



Senate Inquiry
Patient Travel and Transport

What is CVA?

- A national consumer organisation representing Australians affected by cancer.



Who are CVA?

- Incorporated Association
- 8 State and Territory CV organisations
- Supporters



The Impact of Cancer

- The unknown
- The cost
- The suddenness
- Where to?
- What assistance?
- The Bureacrocacy



The PATS Issues

- Stress
- Justification
- PATS staff
- Lack of Information
- Need support
- Length of stay
- Different systems and criteria



CVA Recommendations



- **All cancer patients in this country have access to national minimum standards for PATS regardless of where they live**
- **Introduce a national awareness and training campaign for all health care and PATS workers and establish bone fide links with all agencies to ensure that cancer patients and their families have access to all relevant information regarding financial assistance programs**
- **A means tested allowance to be paid to cancer patients at the time of diagnosis – similar to the Carers Allowance**

CVA Recommendations

- **Fuel rebate cards be issued to patients and carers to be used specifically for travel to and from their treatment centre**
- **PATS offices to negotiate rates with accommodation agencies near treatment centres**
- **Multi-Disciplinary Treatment (MDT) for cancer is considered the optimal treatment pathway. PATS must develop a policy in Australia that will facilitate each patient's access to MDT.**
- **The Government provide capital grants to current NGOs and charity providers of accommodation and transport to expand their services.**

