

**MEDIA ALERT**  
**EMBARGOED UNTIL Wednesday 1 November 2023**

## Using big data to improve cancer outcomes

*Canadian research leader to present at the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia's Annual Scientific Meeting this week.*

A meeting of Australia's peak oncology community will hear today how improvements in the way they handle health administration data could lead to improved early detection of cancers and optimised treatment strategies.

Visiting Canadian expert, Dr Darren Brenner, leads a research program at the University of Calgary focused on using "big data" and precision epidemiological analytics to assess the risk burden of modifiable factors for common cancers. He will present his work at the opening session of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia's 50th Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne to more than one thousand delegates from the range of disciplines involved in cancer care across Australia.

Dr Brenner's use of existing and supplemented health databases allows the analysis of real-world populations under actual conditions, as opposed to the often unrepresentative populations and conditions of classical clinical trials. "Real-world data approaches can help improve decision making and reduce uncertainty across cancer control in Canada and abroad."

Dr Brenner's team has used microsimulation approaches to model population-level trends and to assess the impacts of potential modifications to Canada's early detection screening guidelines. He will be presenting on the topic *How can we improve future cancer outcomes with big data and analytics?* today, and on *Using data to drive impact in cancer prevention* on Thursday 2 November.

### Session details

**Presentation:** *How can we improve future cancer outcomes with big data and analytics?*

**Session:** Plenary: 50 Years of cancer care: the past, present and future  
**When:** Wednesday 1 November 9:00–10:30pm

**Presentation:** *Using data to drive impact in cancer prevention*

**Session:** What are we doing to reduce risk?

**When:** Thursday 2 November 4:00–5:30pm

**Presenter bio:** [Dr Darren Brenner](#)

**Where:** Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

**X/Twitter:** #COSA23 @COSAOncology

A PDF of embargoed abstracts are available. For inquiries, interviews or to seek media accreditation, contact:

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## About COSA

The Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) is Australia's peak multidisciplinary society for health professionals working in cancer research, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care. COSA is recognised as an activist organisation whose views are valued in all aspects of cancer care. We are allied with and provide high-level clinical advice to Cancer Council Australia.

For more information about COSA, [see our website](#).

## About the COSA Annual Scientific Meeting

The COSA Annual Scientific Meeting is Australia's premier cancer meeting, and unlike other meetings, it brings together all health professionals who work in cancer care and control – oncologists, nurses, pharmacists, allied health professionals, scientists, policy makers and more.

In 2023, the event will have a disease focus on breast and gynaecological cancers. Top multidisciplinary national and international speakers will present the latest research and developments in cancer to more than 1000 delegates, with a focus on the science, education, health services, treatments, supportive care, and epidemiology.

1-3 November 2023  
Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre  
[Program](#) | [Invited Speakers](#)