

## CONTEXT

The Pancare Foundation (Pancare) has engaged Healthcare Management Advisors (HMA) to:

*update the ‘State of the Nation: Upper Gastrointestinal Cancers in Australia report’*

Pancare offers a range of services involved in raising awareness, supporting families, and funding research for patients with upper gastrointestinal (GI) cancers such as pancreatic, liver, stomach, biliary, and oesophageal cancers.

The State of the Nation in Upper Gastrointestinal Cancers in Australia report (SoTN report) was commissioned by Pancare and prepared by Insight Economics. It was finalised on 7 July 2022 and served as the first comprehensive national analysis of upper GI cancers in Australia. The report examined the incidence, mortality, and care pathways for upper GI cancers, which collectively accounted for around one in five cancer deaths in the country. To inform its findings, the report drew on a range of data collection methods, including surveys, stakeholder consultations, a research audit, and a review of the literature and data.

Since its release, Pancare has used the report as a cornerstone for advocacy and strategy, informing policy discussions, guiding research and service investment priorities (e.g. navigation and nursing supports), and mobilising sector collaboration to improve outcomes for people affected by upper GI cancers.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The SoTN report refresh will support Pancare’s strategy through a collective-impact approach. Due to budget constraints, a complete refresh of the original report is not feasible. The project aims to produce an addendum to the 2022 SoTN report. This addendum will:

- retain the original scope across the five upper gastrointestinal cancers, with increased emphasis on pancreatic cancer where relevant
- reflect post-2022 developments and align with Pancare’s strategic priorities

## PROJECT METHOD AND TIMING

The project to refresh the SoTN report will occur over six months. HMA will take a staged approach to the project, including a light-touch sector engagement and evidence update.

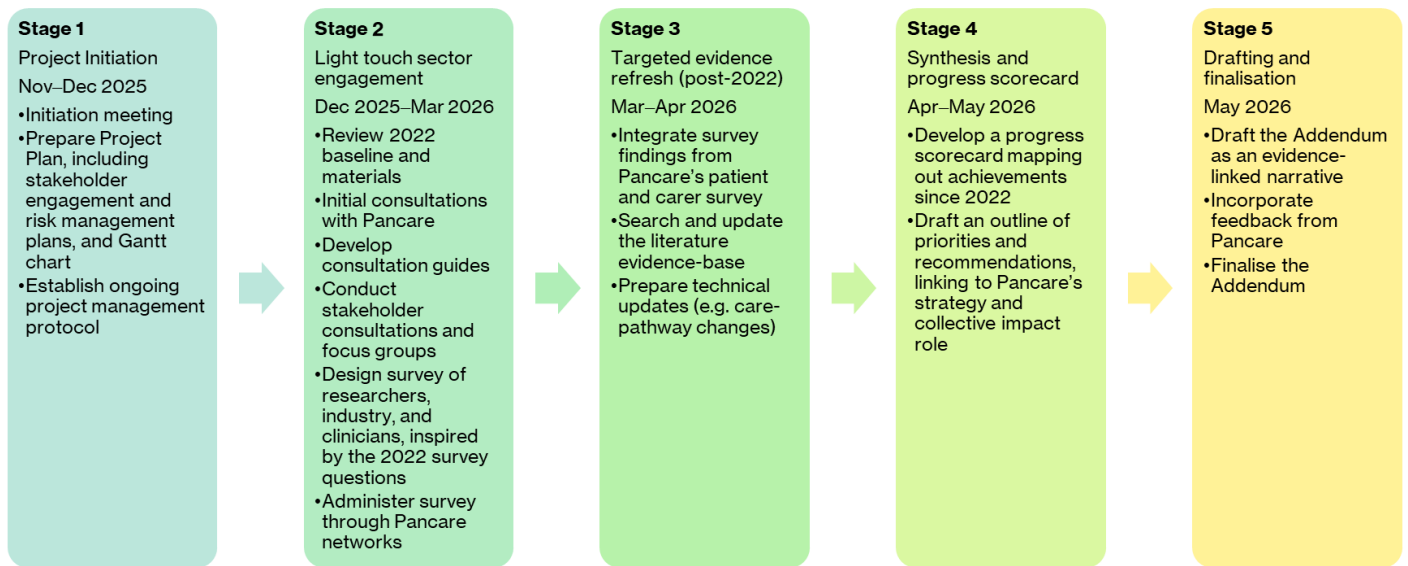
Stakeholder engagement will occur within Stage 2 (January–March 2026):

- initial consultations with Pancare
- stakeholder consultations
- stakeholder focus groups
- survey of researchers, industry and clinicians

The data collection will aim to identify what has changed since 2022 and the gaps in the SoTN report, including the impact of new technologies, treatments, or sector developments.

Figure 1 presents an overview of the project to refresh the SoTN report.

Figure 1: Project approach



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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