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Poster Abstract Form

The Australian Pancreatic High-Risk Screening (APRISE) Program

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Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related death in Australia, primarily due to late-stage diagnosis. Targeted surveillance of individuals at increased risk offers the potential to detect pancreatic cancer and precursor lesions earlier, when curative surgical intervention may be possible. The APRISE (Australian Pancreatic High-Risk Screening) Program is a national initiative that aims to evaluate the feasibility of screening individuals at increased risk due to pathogenic germline mutations or a strong familial predisposition. Ultimately, this will generate key data to justify a nationwide government-funded screening program. To do this, APRISE aims to recruit 1,000 participants over 5 years who meet established high-risk criteria for annual screening via endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) and/or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Secondary objectives of APRISE include evaluating the prevalence and stage of pancreatic cancer and precursor lesions at diagnosis, identifying pancreatic cancer risk factors, and assessing the psychological impact of screening on participants. Linked data from the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) and Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) will be utilised to assess cost-effectiveness and clinical outcomes of long-term pancreatic cancer screening in Australia. As part of the international PRECEDE network, APRISE also contributes data to support a global understanding of pancreatic cancer surveillance in high-risk individuals. Together, data will be used to inform the development of future screening protocols that aim to optimise early detection, minimise unnecessary interventions and associated risks, improve patient outcomes and support appropriate use of healthcare resources in an Australian setting.

This poster will present initial insights from the first year of APRISE, which officially launched in October 2025, to summarise current progress and encourage discussion about the feasibility, challenges, and the potential impact of implementing pancreatic cancer surveillance for high-risk individuals in an Australian setting.