

BRIEF SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RESULTS Oct 2017 – Sept 2018

Evaluation Method

Evaluation of the support that Acorn provides to member is a vital aspect of Acorn management procedures. We evaluation of how well Acorn has met its main objectives twice a year.

Acorn's main objectives are:

- To ameliorate distress
- To reduce loneliness and isolation
- To enhance quality of life

While quantitative measures (numbers attending and returning to meetings) are important, achievement of the above objectives which are subjective to the individual are best assessed by questionnaire and a numerical scale. Acorn uses the five-point scale shown below

No, not at all	A little	Yes, to reasonable extent	Yes, to a good extent	Yes, a lot
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We then invite respondents to make any specific comment on what Acorn means to them and any general comment.

Results of Evaluation - Sample of 63

1.Reduction of Distress

45 said "Yes a lot", 17 said "Yes to a good extent" [1 gave no answer]

2. Reduction of loneliness and isolation, and enhancement of quality of life

49 said "Yes a lot", 13 said "Yes to a good extent" 1 said "to a reasonable extent"

Sample individual comments

"In many ways Acorn has transformed my life and reversed the negative effects of cancer, enabling me to enjoy socialising" (Female Patient)

"Lovely group of people. Look forward to all activities we attend and talk and have a laugh about many things" (Female Carer)

" Talking to others on their cancer journey, making new friends, giving me hope and socialising generally" (Female Patient)

"Occasions to meet fellow members which provides much pleasure to me and takes my mind off daily difficulties. Also provides an opportunity to help others if needed (Male both Patient and Carer)

