“The work around”

An innovative data collection approach to support a cancer screening programme

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Data collection – issues and innovation

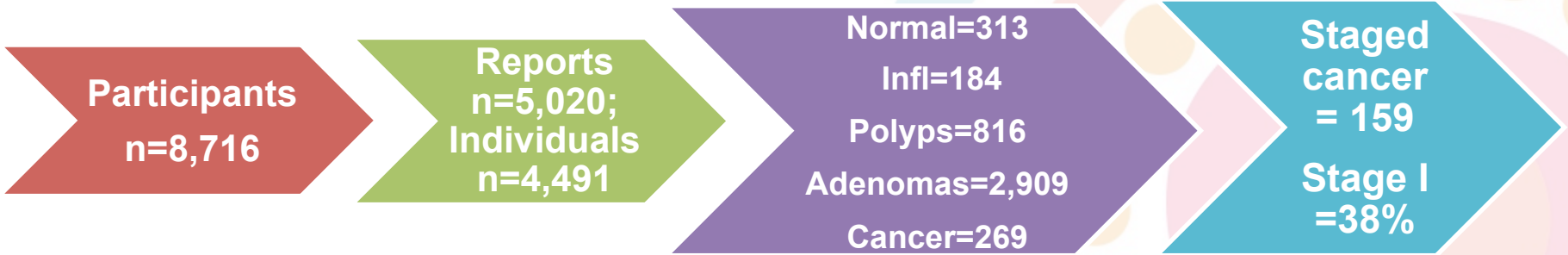
- National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP) in WA since 2007

Data issues

- <10% histology reported to national register
- Reporting is manual and voluntary (nominal payment)
- Reliant on 'flagging' by clinicians along the pathway

Innovative data collection project

- Since 2009; collaboration WA pathology labs to retrieve outcome data



Data collection – outcomes and influences

Issue	Outcome
Proportion of missing data (not flagged = 74%)	Reprioritised urgency of data collection projects at national level
Incomplete data collection of all result types	New report form developed with broader parameters
Limited outcome data	Contributed significantly to national data set; WA now c.90% pathology reporting rate Demonstrated viable work-around process; now in other jurisdictions
Lack of consistent pathology reporting	New report form developed New report guide developed to improve consistency of reporting
NBCSP evaluation	National and State commitment to continue until automated data transfer is in place