

# Too many Australians are missing out on the cancer treatment they need.

## THE PROBLEM

Radiation therapy is a highly effective and proven cancer treatment.

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

Only **one in three** cancer patients receives radiation therapy. In Europe and North America, it's **one in two**.

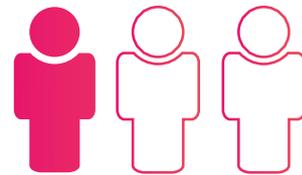
A key barrier to radiation therapy is not cost or treatment effectiveness. **It's lack of access.**

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

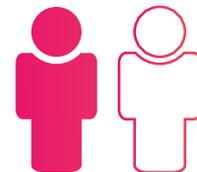
What a lack of radiation therapy means for patients:

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

Studies show that people with cancer in regional areas are up to **35%** more likely to die within 5 years of diagnosis than patients in the city.



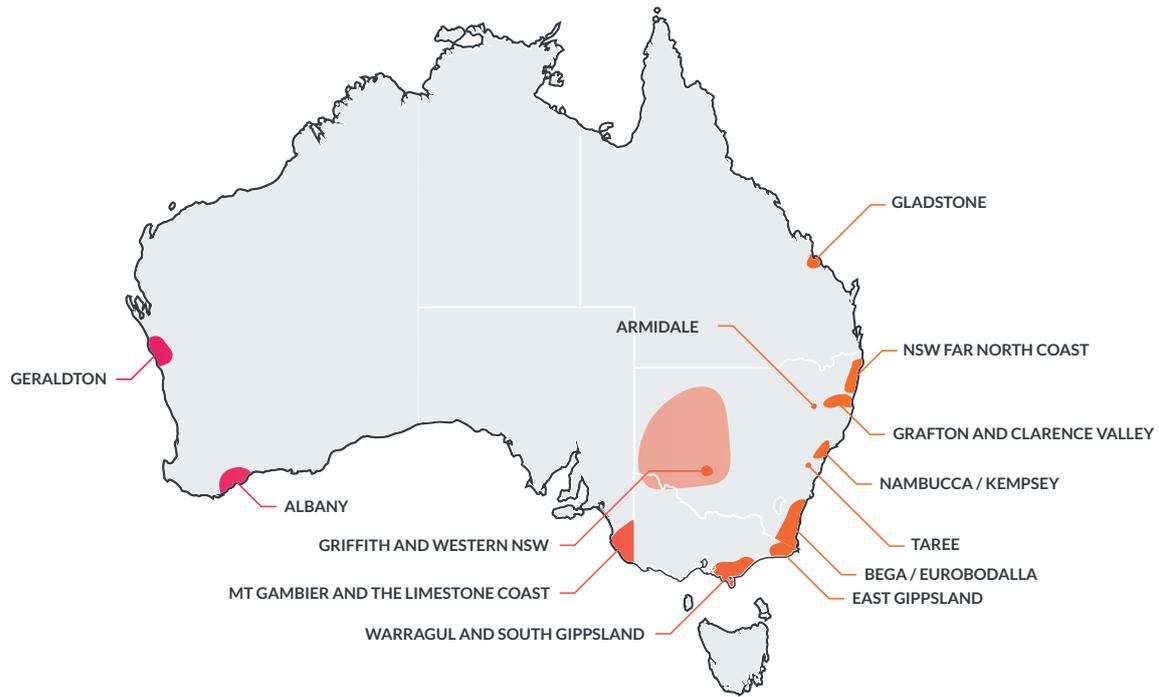
**Only 1 in 3** Australian cancer patients today receive radiation therapy



That number should be **1 in 2**, in line with Europe and North America

An independent New South Wales medical study found that the underutilisation of radiation therapy for breast cancer patients led to the deaths of 85 patients over a three-year period.

Many population centres are more than one hour's drive from a radiation therapy treatment centre



## THE SOLUTION

We need our politicians to step up and ensure regional communities get the cancer services they need.

The Federal Government must make radiation therapy available to more Australians who need it.

This means providing:

- ✓ A firm commitment to ensure equal access to radiation therapy for all Australians
- ✓ Funding for more treatment centres in regional and rural communities
- ✓ More information for cancer patients on the available treatment options

## Only 9 cents

in every dollar the Federal Government spends on cancer diagnosis and treatment goes to radiation therapy.

## JOIN THE CAMPAIGN

We need your help to make this happen. Here's what you can do:

 Join the campaign:  
[www.radiationtherapy.org.au](http://www.radiationtherapy.org.au)

 Like us on Facebook:  
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