

Gala

INAUGURAL AWARDS AWARDS CRITERIA

The Head and Neck Cancer Awards recognise individuals who have made outstanding contributions to improving outcomes for people with Head and Neck Cancer in two categories.

CATEGORY 1: HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Excellence in Patient Care for Head and Neck Cancer

Award Purpose

This award recognises a health professional who has demonstrated exceptional dedication, innovation, and compassion in the care and treatment of patients affected by Head and Neck Cancer.

Who can apply?

- Includes (but not limited to) specialists, nurses and allied health providers actively working in Head and Neck Cancer Care.
- Must be involved in the diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, or support of patients.
- Nominees must have made a measurable and positive impact on patient care or quality of life.

Selection Criteria

1. Excellence in Patient Care (40%)

- Demonstrated outstanding commitment to improving patient outcomes, safety, and experience.
- Provides holistic, patient-centered care that addresses physical, emotional, and social needs.

2. Innovation and Advancement (20%)

- Introduced or implemented innovative approaches to treatment, rehabilitation, or patient support.
- Contributed to advancements in Head and Neck Cancer care through research, education, or new techniques.

3. Collaboration and Advocacy (20%)

- Actively collaborates with multidisciplinary teams to enhance care delivery.
- Advocates for patient needs, education, and awareness within the broader healthcare community.

4. Impact on Patients and Families (20%)

- Demonstrated ability to make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients and their families.
- Recognised for compassion, empathy, and unwavering support through the cancer journey.



CATEGORY 2: MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Excellence in Patient Advocacy

Award Purpose

This award recognises an individual who has contributed to making a positive impact on the lives of Australians living with or affected by Head and Neck Cancer over a substantial period of time.

Who can apply?

Those with personal experience of cancer, as a person with a diagnosis of cancer; or as a community member, family member, or carer who has been involved in the support and care of people with cancer.

Selection Criteria

1. Excellence in Advocacy (40%)

- Demonstrated outstanding commitment to advocating for the rights and needs of Head and Neck Cancer patients.

2. Community Engagement and Empowerment (30%)

- Significant contributions to supporting and empowering cancer patients and their families.
- Active engagement with the community to raise awareness about Head and Neck Cancer related issues.
- Collaboration with other organisations, support groups or stakeholders to promote Head and Neck Cancer advocacy.

3. Commitment to Equity and Inclusion (15%)

- Efforts to ensure equitable access to cancer care and support for all patients, including marginalised groups.
- Inclusion of diverse perspectives in advocacy work to address the needs of various communities.

4. Sustainability and Long-term Impact (15%)

- Sustainable engagement that ensures continued benefits for cancer patients and their families



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The nominee must be an Australian resident.

- Self-nominations are permitted.
- The nomination should address the Selection Criteria.
- The nomination must include a short biography of the nominee (of no more than 500 words).
- The nomination must include two written references that support the nominee's application.
- The nominee, or a member of their family, must give permission for the biographical details provided in the nomination to be used by the Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society and Head and Neck Cancer Australia in any promotional material, should they be selected as an Awardee.
- The nomination may also include any supporting documentation e.g. reports, publications, media coverage.

LODGING A NOMINATION

- Nominations are to be emailed to gala@headandneckcancer.org.au by **5pm, Friday 26 September 2025**.
- Late applications will not be considered.
- The judging panel for both awards will include one representative from ANZHNCS and HANCA and one representative from the HANCA Clinical Advisory Committee and HANCA Community Advisory Committee respectively.
- The Awards will be announced at the Head and Neck Cancer Gala on 1 November 2025 in Sydney.
- Information about the successful Award recipients will also be posted on the ANZHNCS and HANCA websites in November 2025.
- Any questions may be directed to gala@headandneckcancer.org.au

AWARD RECOGNITION

The recipients will be celebrated for their dedication and contribution, receiving a plaque and public acknowledgment at the Head and Neck Cancer Gala on Saturday, 1 November 2025 in Sydney.



headandneckcancergala.org.au