The Role of E-Path Plus in the Victorian Cancer Registry's Successful Automation of Casefinding and Abstraction



Victorian Cancer Registry:

The Victorian Cancer Registry (VCR), operated by Cancer Council Victoria, is responsible for recording all instances of cancer in Australia's second most populous state with a population of 6.7 million people.

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Implemented across Victoria's network of 256 health services and 26 pathology laboratories, E-Path Plus captures **approximately 94%** of all pathology notifications in the state.

Cancer Registry Data Flow with E-Path Plus



E-Path Plus Efficiency Gains:

- Reduction in underreporting: After switching to E-Path (and later to E-Path Plus), VCR saw 49% more cancers that were previously missed or unreported before automation.
- Improved health service delivery chain: E-Path Plus's improved technology for data collection and patient linkage allowed VCR to identify cancer across family relations, which led to the identification of 4% more cancers than were normally reported.
- Increasing notifications: VCR now receives 60% more reportable pathology notifications than it did prior to implementation, including those for ancillary studies.
- Reduced workload: VCR saw 20% fewer ineligible reports freeing up time to handle higher report volumes without increasing staff.
- Reduction in Death Certificate Only (DCO) reporting: DCO for both solid tumors and hematological malignancy went down significantly at VCR — between 24% and 80% reductions when comparing pre- and post-E-Path Plus implementation.
- Eliminating backlog: VCR shortened its backlog from being 2-3 years behind to reporting cancer within 12 months of original diagnosis.
- Reduced turn-around: E-Path Plus reduced the time between a clinical or laboratory recording patient
 information and these data being available at the VCR to 30 minutes.
- Automating abstracting: VCR was able to go from casefinding to abstracting without increasing staff.