



INTELLECTUAL RESOURCES

CANSA's intellectual resources comprise our organisational, knowledge-based intangibles, including:

- intellectual property, such as patents, copyrights, software, rights and licences
- 'organisational capital' such as tacit knowledge, systems, procedures and protocols
- our cancer research.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



RESEARCH

CANSA's core research focus is on reducing risk, early detection and diagnosis, and optimising patient treatment, care, and support, including palliation.

CANSA uses evidence-based research to inform our advocacy work, our health education programmes, and our

service to those living with cancer and members of the public. CANSA's research strategies and programmes maintain and strengthen CANSA's role as a leading Cancer Control NPO.

Funds were used across three research programmes categorised as Type A, B and C.

CANSA RESEARCH GOALS

TO CONTRIBUTE TO ADDRESSING THE CANCER BURDEN IN SOUTH AFRICA

- By funding high-quality, relevant (to South Africa/low- and middle-income countries) and high-impact research focusing on:
 - reducing risk and exposure to risk
 - early detection and prevention
 - meeting the diverse needs of cancer patients

TO INFORM CANSA'S OFFERINGS (SERVICE, EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC AND ADVOCACY)

- Conducting and funding research that informs how we can better communicate risk to the public via our health campaigns and programmes.
- Conducting and funding research that optimises service delivery for cancer patients and those affected by cancer.
- Conducting research that strengthens advocacy efforts.

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN AND GROW FUNDING FOR CANCER RESEARCH IN SOUTH AFRICA

- Attracting international funding for cancer research in South Africa
- Funding projects that enable researchers to leverage larger, international grants.
- Developing a platform for South African participation in international research consortiums [Primarily Type A]

HOW CANSA CREATES VALUE THROUGH RESEARCH

INPUTS THAT ENABLE CANSA TO IMPLEMENT RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- Research-related expertise within CANSA's research department
- CANSA's funding for research
- CANSA's research track record and credibility
- Collaborative partnerships
- Established and growing research networks

IMPLEMENTATION OF RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- Type A – by research grant holders funded for their projects by CANSA and who independently conduct studies and report progress and results. CANSA's research committee and department provide oversight on the progress of these studies. Researchers are also required to acknowledge CANSA in their published work.
- Type B and C – through partnerships and collaborative work, post graduate students and other researchers who choose projects from a list of topics shared by CANSA with academic institutions, finding areas of mutual interest with researchers by way of discussion and networking and aligned to cancer control priorities in South Africa.

1 April 2007 to 31 March 2023

Research capacity building in South Africa. Dissemination of information through conference presentations, journal publications, via our research website including the CANSA Research Detective booklets.

- Research translation activities including using research results from studies to inform advocacy activities and engage with the National Department of Health on legislation and cancer policy.
- Use of research results to inform health-promotion campaigns and activities, and the development and potential testing of materials developed for health promotion and CANSA campaigns.

CANSA Funded Research by Numbers
Research projects and publications for the period 2007-2021

111
Research Projects Supported by CANSA

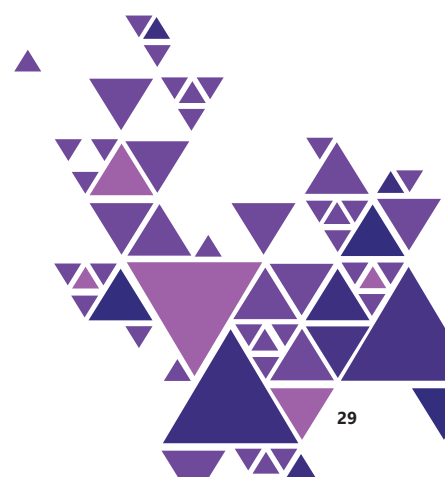
TOLL FREE
0800 22 66 22
www.cansa.org.za/cancer-research

CANSA
Cancer Research Society of South Africa
Research • Educate • Support

302
Number of Publications generated
(in peer reviewed journals)

072 197 9105
071 867 3530

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, WhatsApp, Email, Phone icons



THE SHORT-, MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH INITIATIVES

SHORT-TERM

- Collaboration, partnership, awareness, and prioritisation of key cancer-control issues in South Africa

MEDIUM-TERM

- Building trust and credibility
- Sharing and enabling research expertise multi-directionally
- Raising awareness and disseminating knowledge on cancer and cancer research

LONG-TERM

- Building cancer research capacity in South Africa
- Building credibility and a track record for CANSA's research department and researchers involved
- Using evidence-based research to help inform cancer policy.
- Improving knowledge, attitudes and practices related to cancer control among the South African public.
- Using data to inform different CANSA programmes and services.

EXTERNAL INFLUENCES AFFECTING CANSA'S RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- Funding
- Cancer-control priorities in South Africa
- Opportunities for collaboration with academic institutions in areas of mutual interest as per our research goals
- Researchers' interest and initiative
- Affiliations and relationships of CANSA research staff with academic institutions and researchers

RELATIONSHIPS PARAMOUNT TO ENABLE THE CONTINUED VALUE CREATION OF CANSA'S RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- Members of our research committee
- Local and international academic institutions and researchers
- National Department of Health
- Potential funders
- Other local and international cancer associations

RESOURCES REQUIRED TO ENABLE CANSA'S RESEARCH INITIATIVES

- Financial resources (funding)
- Research capabilities
- Collaborative partnerships

CRUCIAL RESOURCES

- Financial resources (funding) – bequests, grant applications
- Human resources – research committee members, attracting appropriate talent to CANSA's research department, finding appropriate academic partners.
- Social and relationship resources (collaborative partnerships) – relationship building through commitment to and engagement on research work.

RESOURCE USAGE

- Research grant funding covers the costs of the research project or, in some cases, partly funds the costs of the research project.
- CANSA's research team and committee members are engaged at all levels of our research strategy, grant administration, peer review of grant applications, and progress reports.

HOW CANSA'S RESEARCH INITIATIVES CREATE VALUE FOR THE ORGANISATION AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS

CANSA's research is fundamental to our strategic purpose and mission.

Our research initiatives build credibility for the organisation and positively add to CANSA's reputation in our commitment to health promotion and risk reduction, early detection, education and support. Furthermore, CANSA's research initiatives help to strengthen and inform our service offerings and build partnerships for a stronger collective effort in advocating for cancer control.

ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES AND INVESTMENTS FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES

The new approach regarding our revised research strategy, particularly for Type A research grants, was implemented since 2021/2022. Streamlining, accountability and shorter timelines were the focus for Type B and C projects. We are also focussing on undertaking smaller scale research studies that emanate from needs within CANSA services and the wider organisation. We believe we play a better role in formulating health policy to control cancer in South Africa through scientific, evidence-based information. We align with the National Department of Health regarding the cancers to be prioritised in South Africa, as laid out in the National Cancer Strategic Framework for South Africa 2017-2022.

TYPE A RESEARCH

The Type A funding programme accounts for the majority of CANSA's annual expenditure on funding cancer-related research. The following was paid in 2022/2023 - University of Cape Town R1.3 million; University of Pretoria - R73 924; University of the Witwatersrand R777 000 and Stellenbosch University R294 024.

No new projects were awarded in the 2022/2023 year.

Continued support of eight research projects at universities including to post graduate students. Projects are funded in the following areas of study:

- Epidemiology and determinants of the burden of cancer in South African populations and interventions to address these.
- Health seeking behaviours to improve early detection, diagnosis, and interventions to reduce cancer risk.
- Optimal patient care including clinical care, rehabilitation, and palliation.
- Health services and health systems strengthening, including research relating to pathways to cancer care.
- Health economics of cancer, including the economic burden of cancer, its risk factors and cost effectiveness research
- Research relating to cancer biology/ biochemistry/ molecular biology as these relate to risk reduction, early detection and both definitive and supportive patient care.

See www.cansa.org.za under Research Tab for a detailed summary of projects currently funded.

CANSA DETECTIVE BOOKLETS

These booklets showcase some of the Type A research CANSA has funded. The aim of the detective booklets is to make research more accessible to a wider audience and supports research translation.

Go to <https://cansa.org.za/category/cansa-research-detective-booklets/>.

HOW CANSA DETERMINES PROJECT GRANTS

Guidelines on the CANSA Type A research funding programme is well documented, and grantees are required to follow these should they be awarded a CANSA research grant. Factors mainly used for determining grants include significance, relevance, innovation, approach, track record of researcher, Institution/environment, and feasibility.

Determining grants – Type A programme:

- 1 Funding call
- 2 Application - letter of interest and full proposal per invitation
- 3 Internal and external peer review
- 4 Research committee discussion and decision

PUBLICATION AWARDS

CANSA awarded R112 000 to nine researchers at five universities for 28 publications: Professors Alan Davidson, Ben Loos, Maritha Kotze, Stefan Barth, Stefan Weiss and Doctors Cherie Kruger, Georgia Schäfer, Janette Bester and Zizipho Mbulawa.

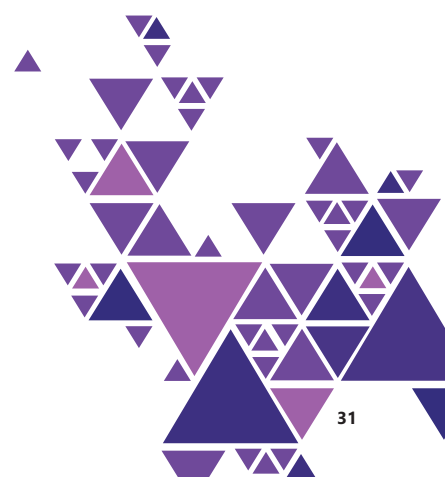
GRADUATES ARISING FROM CANSA GRANTED PROJECTS

CANSA acknowledges the importance of building the capacity of a new generation of cancer researchers to further develop much-needed advances in cancer research in South Africa. Where appropriate, Type A grants facilitate postgraduate and post-doctoral students to work under the supervision of the principal investigator and grant holder.

At the end of June 2021, a total of seven researchers completed their CANSA research grants. Arising from these projects were the following 12 degrees awarded to students from the Universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, and the Witwatersrand:

- Ph.D. – 5
- Masters– 3
- Honours – 4

Seven additional persons worked on these research projects and were supported with CANSA research funds.



TYPE B RESEARCH: REDUCING RISK

This is research conceptualised by CANSA in collaboration with researchers at universities. Projects are typically smaller and focused on reducing public exposure to environmental cancer risks. The results inform CANSA health education and campaigns, advocacy activities and CANSA Seal of Recognition programme decisions. These projects have shorter timelines, usually of 6-12 months duration.

OUR TYPE B RESEARCH FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

	TOPIC	PARTNER/S	DESCRIPTION
1	Cancer-related lifestyle risk, knowledge, risk perception, and intention to screen in a socio-economically diverse urban population in South Africa	Wits School of Public Health – Master’s in Public Health student	The CANSA Lifestyle Risk Assessment Tool was developed to assess modifiable risk factors for cancer. An MPH student tested the tool with a sample drawn from Soweto for his MPH thesis. The student has obtained his MPH degree and has submitted a manuscript based on the research.
2	Knowledge, attitudes and practices of traditional healers, primary healthcare service providers and men in rural Vhembe District, Limpopo Province, South Africa	University of Pretoria, University of Venda	This study is now completed, and the research team presented the study results to ROC. Publications are anticipated in 2023.

TYPE C RESEARCH: ENHANCING SERVICE DELIVERY

These projects aim to enhance CANSA's service and support of patients and survivors.

OUR TYPE C RESEARCH FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD INCLUDED

	TOPIC	
1	IRONMAN (International Registry for Men with Advanced Prostate Cancer)	Funded by the Movember Foundation, CANSA is co-ordinating South Africa's participation in a global cohort study on advanced prostate cancer (overseen by the Prostate Cancer Clinical Trials Consortium) The intent of the IRONMAN Study is to establish an International Registry as a prospective international cohort. The IRONMAN study sites in South Africa are the University of Cape Town, University of Pretoria, and Rosebank Oncology. The study provides a contribution towards improving outcomes for the treatment of men with advanced prostate cancer. All three sites have been activated and participant recruitment has slowly commenced.
2	Psychosocial and health service needs of adolescents aged 10 to 19 years receiving oncology treatment at the Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital, Masters student Wits School of Public Health	A study focussing on identifying the information and psychosocial needs of adolescents in South Africa. This study has been put on hold due to student no longer available. Contingency plans in place to still undertake this research.

MSD ONCOLOGY POLICY GRANTS PROGRAMME (USD 50,000)

The Principal Investigator, Head of Research is located at CANSA. The study is in collaboration with the Cancer Alliance, the University of the Witwatersrand and Kings College, London. The research study undertook to explore the feasibility, desirability and added value of a dedicated national cancer act in South Africa. The study is completed, and a peer reviewed publication titled: Harnessing the law to advance equitable cancer care in South Africa: exploring the feasibility, desirability and added value of a dedicated national cancer act, has been submitted to eancer.

Policy brief on legal frameworks and policies: advancing innovative approaches to cancer care in South Africa is in final draft.

AG OETTLÉ MEMORIAL AWARD

The AG Oettlé Memorial award is presented in remembrance of the late Dr Oettlé, a cancer researcher and epidemiologist working in the South African Institute for Medical Research in Johannesburg in the 1960's, financed by CANSA. His research over 16 years strengthened the theory that the environment may play a considerable role in causing cancer. He discovered an epidemic of oesophageal cancer in Africa and particularly the East Coast of South Africa. After his premature death, his family and colleagues created the Oettlé Memorial awards to be awarded by CANSA to recipients who had significantly contributed to cancer control in South Africa.



2022 OETTLÉ MEMORIAL AWARD

Dr. Elvira Singh was posthumously awarded the AG Oettlé Memorial medal for her outstanding contributions to cancer research. She was a passionate public health specialist concerned about the high incidence of cancer in SA and dedicated her expertise and energy as Head of Department for the National Cancer Registry. CANSA worked closely with her over many years, and she was a highly valued member of the CANSA Research Committee. We respected her guidance and support regarding cancer statistics in SA. CANSA honoured this distinguished scientist in recognition of her sterling efforts in cancer registration and epidemiology before her tragic passing in February 2022. Read more at <https://cansa.org.za/oettle-memorial-award-2022-to-doctor-elvira-singh/>