

# POSSUM COMMUNITY

*Patients of Survivorship - Surgery for UGI Malignancies*



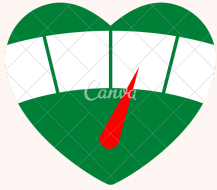
## CURRENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Strengthening ERAS
- Cancer Care Co-ordinator
- Research Assistant
- International Collaboration

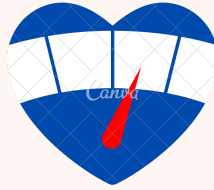
## A warm hello to our POSSUM community

COVID 19 has affected everyday life from shopping for groceries to receiving medical care. We are now Week 5 into stage 4 restrictions which has limited movement to a 5km radius. However, cancer care and treatment must continue. We want to continue to share our progress and update our patients' with the latest in cancer treatment care. As we cannot meet in person this year, the annual POSSUM event will take a different form this year. We are planning on an innovative interactive online event. Which you will be able to enjoy from the comfort of your own home. The details are being finalized but we hope to run this event on the 9th of November. Stay tuned for the link!

# Strengthening ERAS



**Optimised  
patient comfort**



**Fastest functional  
recovery**



**Fewest  
side effects**

Enhanced Recovery Program has optimised the treatment journey for surgical cancer resection patients at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne. This program includes extensive pre-operative education and consistent protocolised evidenced based care from a multidisciplinary team. Notable outcomes are fewer post-operative complications and decreased length of stay for patients.

Emily has worked on a range of quality improvement initiatives within the unit, including the Enhanced Recovery Program. As a result of the success of this program, Emily has been awarded a scholarship to take part in the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Nurse-Led Research Post. Emily is currently working on a new initiative to provide safe, supportive, and effective care for our cancer patients once they have completed cancer treatment and are discharged from hospital.

**Cancer Care  
Co-Ordinator:  
Emily Banting**





You may have already spoken to Lilly Taylor on the phone. She has enabled the team to initiate a number of important clinical trials. Lilly has also been instrumental in the maintenance of our surgical database

Clinical Research  
Assistant: Lilly Taylor

## Collaboration with International Research Units

Our unit has become one of the training centres for OESO (World Organisation for Specialised Studies on Diseases of the Esophagus). In 2019 we ran a 2-day course on interventional endoscopy in cancer care to provide specialised training to upper gastrointestinal surgeons from around the world.



## A BIG THANK YOU!

To patients and families who have contributed to our innovations and research activities through the #SIF (Surgeons impact Fund). Without your donations, we would not be able to continue this work. We have many projects that are awaiting sufficient funds to begin. All donations are tax-deductable.

Visit our website to donate or scan QR code to find out more.  
<https://www.surgeonsimpactfund.com>



Stay safe and healthy and we hope to see you at  
the annual POSSUM event!