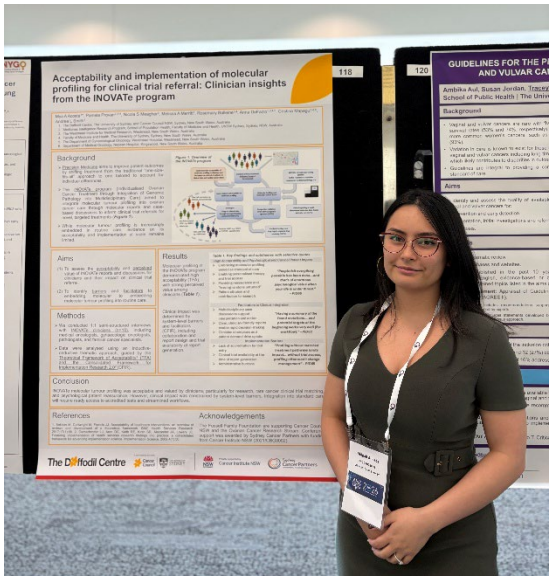
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Full Reference: **Acosta MA**, Provan P, Meagher NS, Merritt MA, Balleine R, DeFazio A, Mapagu C, Smith AL. *Acceptability and implementation of molecular profiling for clinical trial referral: Clinician insights from the INOVATe program*
Conference/Meeting Name: ANZGOG Annual Scientific Meeting 2026
Location: Gold Coast, QLD
Dates: 25-27 March 2026
Presentation Type: Poster



Presenting my poster on clinician perspectives of molecular profiling in the INOVATe program during the ANZGOG Annual Scientific Meeting 2026. The poster session provided valuable opportunities to discuss implementation challenges and future directions for precision oncology with researchers and clinicians from across Australia and New Zealand.

I attended the ANZGOG Annual Scientific Meeting 2026, the flagship meeting of the Australia New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group, which brought together clinicians, researchers, allied health professionals, trial coordinators, and consumer representatives working across gynaecological cancers. This meeting marked a significant milestone for the gynaecological cancer community, bringing together a record 387 delegates (the largest gathering in the meeting's history) united by a shared commitment to improving outcomes for people affected by gynaecological cancers.

Held on the Gold Coast, this year's theme, *On the Edge: Translating Innovation into Action*, was reflected throughout the scientific program. Across sessions spanning precision oncology, clinical trials, genomics, survivorship, and models of care, a clear message emerged: scientific innovation achieves its greatest value when it can be effectively implemented in routine clinical practice and improve patient outcomes. The conference showcased the latest developments in ovarian, endometrial, cervical, and other rare gynaecological cancers, with a strong focus on translational research, clinical trials, genomics, survivorship, and implementation of precision medicine. The multidisciplinary nature of the meeting provided valuable opportunities to learn from experts across research and clinical practice.

At the conference, I presented a poster titled "*Acceptability and implementation of molecular profiling for clinical trial referral: Clinician insights from the INOVATe program*." The study explored clinician experiences with molecular tumour profiling in ovarian cancer and identified factors influencing its implementation in routine care. Presenting this work provided an excellent opportunity to discuss implementation science approaches with clinicians and researchers working in precision oncology. Conversations during the poster session reinforced the importance of developing streamlined pathways that connect molecular testing results to actionable treatment and trial opportunities.

The knowledge gained from the meeting directly benefits my PhD research by strengthening my understanding of how molecular profiling programs are being adopted in real-world settings and the practical challenges faced by clinicians. Exposure to current clinical trials, emerging genomic technologies, and implementation strategies will help inform future analyses and dissemination of

findings from the INOVATe program. Furthermore, attending this meeting provided valuable networking opportunities with researchers, clinicians, and clinical trial leaders across Australia and New Zealand. Building these professional connections will support my development as an early-career researcher and help position my work within broader national efforts to improve access to personalised cancer care.

The learning outcomes are highly relevant to the wider Sydney Cancer Partners community because they demonstrate how translational cancer research can be successfully implemented to improve patient care. Precision oncology depends not only on scientific discovery but also on effective integration into healthcare systems. The conference highlighted the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration, implementation science, and equitable access to innovation - areas that are central to improving outcomes for cancer patients.

A personal highlight of the conference was presenting my first qualitative implementation science project at a major gynaecological oncology meeting and having the opportunity to engage directly with clinicians, researchers, and trialists whose work has influenced my own research. It was particularly rewarding to see strong interest in the practical challenges of implementing molecular profiling and to contribute to discussions about how genomic information can be translated into meaningful clinical impact for patients with ovarian cancer.

Acceptability and implementation of molecular profiling for clinical trial referral: Clinician insights from the INOVATe program

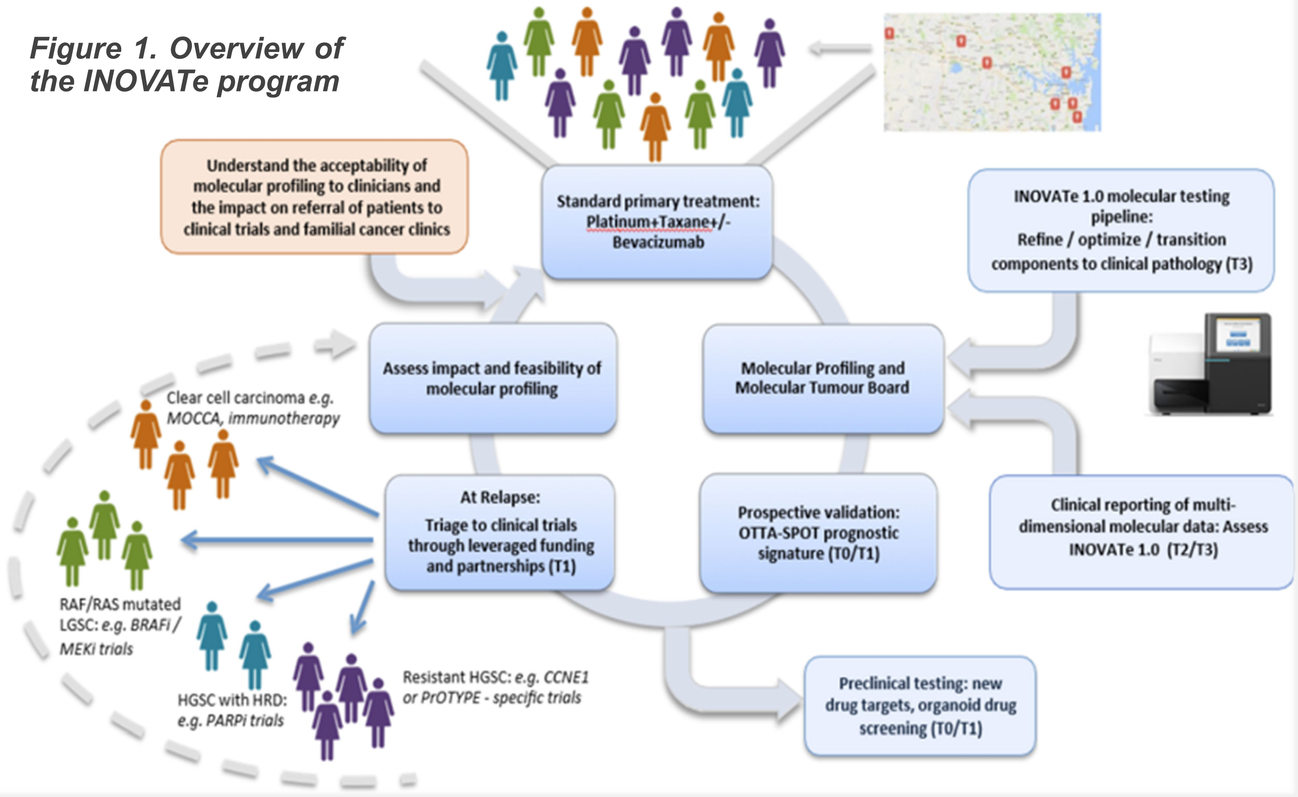
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Background

- Precision Medicine aims to improve patient outcomes by shifting treatment from the traditional "one-size-fits-all" approach to one tailored to account for individual differences.
- The INOVATe program (Individualised Ovarian Cancer Treatment through Integration of Genomic Pathology into Multidisciplinary Care) aimed to integrate molecular tumour profiling into ovarian cancer care through molecular reports and case-based discussions to inform clinical trial referrals for novel, targeted treatments (***Figure 1***).
- While molecular tumour profiling is increasingly embedded in routine care, evidence on its acceptability and implementation at scale remains limited.

Figure 1. Overview of the INOVATe program



Aims

(1) To assess the acceptability and perceived value of INOVATe reports and discussions for clinicians and their impact on clinical trial referral.

(2) To identify barriers and facilitators to embedding molecular to embedding molecular tumour profiling into routine care.

Methods

- We conducted 1:1 semi-structured interviews with INOVATe clinicians (n=10), including medical oncologists, gynaecologic oncologists, pathologists, and familial cancer specialists.
- Data were analysed using an inductive-deductive thematic approach, guided by the Theoretical Framework of Acceptability[1] (TFA) and the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research 2.0[2] (CFIR).

Results

Molecular profiling in the INOVATe program demonstrated high acceptability (TFA), with strong perceived value among clinicians (***Table 1***).

Clinical impact was determined by system-level barriers and facilitators (CFIR), including collaboration and report design and trial availability at report generation.

Table 1. Key findings and subthemes with selective quotes

High Acceptability and Psychological and Clinical Patient Impact	
➢ Embracing molecular profiling viewed as standard of care ➢ Enabling personalised therapy and trial access ➢ Providing reassurance and "leaving no stone unturned" ➢ Patient altruism and contribution to research	***"People felt everything possible has been done…and that's of enormous psychological value when your life is under threat." – PID06***
Facilitators to Clinical Integration	
➢ Multidisciplinary case discussions support interpretation and action ➢ Clear, clinician-friendly reports enable rapid decision-making ➢ Clinician champions and patient demand drive uptake	***"Having a summary of the found mutations… and potential targets at the beginning works very well [for workflow]." – PID03***
Implementation Barriers	
➢ Lack of accreditation for trial entry ➢ Clinical trial availability at the time of report generation ➢ Administrative burdens	***"Profiling without matched treatment pathways limits impact… without trial access, profiling often won't change management" – PID05***

Conclusion

INOVATe molecular tumour profiling was acceptable and valued by clinicians, particularly for research, rare cancer clinical trial matching, and psychological patient reassurance. However, clinical impact was constrained by system-level barriers. Integration into standard care will require ready access to accredited tests and streamlined workflows.

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The Daffodil Centre — A partnership between Cancer Council and The University of Sydney

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