## **MEDIA RELEASE**

4 February 2022

# RANZCR Launches Video Series to Close the Cancer Care Gap on World Cancer Day 2022

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) released a series of short videos to mark World Cancer Day 2022 on 4 February, highlighting the inequality in accessing radiation therapy for cancer treatment to close the gap in cancer care.

Comprising seven short videos, the series features Targeting Cancer Campaign Ambassador, Julie McCrossin, interviewing radiation oncologists in Australia and New Zealand, highlighting the 2022 World Cancer Day theme "Close the care gap" at the same time as raising awareness of radiation therapy.

Clin A/Prof Sanjay Jeganathan, RANZCR President, said: "As a long-term supporter of this global initiative, RANZCR is proud to be part of World Cancer Day 2022. RANZCR is committed to improving health outcomes for all, which is very much aligned with the vision of the World Cancer Day initiative."

"This video series explores the inequity in accessing radiation therapy at home and abroad with meaningful conversations. One in two cancer patients would benefit from radiation therapy at some time during their cancer experience. However, less than one in three patients in Australia and New Zealand will actually receive radiation therapy."

Julie McCrossin AM, Targeting Cancer Campaign Ambassador and a cancer survivor, said: "Wherever we live in the world, we deserve to be given the best possible chance to survive cancer and that means we need to be able to receive radiation therapy when it benefits us. We can and will close the care gap for radiation therapy because it is essential for the wellbeing of people with cancer."

Dr Cary Adams, CEO of the Union for International Cancer Control says: "As individuals, as communities, we can and must come together and break down barriers. We have achieved a lot in the last decade in cancer care and control around the world but not addressing inequities in society is slowing our progress. Closing the care gap is about fairness, dignity and fundamental rights to allow everyone to lead longer lives in better health."

The World Cancer Day initiative has started a three-year campaign to raise awareness of the equity gap that affects almost everyone and the barriers preventing people from accessing life-saving prevention services, diagnostics, treatment and care. Cultural contexts, geographical location, gender norms, income and education levels and discrimination or assumptions based on age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability and lifestyle can all lead to wide discrepancies in the risks of developing and surviving cancer.

The Targeting Cancer Campaign is an initiative of the Faculty of Radiation Oncology of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR). The Campaign aims to increase awareness of radiation therapy as an effective, safe and sophisticated treatment for cancer. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.targetingcancer.com.au">www.targetingcancer.com.au</a>; <a href="https://www.targetingcancer.com.au">www.targetingcancer.com.au</a>; <a href="https://www.targetingcancer.com.au">www.targetingcancer.com.au</a>;

To view the RANZCR World Cancer Day 2022 video series, please visit: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiXt6YcW7RS0xeXNoOsnmwQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiXt6YcW7RS0xeXNoOsnmwQ</a>

#### **ENDS**

### **About RANZCR**

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) is committed to improving health outcomes for all, by educating and supporting clinical radiologists and radiation oncologists. RANZCR is dedicated to setting standards, professional training, assessment and accreditation, and advocating access to quality care in both professions to create healthier communities.

RANZCR creates a positive impact by driving change, focusing on the professional development of its members and advancing best practice health policy and advocacy, to enable better patient outcomes.

RANZCR members are critical to health services: radiation oncology is a vital component in the treatment of cancer; clinical radiology is central to the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury.

For more information, go to <a href="www.ranzcr.com">www.ranzcr.com</a> and follow us on <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>.

## **About World Cancer Day**

World Cancer Day takes place every year on 4 February and is the uniting global initiative under which the world comes together to raise the profile of cancer in a positive and inspiring way. Spearheaded by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the day aims to save millions of preventable deaths each year by raising awareness and improving education about the disease while calling for action from governments and individuals across the world. For more information, please visit: www.worldcancerday.org

For media enquiries please contact Jie Cao, Senior Media and Communications Officer on +61 417 435 333, jie.cao@ranzcr.edu.au