

Quality Indicator Review Project Summary Paper

Background

Clinical Quality Registries (CQRs) address evidence-practice gaps and disparities in prostate cancer care by collecting standardized, longitudinal clinical and patient-reported data. These data enable assessments of care effectiveness and cost-efficiency, guiding clinical improvements through benchmarked quality indicator reports.

PCOR-ANZ Quality Indicator Reports

PCOR-ANZ produces regular quality indicator reports with benchmarked comparisons across institutions and clinicians, using quality indicators developed through rigorous literature reviews and expert-led Delphi panels. These indicators cover key areas of prostate cancer care, including diagnosis, treatment, and patient-reported outcomes, and are featured in specialized radiation and surgical reports.

Perceptions of Clinical Utility Quality Indicator reports

Feedback provided by PCOR Jurisdictions suggest:

Current Use – Where trackable, only a small proportion of clinicians currently access and engage with these reports, indicating barriers to their effectiveness for quality improvement.

Included Quality indicators – Informal clinical feedback suggests a perceived low clinical relevance of some indicators, (e.g. documentation of clinical T stage (DRE)) while others show significant ceiling effects. Metrics, such as those aligning with clinical standards such as the Optimal Care Pathway are not included. Other measures which may be valued by health services to measure care quality are also missing.

Report Modality - Clinicians have highlighted the need for reports to be: clearer, more timely, have more actionable data presentations and formats (e.g. such as on-demand dashboards or interactive reports), that are better suited to clinical decision-making and quality improvement. Current quality indicator reports include benchmarked data that are up to 12–18 months old.

Review of Quality Indicators

PCOR-ANZ quality indicators have not been updated since the inception of the reports over 5 years ago. To effectively drive impact and quality improvement, quality of care indicators must address current standards of contemporary clinical practice. The National Cancer Quality Programme in Scotland mandates a formal review of all tumour-specific quality indicators every three years to ensure they remain relevant and aligned with current clinical practices. Guided by expert clinical opinions, and with changes triggered by significant practice changes, met targets, or new evidence, this process supports continuous improvement and maintains the rigor and applicability of quality indicators in cancer care.

Project Recommendation: Review and presentation of current quality indicators in PCOR-ANZ reports

Aims

- To review the current suite of quality indicators for clinical relevance and ability to impact treatment quality;
- To review current format. Presentation and distribution of quality indicator reports;
- To develop recommendations to update the quality indicators captured and reported upon; and
- To develop recommendations to enhance the content, format, and distribution of quality indicator reports.

Approach

- A scoping review of existing quality indicator presentation methods;
- Targeted stakeholder engagement (eg clinicians, health services and patients) to capture quality indicators of greatest relevance/impact and preferred content and format of reports.

Assess

- The relevance of existing quality indicators, identify potential additional indicators, and explore preferred data visualization and report formats.

Deliver

- A report including recommendations for a refined set of clinical indicators and preferences for updated report formats that enhance utility and interactivity, fostering greater clinician engagement and real-time application.

Project Goal

The goal of this project is to ensure the currency, relevance, and utility of the quality indicator report, enabling the PCOR-ANZ to effectively support best practice care and reduce evidence-practice gaps. By guiding the refinement of the report's content, format, and accessibility, the outcomes will enhance clinician engagement and promote data-driven improvements in prostate cancer care, aligning with PCOR-ANZ's mission to drive high-quality, consistent care across the region.