

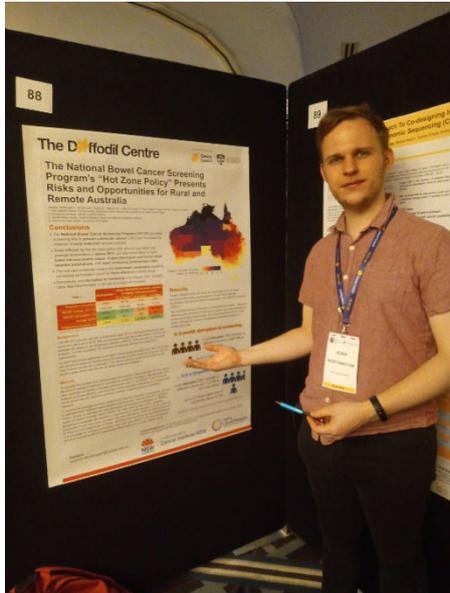
## NSW Cancer Conference 2022 Conference Report

**Name:** Joachim Worthington

**Position & Affiliation:** Research Fellow, The Daffodil Centre

**Full Reference:** Joachim Worthington, Jie-Bin Lew, Emily He, Kate Broun, Katina D'Onise, Paul Grogan, Karen Canfell, Eleonora Feletto. *The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program's "Hot Zone Policy" Presents Risks and Opportunities for Rural and Remote Australia*

**Presentation Type:** Poster



Joachim Worthington with poster at the NSW Cancer Conference, 15-16<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

The 2022 NSW Cancer Conference was held in the beautiful Sofitel Wentworth in Sydney on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of June. The excitement accompanying the return to in-person presentations was palpable, and this elevated the energy across both days of the conference. The conference was a great opportunity to both catch up with collaborators and meet new researchers, building connections across the cancer control sphere. The attendees also made the most of the beautiful location, just moments from the sights of Circular Quay.

Having attended previous iterations of this conference under the Sydney Cancer Conference name, I was very interested to see the wide variety of talks on offer. I was particularly grateful for the many presenters who took the time and effort to offer a gentle introduction for newcomers to each topic, balanced against their novel and state of the art breakthroughs. Perspectives such as those offered by Professor Jacob George on the "end-to-end" management of HCC and Professor Sabe Sabesan on embedding best practice in health systems provided an excellent launchpad for thinking about our research in a broader context, and making connections between my work and the other researchers

attending the conference.

As someone working in public health and policy, I learned a great deal from the presentations that discussed perspectives on patient experience and translation research that I hadn't previously considered. Two examples I was particularly impressed by were Dr Joanna Fardell and her presentation on cognitive decline and recovery in patients undergoing chemotherapy, Dr Sharon Nahm's presentation on a tool for clinicians to discuss life expectancy with patients, and Ms Jenna Smith's presentation on the difficulties associated with communicating screening changes to older adults. These kinds of talks provided a valuable reminder of the breadth of considerations when delivering cancer control, and the shifting priorities for different patients. I was also grateful to hear from consumers presentations, particularly Lucy Jones' presentation on her journey from to cancer fundraising.

The opportunity to present my work on the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program's "hot zone" policy was very exciting, as this is the first time we've been able to present on this work. A key focus for us in this project is bringing to light an aspect of the screening program that is not widely known or discussed, so it was great to be able to share this with other conference attendees. There was a strong contingent of posters and presentations focusing on equity and delivery of care, so it was great to discuss our work with the other presenters. By making these connections, it helped me understand some of the broader context and sensitivities in screening equity, which will help guide the direction of a planned manuscript based on this project.