



# Lisa Ferri

*Prostate cancer specialist nurse  
Hollywood Private Hospital*

**Where do you work, what is your role and how long have you been there?**

I was a senior urology nurse at Hollywood Private Hospital for more than 10 years before being appointed as a prostate cancer specialist nurse just over a year ago. My role is to provide support, information and assistance to men and their families faced with a prostate cancer diagnosis. Prostate cancer management can result in a combination of treatments across a number of healthcare providers and my task involves assisting men and their families navigate the treatment pathway, coordinate care and be an ongoing point of contact throughout the management of their prostate cancer.

**Your role was established as part of Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia's pilot program – can you please explain this program?**

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australian men and the treatment options and management can vary for each individual. The Prostate Cancer Specialist Nursing Service was developed by Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (PCFA) to assist and support men and their families, to give them timely access to care and information. Patients are often challenged with making treatment decisions that will significantly impact their quality of life. With financial support from The Movember Foundation for the program, and from the Wyllie Foundation for this position, PCFA has been able to place 12 specialist nurses in host hospitals across rural and metropolitan centres in Australia to develop a service that contributes to the continuity and quality of care for patients diagnosed with prostate cancer.

**What specialist training have you had to prepare for this program?**

Prior to accepting my current role, I completed La Trobe University's Prostate Nursing Care course, which comprehensively covers all aspects of prostate cancer management. At the launch of the Prostate Cancer Specialist Nursing Service, PCFA arranged an induction seminar event, with experts in the field of prostate cancer to discuss emerging trends and developments in prostate cancer management. We have a practice framework and ongoing training and development teleconferences.

**What are the benefits of this program for patients?**

The Prostate Cancer Specialist Nursing Service offers education, reliable information, support, resources and contacts into the community to promote more positive outcomes and experiences for our patients and lessen their psychological and psychosocial distress.

**What are the benefits of the program for your hospital?**

On successfully tendering to be the host hospital for the Prostate Cancer Specialist Nursing Service, Hollywood Private Hospital demonstrated support and ongoing commitment to providing comprehensive expert care to promote positive patient outcomes. The Prostate Cancer Specialist Nursing Service will further enhance the facility's reputation as an excellent healthcare provider in the local and wider community. [PH](#)