneca who sponsored the submission,” Associate Professor Lee said.

AstraZeneca is a major player in therapy for patients with prostate cancer. They have been providing limited support where they could for PSMA PET/CT scans to assist in best practice management of these patients. Upon hearing of the AANMS planned application to get PSMA scans available on the MBS, they offered arm's length financial support to the AANMS to underwrite the expense of getting professional assistance in making this application. This support was gratefully accepted and allowed the AANMS to make a complete and comprehensive submission ensuring access to this critical technology was not delayed.

With funding now available, AANMS will work closely with other key stakeholders to ensure that patients are appropriately referred for these tests.



Social Responsibility



Pharma and medtech companies voice commitment to NAIDOC Week

Health Industry Hub | July 4, 2022 |

NAIDOC week is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and demand change in the systems that [...]

[More](#)

News & Trends – Medical Technology



Varian partners with RNSH on new oncology trial

Health Industry Hub | July 4, 2022 |

MedTech News: Cancer patients in New South Wales are to benefit from a new palliative care radiation trial at Royal [...]

[More](#)

News & Trends – Medical Technology



Pap test self-collection to break down barriers

Health Industry Hub | July 4, 2022 |

MedTech News: Women who need to get a cervical screening test will be able to choose to self-collect a sample [...]

[More](#)

News & Trends – Medical Technology



AANMS welcomes funding win for men with prostate cancer

Health Industry Hub | July 4, 2022 |

MedTech News: Australian men with higher risk prostate cancer will now have access to a nuclear medicine scan to help [...]

[More](#)

[About us](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Terms and conditions](#) [Contact us](#)