

GLOBAL SURVEY of 104 cancer patient organisations reveals devastating impact of COVID-19

GLOBAL **CANCER**
COALITIONS NETWORK



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BACKGROUND

The Global Cancer Coalitions Network (GCCN), established in May 2020, collectively represents over 750 cancer patient organisations representing over 14 million patients around the world.

Cancer services have faced challenges as a result of COVID-19, including suspension of screening and diagnostic services; delays in diagnosis leading to higher mortality rates; cancellation/deferral of life-saving treatments; changes in treatment regimens and suspension of vital research.

Substantial increases in the number of avoidable cancer deaths are to be expected as a result of diagnostic delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

METHODS

6 global cancer coalitions surveyed their member organisations in December 2020.



SCAN ME
to access the full report of the Global Survey.

RESULTS

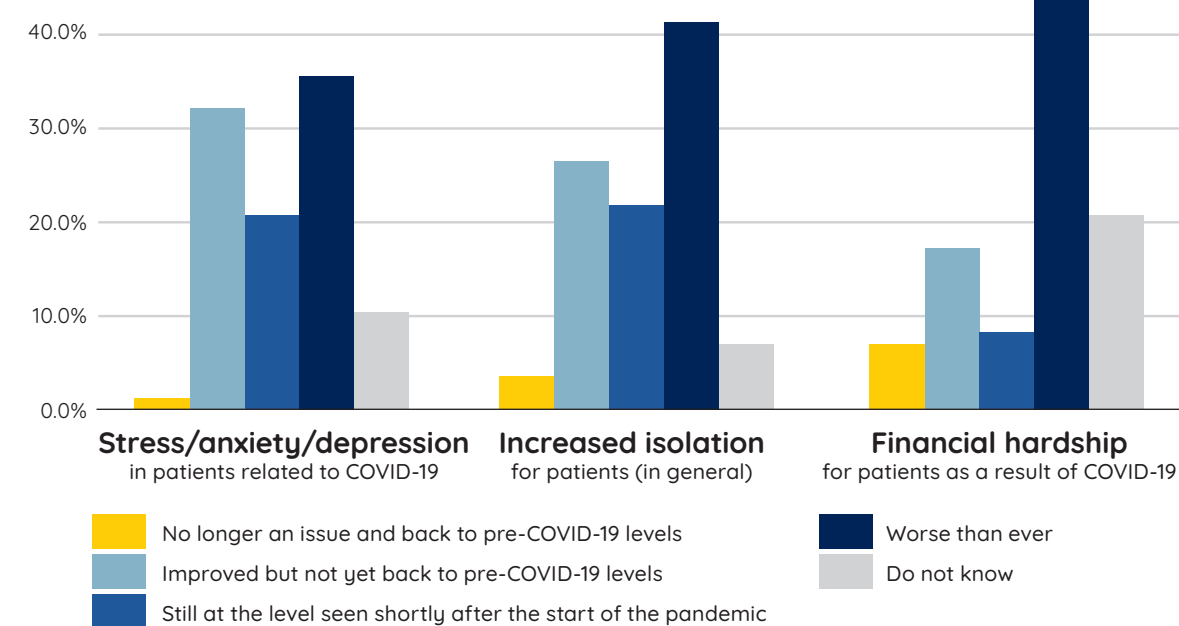
Among 104 organisations from 46 countries representing advanced breast, bladder, colorectal, lymphoma, ovarian, and pancreatic cancer patient groups.

IMPACT ON SERVICES



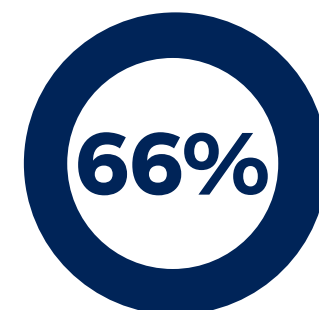
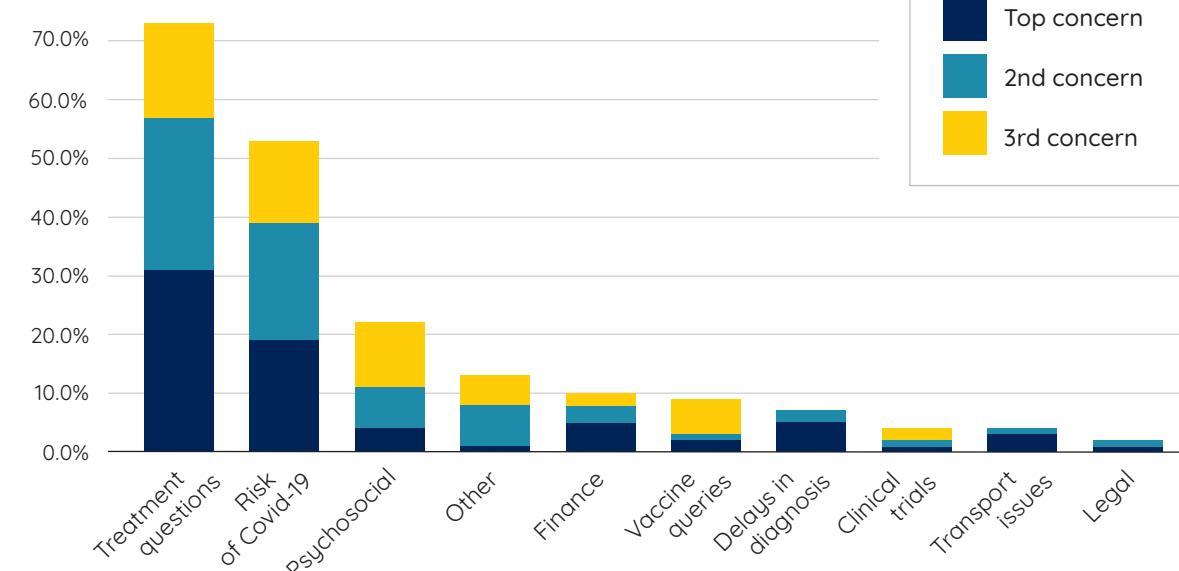
Despite some improvements in access to screening, diagnostic and treatments services in the year to December 2020, levels of **stress, anxiety, depression, isolation and financial hardship amongst cancer patients is worse than ever.**

Chart 1: The impact of COVID-19 on cancer patients (n=87)

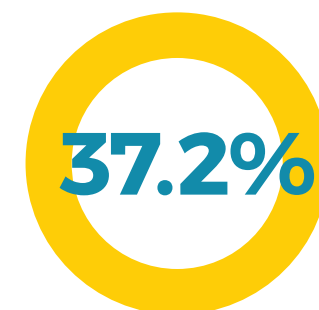


Calls/emails have fluctuated to the waves of the pandemic, but in some areas increases have persisted throughout. **Treatment concerns, risk of COVID and psychosocial issues dominate.**

Chart 2: Most common queries raised (n=65)



Have developed new information for patients



Have moved support services online



With major concern over the lack of face to face support services

- Demand for services has increased
- <20% organisations report normalised cancer services in December 2020; more respondents report services are "worse than ever"

Almost all organisations rely on volunteers.



1/3



One third are run solely by volunteers (31%)

One third have more than 5 full time equivalent staff (36%)



36,000 volunteers were involved with the organisations before the pandemic.

That has fallen 70% to just **10,800.**

Staffing levels have also fallen by 20%



FINANCIAL IMPACT

Organisations have faced a perilous year financially.

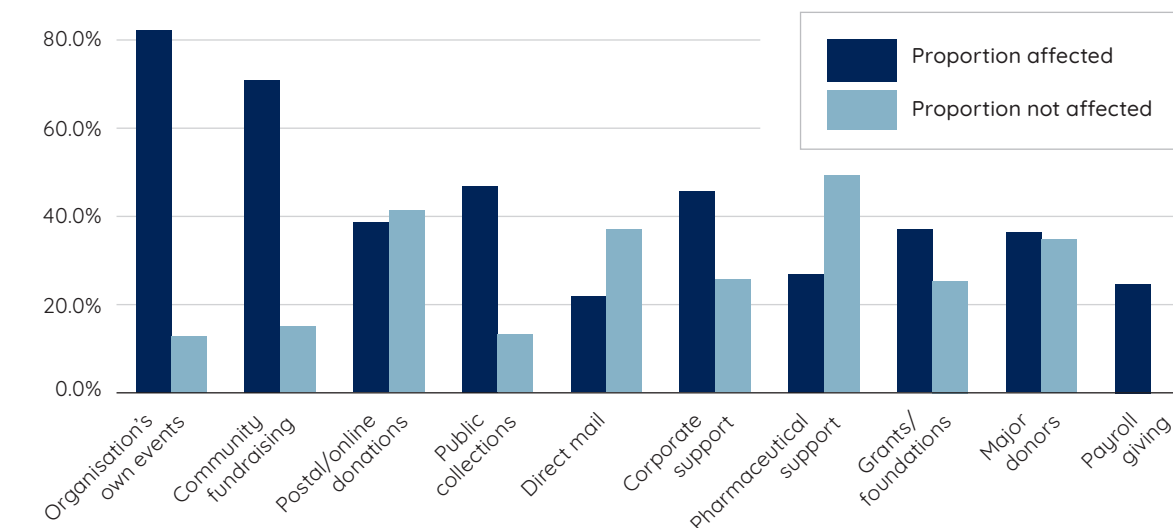
67.4%

have experienced a fall in income in the twelve months to December 2020 with the average fall being **48%.**

All types of fundraising have been affected.



Chart 3: Categories of fundraising and how they were affected (n=80)

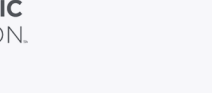


- Over 1 in 10 organisations have closed temporarily, and some permanently
- Almost half report that their ability to operate is under threat
- Only 1 in 10 organisations believe their 2021 income will return to levels seen before the pandemic
- Half do not have access to any national funding schemes to ensure operation during the pandemic



One in six (14.3%) expect their income to fall even further, by another 35% on average

Global Cancer Coalitions Network



CONCLUSIONS

For organisations providing support to cancer patients, declining income, the need to reduce staff and move to virtual working practices has added strain while demand for support due to the pandemic has increased.

Emergency support, including funding, must be made available to these organisations to ensure that the needs of cancer patients worldwide continue to be met.