

MEDIA RELEASE

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A million dollar year with Ovarian Cancer Australia

TerryWhite Chemmart's total fundraising support for Ovarian Cancer Australia (OCA) is expected to hit \$1,225,550 in this, their 12th year of association, following a month of fundraising activities throughout February.

Each day in Australia, four women are diagnosed with Ovarian Cancer and three will die from the disease. It has the lowest survival rate of any women's cancer; only 44 per cent of women diagnosed will survive five years post diagnosis.

TerryWhite Chemmart CEO Anthony White said the community pharmacy network was proud to be a long time active supporter of the organisation with many pharmacies taking part in a variety of fundraising activities including walks, and morning and afternoon teals.

"By working with Ovarian Cancer Australia, we are able to play our part in taking action for Australians affected by ovarian cancer – not only by raising vital funds, but also by helping to raise awareness of this disease," Mr White said.

"It's fantastic to see so many of our pharmacies passionately supporting the cause," said Mr White.

Along with the fundraising efforts of its store network, the pharmacy group supported the efforts through attendance at OCA's annual Teal Ribbon Luncheon in Melbourne on Thursday 1st February, and Afternoon Teal events in TerryWhite Chemmart's Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide offices on Teal Ribbon Day, Wednesday 28th February.

"Each Afternoon Teal event provides an important opportunity to talk openly about some of the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer, in the hope it may help a woman we know, and improve the outcomes for those affected," Mr White said.

Ovarian Cancer Australia CEO Jane Hill emphasised the need to raise awareness and funds to enable increased awareness, support, advocacy and research.

"If diagnosed in its early stages, women have an 80 per cent chance of survival after five years. Unfortunately, 75 per cent of women are diagnosed at an advanced stage where the cancer has spread and it is difficult to treat successfully," Ms Hill said.

"This is why it is important for women to know and recognise the symptoms of ovarian cancer, which most commonly include abdominal or pelvic pain, increased abdominal size or persistent bloating, the need to urinate often or urgently, or feeling full after eating a small amount.

"With the help of TerryWhite Chemmart team members and customers, we can change the story of ovarian cancer."

ENDS

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