

For more information about **Making Sense of Brain Tumour**, please contact Katherine Horrigan at Griffith University on 07 3735 3304

This project has been approved by the Griffith University Human Research Ethics Committee



**The Making Sense of Brain Tumour
Project Clinicians:
Ea Stewart & Katherine Horrigan**

“The psychological things from the day you have your surgery onwards is the hardest. It’s the one area that I don’t think, well in my case, I certainly never found the support there”.

Participant Brochure: Version 1, dated April 6th 2010

Making Sense of Brain Tumour



A project investigating ways to improve psychological support for people with brain tumour



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Being diagnosed and treated for brain tumour can be a highly stressful experience. Many people find it difficult to understand their illness and feel uncertain and worried about the future.

Our past research on adjustment to brain tumour found that psychological support needs are often overlooked during and after treatment.



This project aims to develop and evaluate a counselling and rehabilitation program for supporting adjustment to brain tumour. This will be designed according to the goals and support needs of each person and their family.

Examples of support include:

- Education about the brain and effects of brain tumour.
- Individual, couple and family adjustment counselling.
- Rehabilitation strategies for managing changes in thinking abilities and behaviour.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

This program is available to people who live within approximately 1 hours drive of Brisbane. In the future we plan to extend our evaluation of support programs to areas outside of Brisbane.

If you agree to be part of the Making Sense of Brain Tumour project you will be involved in the following:

- An initial assessment of your thinking abilities (e.g., attention, memory, reasoning and problem-solving) and ongoing assessment of your emotional well-being and everyday functioning:
 - Before the program commences
 - After the program is completed
 - 6 months after the program.
- 10 weekly sessions of counselling and rehabilitation provided in your own home by a qualified psychologist. This program will either commence immediately after the initial assessment, or after a 10 week delay.
- This program can also support your partner and/or other family members. If you would like a family member to be involved we will ask this person to complete some questionnaires about their own well-being.

HOW DO I BECOME INVOLVED?

If you would like to know more about the Making Sense of Brain Tumour project, or would like to take part, please contact the project coordinator:

Katherine Horrigan

(07) 3735 3304

DO I NEED TO TAKE PART?

It is important for you to know that participating in this study is entirely voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, this will not affect your medical care or support in any way.

THE PROJECT TEAM

This program is a collaborative project being conducted by Griffith University, Cancer Council Queensland and Briz Brain and Spine.