

What is the purpose of the EdCaN learning resources?

Every nurse will at some stage be involved in caring for people affected by cancer. EdCaN provides a national professional development framework for cancer nursing which describes nurses' varying contributions at all phases of the cancer continuum. The framework outlines the competency standards required of nurses working in different roles, in different settings, and at different points along this continuum (see Figure 1). EdCaN also provides a suite of learning resources to help nurses acquire the competencies outlined in the framework.

It doesn't matter if you've been working in cancer care for many years or you're a nurse new to working with people affected by cancer, the EdCaN learning resources are freely available to develop your ability to meet the health needs of people affected by cancer.

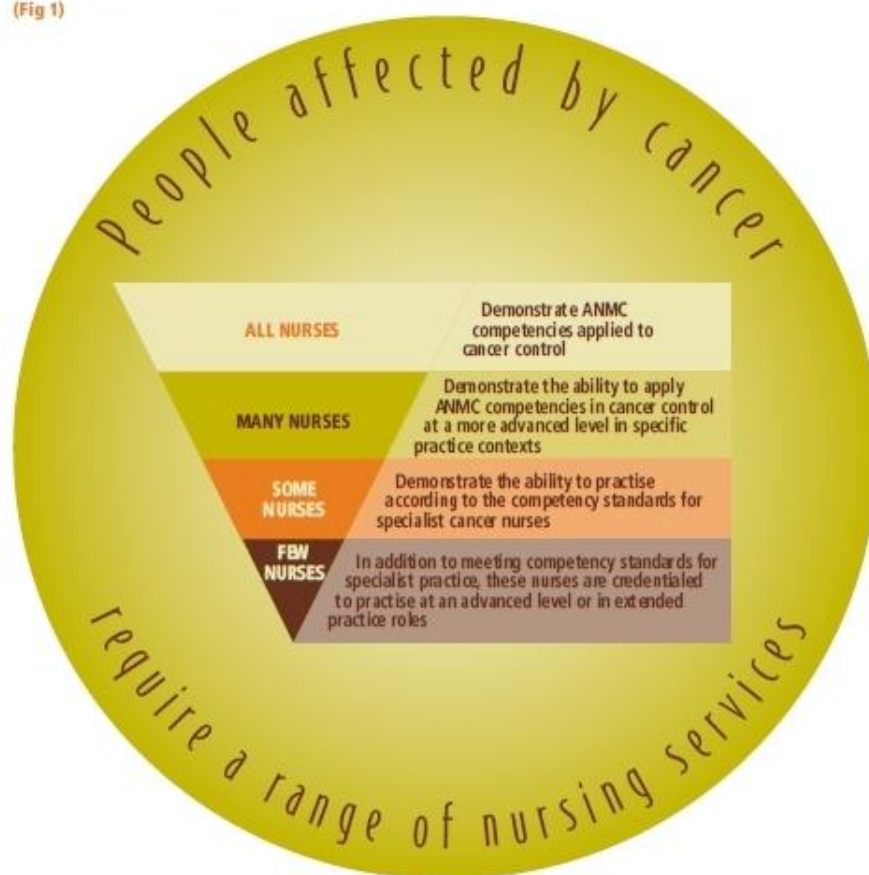
EdCaN learning resources at a glance

Available on-line www.cancerlearning.gov.au/edcan_resources

- Case based learning resources following a person's cancer journey
- Supporting modules on key cancer control concepts
- Competency assessment tools and resources
- Professional development portfolio template
- Educator resources

Professional development model for nursing in cancer control

(Fig 1)



Case based learning resources

Eleven case studies are available. Each case study follows the person's cancer journey. The resources include an aim, objectives, evidence based information, links to other key reference sources, video, and learning activities.



John is a 65 year old husband and grandfather with colorectal cancer.



Jane is 36 years old. She is concerned about her husband and children as she undergoes treatment for ovarian cancer.



Harold is 75 years old and having treatment for lung cancer. He lives in a small country town and is worried about the farm.



Ellie is 4 years old. She and her parents need support to cope with her diagnosis of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.



Ted is 60 years old. He and his wife are faced with difficult treatment decisions for his prostate cancer.



Jenny is a 55 year old single mother with melanoma.



Libby is 48 years old and is diagnosed with a second primary breast cancer. She is trying a number of strategies to minimise the effects of her treatment.



Burt is 68 years old. He has a drinking problem, lives in a hostel and has been diagnosed with oesophageal cancer.



Justin is a 16-year-old with osteosarcoma who thought cancer was something old people got.



Arthur is 84 years old. He cares for his wife with Alzheimers Disease and is diagnosed with lymphoma.



Li Xiang is 58-year-old Chinese woman with head and neck cancer who speaks no English.

Supporting resources

1. The cancer journey and domains of specialist cancer nursing practice
2. Population health concepts in cancer control
3. The biology of cancer
4. Cancer treatments
 - Part 1: Cancer treatment planning
 - Part 2: Fundamentals of cancer surgery
 - Part 3: Fundamentals of radiotherapy for cancer
 - Part 4: Fundamentals of systemic cancer therapies
 - Part 5: Fundamentals of cancer biological and molecular targeted therapies
 - Part 6: Fundamentals of haematopoietic stem cell transplant
5. Supportive care
6. Cancer Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

How can the learning resources be used?

The EdCaN learning resources were developed to be able to be:

- Delivered flexibly in terms of time, place, and delivery mode (ie. via the web or data stick)
- Tailored to the needs of particular courses
- Used as whole or in part

Educator resources are available on-line to assist educators to use the EdCaN resources.

These resources include workshop outlines and presentations for specific cancers, assessment fact sheets, competency assessment tools, and implementation guides.

Who is the target audience for use of the learning resources?

Nurses, educators and managers in all settings may use the resources in a variety of ways to facilitate professional development, including:

- Self-directed learning
- Developing workplace training programs
- Developing education programs for entry to practice through to post graduate
- Establishing and monitoring standards for nursing education in cancer control