



221+ General Election Manifesto for 2024: Summary

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What is 221+ asking for?

Continued funding for 221+ so that the group can continue to support women and families directly affected by the failings of CervicalCheck as well as use its experience to further good use in extending support to women who have a gynecological cancer and do not have suitable, cancer-specific support at present.

We ask that essential women's health services of specific benefit to those living with cervical cancer such as lymphoedema treatments, gynecological physiotherapy, menopause services and colposcopy examinations are put in place in a timely manner and accessible.

We ask that patient advocates are supported and that the incredible value that the patient perspective brings to decision making on health service provision is respected and facilitated to ensure a better health system for us all.

221 members are also currently affected by the inclusion of courts payments in means testing for social welfare – we ask for this to be rectified.

Finally, specific funding for women's health must be ringfenced and large enough to protect and expand services and care for future generations. This requires oversight, which is why we also ask for a new governmental position specifically for Women's Health. Government commitment to women's health as a priority is a vital requirement to ensure that women can enjoy their right to health in years to come.

Actions:

- Continued funding of the 221+ Patient Support Group
- Finish and implement the Patient Partner Voice Policy
- Include patient representatives on the Women's Health Taskforce
- Protect and prioritise women's health, ensuring that the taskforce or any health programs have ringfenced funding
- Commit to engaging with patient representatives at all levels in the delivery of the Women's Health Action Plan
- Fully fund the lymphoedema and lipoedema model of care and ensure equitable access across regions
- Further funding and commitment to ensure availability and accessibility of menopause services. 1) Clear referral pathways 2) Increased staffing or more hubs
- Fund gynecological physiotherapy in every CHO
- Permanent oversight of the continued implementation of Scally report recommendations and culture of transparency
- Commitment to and oversight over women's affairs via a suitable senior governmental post
- Stop including payments made to 221+ members in court proceedings as 'means' when assessing applications for means-tested welfare payments