

CURE OUR OVARIAN CANCER

New Zealand



GLOBAL
OVARIAN
CANCER
CHARTER
a World Ovarian Cancer
Coalition initiative

“Cure Our Ovarian Cancer is excited to be a Champion of the Global Ovarian Cancer Charter. We are a global research charity based in New Zealand. We work around the world on behalf of women diagnosed with low-grade serous carcinoma, a rare and stubborn form of the disease. It is our hope that with global collaboration and targeted research we can create better outcomes for women with low-grade serous carcinoma and all types of ovarian cancer..”

..... CHARTER
CHAMPION

cureouvariancancer.org



**BEST POSSIBLE
CARE**

CHAMPION PROJECT: CURE OUR OVARIAN CANCER

Rather than highlight one particular project, we have chosen to outline the recent creation of this unique patient led organization set up to find treatments and a cure for low grade serous ovarian cancer.

Cure Our Ovarian Cancer was established in 2018 by a New Zealand woman with low-grade serous carcinoma. The charity raises much needed funds globally to stimulate research into this rare subtype of ovarian cancer.

Low-grade serous carcinoma has a unique mutational landscape and clinical behaviour. In contrast to high-grade serous it grows slower but is less responsive to chemotherapy, and disproportionately affects younger women. It accounts for less than 10% of epithelial serous ovarian cancer diagnoses. With a median survival of 8 years, 85% of those affected are likely to face a recurrence of their disease at some point. To date the charity has helped raise over \$400,000 NZD to support low-grade serous research around the world.

Low-grade serous women face unique challenges due to the younger age profile, and differences in clinical behaviour. Cure our Ovarian Cancer also offers valuable information and support, to help their needs be met more effectively.

In addition to their global subtype specific efforts; in New Zealand (NZ) they helped form the Ovarian Cancer Aotearoa Coalition (OCAC) - an alliance of NZ gynaecological cancer charities. OCAC advocates to improve outcomes for ovarian cancer women in NZ. In 2020 they sent letters to parliamentarians, spoke at parliament, and recently launched a petition. They're calling for, among other things, dedicated ovarian cancer research funding (see ovariancancer.co.nz for more information).

The Coalition chose to showcase Cure our Ovarian Cancer because it has set out to shine a light on a rare form of ovarian cancer, which because of its rarity, has been challenging in terms of specific research, instead relying on sub-analysis of larger trials focused on high grade serous forms of the disease. It also provides clear targeted information for women, often not easily found on other websites, and recognises the need for collaboration to amplify efforts.

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