

Snapshot

An evaluation of support packs for young people

(October 2015 to August 2019)



background

The Redkite support pack for young people (or the 'AYA Bag') is a resource given at the point of a cancer diagnosis, containing age-appropriate information about managing school and work, considerations about fertility, and how to support family, friends and partners. The high quality duffel bag also contains practical items like toiletries, magazines and a reusable coffee cup.

This resource was developed based on feedback from young people on what they most need at the time of diagnosis. The bag itself is made of high quality canvas, with many young people finding it useful when returning to hospital for future stays and appointments. As part of Redkite's commitment to continually develop and improve our services, recipients of AYA Bags were invited to complete a short evaluation survey.

objectives

The objectives of this evaluation were to:

1. Gather feedback from young people aged between 12 and 24 years around the usefulness and relevance of its contents
2. To measure the extent to which the AYA Bags were seen as contributing towards intended client outcomes including:
 - ◆ Improved access to support
 - ◆ Building skills, knowledge and access to resources
 - ◆ Feeling connected, supported and understood
 - ◆ The bags helping young people meet their immediate practical needs

the survey

A total of 77 young people returned a paper evaluation survey which was included in the AYA Bag. These bags were distributed to hospitals across Australia between October 2015 and August 2019.

key findings

Awareness of Redkite

77% of young people did not know about Redkite's services before receiving the AYA Bag.

73% of young people received the AYA Bag either the same day or up to a month after diagnosis.

"Thank you so much for the bag, I really appreciate it and it made my day happier, making me understand cancer and the treatment much better."

-Diagnosed young person, aged 15 years

Usefulness of AYA Bag contents

Young people were asked to rate on a Likert scale ('very useful' to 'not at all useful'), how useful the items in the bag were:


100%
of young people found the **Coles voucher** to be very useful


99%
of young people found the **toiletry kit** to be very useful or useful


97%
of young people found the **bag itself** to be very useful or useful


99%
of young people found the **eye mask** to be very useful or useful


91%
of young people found the **water bottle** to be very useful or useful

"Amazingly useful (bag) for trips to hospital... Great size for inpatients and already has everything I need. "

-Diagnosed young person, aged 22 years

Outcomes for young people

Redkite believes that for a young person with cancer to have the best possible quality of life, it's important that they know where to seek support. Young people value having the knowledge, skills and resources offered within the AYA bag to help them on their cancer journey.

Access to support:

99% of young people strongly agreed or agreed that they have **better knowledge of Redkite services** after receiving the AYA Bag.

Increased skills, knowledge and resources:

90% of young people strongly agreed or agreed that they **felt better** informed about the cancer experience.

Connected, supported and understood:

99% of young people felt Redkite understands and is there to **support** them.

"I'm very thankful for all the support as it is tough being young and living with cancer."

-Diagnosed young person, aged 16 years

