

Reply to E.C. Dee et al

correspondence

We thank Dee et al¹ for their comments relating to our paper.

We agree that political determinants (as well as commercial and social determinants) are important considerations for advancing survivorship care in the region. Indeed, due considerations of political determinants are not unique to the Indo-pacific region nor to survivorship care alone.² Across many health contexts, future successes will likely require coordinated, top-down and bottom-up approaches involving local, regional, and global collaborations.

Dee and colleagues point out that, similarly to cancer care elsewhere, technology offers many opportunities for the advancement of health care, well beyond survivorship care, and we particularly appreciate their reference to frugal innovation given the ubiquitous resource limitations. As they emphasize, technological innovation is often enabled by infrastructure investment which in turn is dependent on the local political (and commercial) context. We agree that innovations in technology could help lower-resourced countries leapfrog the relatively slower progress made by other countries in the past.

We thank the authors for emphasizing that survivorship care (and cancer care in general) does not occur in a vacuum but should be viewed within a complex geosociopolitical context. Any advancements require adaptation to the local context and consideration of factors proximal and distal to acute cancer care delivery. These considerations are useful when considering how to improve survivorship care not just in the Indo-Pacific region but throughout the globe.

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