# THE SOLUTION

In 2019, the Federal Government announced \$63 million to build 13 radiation therapy treatment centres across regional Australia.

This is a significant win cancer patients and medical professionals in those regional communities. In the future, they will have access to a cancer treatment that is:

- ✓ Highly effective and proven
- Less invasive and expensive than surgery
- ✓ Vital for relieving pain and bleeding caused by cancer
- ✓ Close to home, family and friends

While planning and construction of the 13 centres is underway, let's spread the word about radiation therapy and ensure more Australians receive treatment.

- Join the campaign: www.radiationtherapy.org.au
- Like us on Facebook: @regionalradiationtherapy

## **SPREAD THE WORD**

Radiation therapy - a safe and proven cancer treatment coming to 13 locations across regional Australia.

Speak to your doctor to find out if radiation therapy is right for you or a loved one fighting cancer.

To find out more:

- Join the campaign: www.radiationtherapy.org.au
- Like us on Facebook: @regionalradiationtherapy



Radiation Therapy Advisory Group (RTAG) is an advisor to government and the community on radiation therapy and associated health policy issues.

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## THE PROBLEM

In Australia radiation therapy is underused in the fight against cancer.

A key barrier to radiation therapy is not cost or treatment effectiveness.

#### It's lack of access.

Distance from a treatment centre is one of the biggest contributors to this problem.



**Only 1 in 3** Australian cancer patients today receive radiation therapy

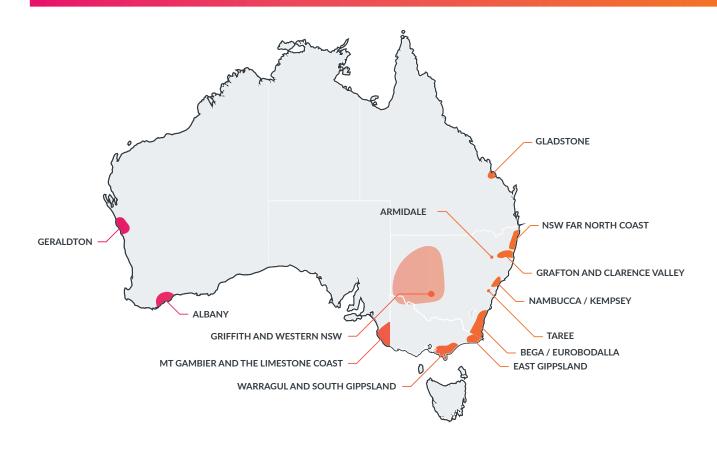


That number should be **1** in **2** in line with clinical evidence and guidelines.

What a lack of radiation therapy means for patients:

- Lower survival rates
- Avoidable surgeries
- Long distance travel
- Weeks away from home

Studies show that radiation therapy contributes to around 40% of all cancer cures worldwide



Each of these 13 population centres is more than an hour away from the nearest radiation therapy centre.

#### Many are further away.

But the Federal Government's commitment will enable regional cancer patients for whom radiation therapy was out of reach to have access to a life-saving treatment close to home.

While planning and construction of the centres is underway, it is important that patients, their families and local medical professionals understand radiation therapy and are aware it is a treatment option.

Education is key to ensuring the 13 radiation therapy treatment centres are known about and used.