

Media Release

Mr Danny Pearson MP

Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs

Minister for Finance

Minister for Government Services



Friday, 27 February 2026

BOOSTING CHILDREN'S CANCER CARE

Labor is improving care, experience, and outcomes for children with cancer.

Minister Pearson today announced \$690,000 to launch the Victorian Childhood Cancer Outcomes Registry.

This will mark a major step forward for young cancer patients and their families.

Drawing on data from across the state, the registry will help unlock new research to improve how childhood cancer is diagnosed and treated.

It will also drive evidence-based improvements in current care and services.

Using hospital systems and survivorship clinics, the registry has already collected information on more than 5,000 children's cancer cases, including treatments and follow-up care.

This will help clinicians and researchers improve treatment plans, track long-term health issues, and guide decisions about healthcare services and policies.

Supported by Children's Cancer CoLab, the registry will be led by the Victorian Paediatric Integrated Cancer Service in partnership with Victoria's major children's cancer centres.

Every year, more than 1,000 children and adolescents in Australia are diagnosed with cancer.

While treatment advancements have significantly improved survival rates, up to 80 per cent of survivors experience ongoing health challenges that affect their quality of life.

These long-term impacts can include developmental disorders, vision and hearing problems, infertility, mental health challenges and increased risk of secondary cancers.

This registry will drive cutting-edge research to improve outcomes for children with cancer.

Labor has invested more than \$1 billion in health and medical research.

We're proud to support breakthroughs in treatment and care, boosting economic growth and high-skilled jobs.

To learn more, visit: vics.org.au/pics/vccor

Quotes attributable to Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs Danny Pearson

"No family should face childhood cancer without the very best care and support, which is why we're improving care, experience, and outcomes for children with cancer."

"We are driving cutting-edge research, supporting high-skilled jobs and medical breakthroughs – and most importantly, delivering better outcomes for Victorian children diagnosed with cancer."

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Quote attributable to Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas

"Every child deserves the very best care and with this registry, we are building the evidence to accelerate smarter treatments to make sure we give Victorian kids the best possible future."

Quotes attributable to Dr Udani Reets CEO Children's Cancer CoLab

"We want every child and young person with cancer in Victoria to receive safer, more coordinated and more equitable care, no matter where they live, and long after treatment ends."