

Letter to the Editor
Sydney Morning Herald

What a remarkable man and such a positive statement for cancer patients – Cancer care: a sad reality, seen from two sides – Chris O’Brien Opinion Page SMH 16 Jan 07.

A recommendation to set up multi-disciplinary cancer centres was made to the Federal Government 18 months ago by a Senate inquiry (*The Cancer Journey: Informing Choice*).

The Senate committee recognised from the evidence presented that, apart from the Peter MacCallum Clinic in Melbourne, Australia does not have a genuine, well funded comprehensive cancer centre.

The figures speak for themselves – 88,000 cancer patients and 36,000 deaths from cancer each year.

It is unfortunate that this plea is prompted by a patient’s predicament, but what a testament such a centre would be to Chris O’Brien’s courage and commitment to cancer care in Australia.

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