



Ecological Sustainability - Social Justice - Peace and Non-violence - Grassroots Democracy

## CANCER VOICES 2013 FEDERAL ELECTION SURVEY

1. Yes. The Australian Greens support the removal of the ability to grant patents over naturally occurring human genetic material.
2. Yes. The Australian Greens believe cancer treatment centres/clinics should be accredited.
3. Yes we would support a well-resourced repository of information for patients.
4. The Greens have publicly committed to keeping the TGA, PBAC and MSAC
5. Yes, the Greens do not believe cancer patients – nor anybody else – should have to suffer high out-of-pocket costs to get needed healthcare.
6. The Greens agree with organisations such as the Consumers Health Forum that the next CPA should be negotiated and implemented in a transparent manner with input from health consumers and the community generally.
7. The Greens support item numbers for scans where the evidence suggests they are clinically effective. On the specific issue of PET scans, the Greens have consulted with experts on this issue and are currently of the view that there is a good case for a review of the MSAC decision.
8. The Greens are aware of deficiencies in access to palliative care services and are committed to making access more equitable across the states and in rural and regional areas.
9. Yes, the Australian Greens support coordination of cancer care services.
10. Yes, the Australian Greens support the development of directories of services.
11. If evidence suggests improved outcomes and cost-effectiveness, the Greens believe guidelines should be adopted for their use and if uptake is not sufficient would look at other mechanisms to require their use.
12. The Greens are aware of the out-of-pocket costs faced by many with long-term or chronic conditions who must purchase lymphedema garments, compression bandages, etc. and other items not covered on Medicare. We support public funding for these necessary items.
13. The Greens recognise the promise of these areas; we would consider this when setting those research priorities that lie within government control.
14. The Greens policy platform includes the legalisation of the medical use of cannabis.
15. The Greens would consider this as part of our commitment to fixing the inequities in rural health care.
16. We have no specific policy on the collection of cancer data by the AIHW and other agencies but commit not to make cuts to these agencies as we recognise the need for accurate data in sound, evidence-based policymaking.

19 August 2013