

## Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine (HMPPM) Program

Rajithri (Dilru) Habarakada is the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) Biobank Specialist for the Hudson Monash Paediatric Precision Medicine (HMPPM) Program, in a maternity leave appointment.

In the collaborative HMPPM Program, scientists at Hudson Institute have established a 'Living Biobank' of childhood brain/CNS and solid cancers - including living organoids or lab-grown 'mini-tumours' - to trial and develop targeted treatments and improve clinical outcomes, survival rates and quality of life (limiting side-effects) for childhood cancer patients. As the ALCCRF Biobank Specialist, Dilru brings



technical and operational knowledge to the development of the 'Living Biobank' platform at Hudson Institute and oversees all biobanking activities for the HMPPM Program. She also coordinates the Monash Children's Cancer Biobank led by Dr Peter Downie at Monash Children's Hospital.

Dilru completed a Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Psychology at Victoria University, then joined the HMPPM Program in 2021. She is currently undertaking a Masters of Cancer Sciences at the University of Melbourne to expand her knowledge in the areas of quality of research, cancer care, prevention and education.