Australian Lions

Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"

District Chair's Guide 2023 - 2024

TELETHON KIDS INSTITUTE

Griffith UNIVERSITY
Institute for Glycomics
Queensland, Australia

Australian Government
Cancer Australia

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

WEHI brighter together

Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

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Who to Contact

Contacts – full contact details on the Foundation section of the MD Directory

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"N1&3"	Treasurer Awards/Awards Credits	Bob Findley	alccrf.treasurer@lions.org.au 0417 398 611
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"W1&2"	Biggest BBQ, JuLikeMyChops	Peter Lamb	peter@lambgroup.com.au 0447 711 162
"N2,4&5"	Marketing (Brochures, Banners)	TBA	
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"Q1&3"	Website, Social Media, Publicity	Kerry Kilpatrick	kerrykilpatrick@yahoo.com.au 0412 279 464
"Q2&4"	District Chair Training, Christmas Pins	Aussie Lanphier	ausandtoni@bigpond.com 0408 188 852
MD201	Appointee Australian Lions Coin Line ALCCRF Biggest High Tea	Kate Moore	moz1965@hotmail.com ALCCRF.biggesthightea@lions.org.au 0409 228 075

Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

- **Our Vision**

  100 % survival for kids with cancer

- **Our Mission**

  Prevent kids with cancer dying by raising funds nationally and donating these funds to the best high impact childhood cancer research conducted right across Australia.

About Us

Every year in Australia more than 950 children and adolescents are diagnosed with cancer.

Three Australian children die from cancer every week.

Among childhood illnesses, cancer remains the most common cause of death in Australia.

Lions Australia wants to turn this around. We need your help so that:

- We can help give every child a chance at a healthy life; and
- 100% survival becomes a reality

Our Goals

- Lions Australia through ALCCRF has become one of Australia's most important philanthropic donors to childhood cancer research.
- Fundraising by Lions will be directed to personalised medicine programs for children with high-risk or relapsed cancer.

ALCCRF will grow the number of Clubs that support the foundation research to at least 75% of clubs. ALCCRF will grow and maintain its fundraising to $1,000,000 per annum.

Operating Principles

ALCCRF will;

- Operate always with the intent to add value to the overall work and brand of Lions Australia and within the Lions Clubs International Global Service
- Establish a national network of Lions clubs and administrative support that can meaningfully contribute and support its Vision, Mission and Goals;
- Have Deductible Gift Recipient Status (DGR) from the Australian Taxation Office so that we can issue tax deductible receipts to donors;
- Require accountability and reporting from recipients of ALCCRF funding;
- Seek out and utilise existing electronic and other sources of data, communication processes and business systems. We will work with and leverage from the extensive data, networks and systems already available in Lions Australia; and
- Minimise operating costs of the foundation to maximise the funds donated to achieve its Vision and Mission.

Donations and Working with our Treasurer

Donations and Banking

For the information of the District Governors and District Chairs all donations go through our Foundation Treasurer PDG Bob Findley. Donations that are sent by post must be sent to our current postal address: -

Treasurer PDG Bob Findley OAM
ALCCRF
PO Box 56
Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

Note: Our address can change with a change of Treasurer and with Clubs occasionally obtaining our address from an old directory, it's prudent to always put your Club return address on the envelope in case your donation doesn't reach us.

The preferred method of making donations is of course by direct deposit to the bank account, this is a saving to the Club/District in postage costs and the transaction is made on the day in most cases. To facilitate EFT Payments a "Pay iD" had been created for the foundation and this "Pay iD" is the treasurers email address alccrf.treasurer@lions.org.au. Using this facility will ensure that the correct account is automatically selected. It also allows additional information to be submitted assisting both the payer and payee.

Alternatively, EFT payments can be made using OSKO or the following bank details:

Bank: NAB
A/c Name: Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF)
BSB: 085-397
A/c No: 94-294-7951

Please include details for your payment e.g. Donation, ALCCRF Award, Barry J Palmer Fellow, Biggest BBQ, Coin Line etc.

Emails regarding EFT payments should be emailed to the Treasurers email address at alccrf.treasurer@lions.org.au

Use mobile phone to Scan QR code for bank details

AWARDS

General enquiries about Awards should be made with the relative Trustee looking after that award, PCC Tony Roney for the Barry J Palmer Fellowships and Sandy Royal for the ALCCRF Awards. However, enquires and payment for these awards should be treated the same as donations and go through Treasurer PDG Bob Findley. PDG Bob will clear the payment or confirm any credit that the District/Club has and will forward the application on electronically to the relative Trustee to ensure there is no delay (note: credit for prior donations can be used for these awards for up to 2 years from when the donation is made).

For the record allow three (3) weeks for us to produce awards – if the application/s are sent through the post allow an additional week. Note that the application/s forms are on our website and are computer writable and once completed can be emailed for efficiency. Website address: https://alccrf.lions.org.au/ awards are found under the **"Resources"** tab.

Barry J Palmer Fellowship

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) has established the Barry J Palmer Fellowship to recognise outstanding support for the Foundation's vision of 100% survival for kids with cancer.

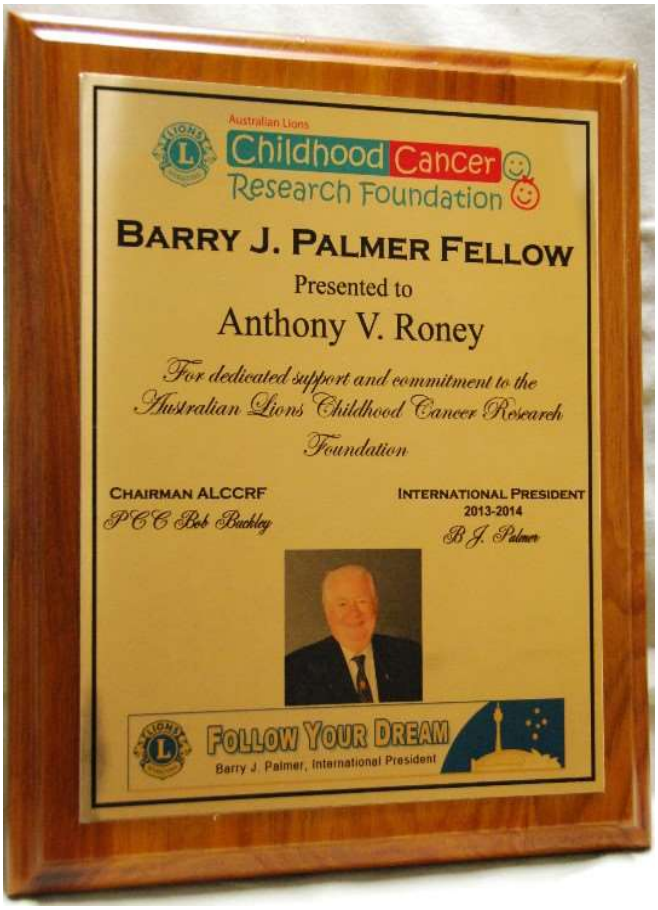
Recipients of this fellowship will be recognised for being one of our ambassadors helping kids fulfill their right to a healthy life. The fellowship can be awarded to Lions and non-Lions who have dedicated time and effort on behalf of childhood cancer research.

In 2009 at MD201's Melbourne National Convention, current Lions International President (2013-2014) Barry Palmer of Berowra, NSW, Australia, was instrumental in approving the establishment of the ALCCRF. Barry was a founding trustee of the ALCCRF and remains an enthusiastic supporter of its work, which undertakes to fund impactful world class research into childhood cancers.

Applications for the Barry J Palmer fellowship can be found on the Foundation's website.

For further information contact:
Trustee/Vice Chair PCC Tony Roney
anthonyvincentroney@bigpond.com
Mob: 0409 829 511
http://alccrf.lions.org.au

The beautiful timber used to mount this fellowship is Acacia melanoxylon, commonly known as the Australian Blackwood. The Acacia species is native in eastern Australia with this particular specimen coming from Tasmania. Tasmania is often referred to as the "Island of Inspiration", owing to its large and relatively unspoiled natural environment.



The award can be purchased for $2,000

Note: Credit for prior donations can be used for this award for up to 2 years from when they are made.

ALCCRF Awards

The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) Awards were established to recognise support for the Foundation's vision of 100% survival for kids with cancer

Gold $1,000
Gold Plate on Walnut Base

225 x 300mm

Silver $500
Silver Plate on Walnut Base

200 x 250mm

Bronze $250
Brass Plate on Walnut Base
175 x 225mm

All awards come with an ALCCRF lapel pin in Gold, Silver or Bronze.

Note: Credit for prior donations can be used for awards for up to 2 years from when they are made.

Working With Our Clubs (BAM)

Most of our District Chairs come to the role having had Cabinet experience previously, so it is not our intention to instruct you how to liaise with Clubs other than to say that it is important to regularly communicate with them. Your Zone meetings and District Newsletters are great opportunities to do this. Club visitations are great if convenient, but are not always practical with the distances within some of our Districts.

While selling the message of the Foundation, in order to secure ongoing vital research funding, there is also the opportunity to encourage Clubs when fundraising to use that event to attract new members. People are unlikely to join Lions just for the sake of it, but when they see the projects we are undertaking, particularly the work of the ALCCRF the attraction is enhanced.

All our Multiple District Projects and Foundations have been approached by the Global Action Team to come on board with their "Big Audacious Mission" (BAM).

It makes sense, our overall membership is dropping and aging. The fundraising events we hold require manpower. The more members we have the more that we can do.

The bottom line is, with fewer clubs and members our revenue from Lions sources will reduce. When this happens, we will have to reduce our support for our important research projects. And no one wants that to happen.

Please come on board with this initiative as membership is a responsibility of all members not just a select few. I am sure your District GAT Team will support and help you in this regard.

Important Facts

- Over the last few decades global medical research efforts have seen survival rates from childhood cancer improve dramatically.
- Today, more than 8 out of 10 children in Australia survive their disease.
- Lions Australia has been supporting childhood cancer at least as far back as 1976.
- Lions formalised its support for childhood cancer research over 18 years ago establishing the Lions Cord Blood & Childhood Cancer Research Appeal.
- Since then Lions has raised more than $14 million for childhood cancer research.
- The establishment of the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) has taken Lions commitment to focus on achieving 100% survival for kids with cancer to a new level.

Why Focus Lions Support on Research

- When ALCCRF was established as a Category A project of Lions Australia the intent was that the Foundation had as its prime focus to fund the best scientific and clinical research in Australia. This was embodied in the motion endorsed by Delegates at the 2009 MD Convention in Melbourne and in the Trust Deed that underpins the Foundations establishment and operations.
- Australian researchers are amongst the best in the world and are playing a significant role in the treatment of and research into childhood cancer.
- Networks are now established to share research both nationally and internationally.
- All funds raised by Lions and LEO Clubs and donated to ALCCRF are directed to high impact scientific and clinical research available in Australia for personalised medicine programs for children with high-risk or relapsed cancer - Without ALCCRF much of this research simply would not happen.
- In the past, the Foundation has used several advisory bodies to assist Trustees to determine which research projects should be assisted and funded. Whilst advice received has enabled ALCCRF to fund very worthwhile and important studies it may not have considered research being conducted in all hospitals and independent medical research institutions in Australia.
- Trustees entered a partnership with Macquarie (University) Graduate School of Management (MGSM) who consulted with the top 20-30 Key Opinion Leaders in Paediatric Oncology across Australia to establish clear priorities for childhood cancer research. This ensures that Lions funding is directed to the highest priority childhood cancer research. The report from MGSM, released in late 2014, was also made available to other philanthropic groups, universities and government.
- ALL future submissions for research funding will be measured against the report to determine if it meets the priority for funding.

Research Currently Funded

Currently ALCCRF is funding significant research trials in Australia

- **Telethon Kids Institute**
  Paediatric Immunotherapy Program for high-risk kids with cancer.
  Funding Cost; original grant $1.05 million over 3 years, an additional $200k granted for an additional 2 years to further the research.
- **Cancer Australia (**Federal Govt. reporting directly to the Minister Dept. of Health) Priority-Driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PDCCRS) co-funding research on $ for $ basis with other partners.
  - Dr Jessica Buck: University of Western Australia / Telethon Kids Institute
    Exploiting and enhancing brain-resident immune cells for the treatment of paediatric brain stem glioma (DIPG).
    Funding Cost; $49.8k over 3 years (ALCCRF Share).
  - Dr Pouya Faridi: Monash University
    Novel targets for paediatric brain tumour immunotherapy.
    Funding Cost; $66.7k over 3 years (ALCCRF Share).
  - Dr Klaarttj Somers – Children's Cancer Institute.
    Targeting nicotinamide adenosine dinucleotide (NAD) metabolism to overcome therapeutic resistance in acute myeloid leukemia.
    Funding Cost; $100k over 3 years (ALCCRF Share).
- **WEHI (Walter & Eliza Hall Institute)**
  - Tackling drug treatment resistance to medulloblastoma.
    Funding Cost; $220k over 2 years.
  - Enhancing CAR-T cell therapy to treat childhood leukemia.
    Funding Cost; $596k 2 years.
- **Griffith University's, Institute for Glycomics**
  Focus on Sarcoma – early markers, improve diagnosis targeting pathways to treatment.
  Funding Cost; $800k over 3 years.
- **University of Newcastle**
  Development precision immunotherapeutic strategy for paediatric brain tumours. **Funding Cost;** $635k 3 years.
- All research projects are funded in agreed instalments and are subject to regular review and assessment by Trustees.
- Lions have supported childhood cancer research in one way or another for over 40 years and now with our efforts focused through ALCCRF we can be proud that we are truly making a difference in the fight towards our vision of 100% survival for all children with childhood cancer.

More information can be found on the following pages and our website – https://alccrf.lions.org.au/

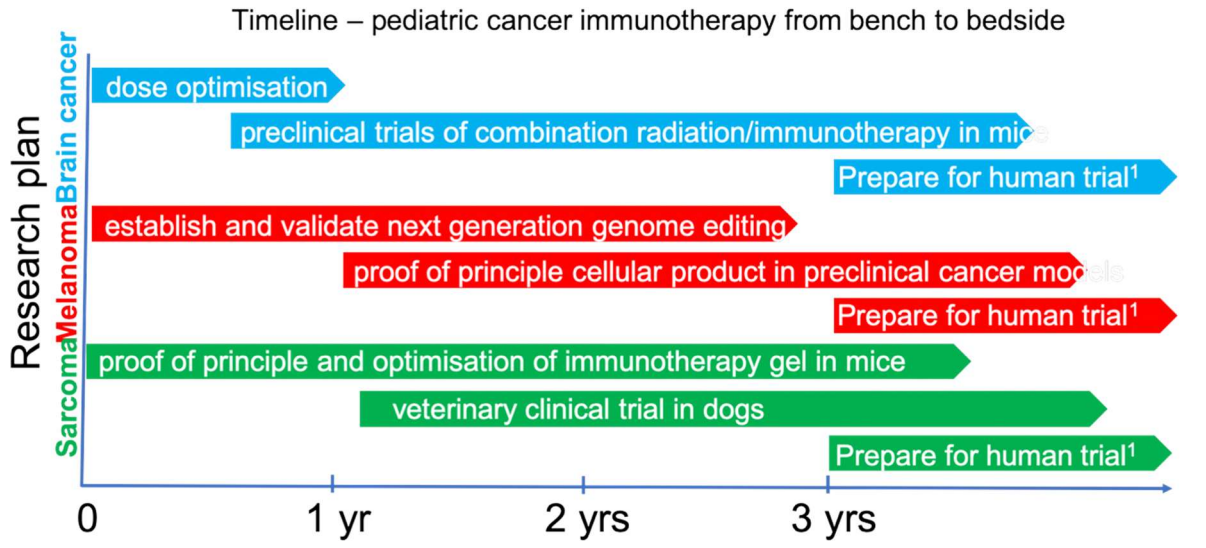
Telethon Kids Institute

The need for immunotherapy for children

As ALCCRF would be aware, although childhood cancer cure rates have significantly increased over the past few decades, cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease in children. For many children, current treatments simply cannot cure their cancer. Sadly, those children who manage to survive their disease are left with detrimental life-long side effects, an unavoidable consequence of the current dosages of radiotherapy and chemotherapy. These harsh treatments are not only toxic to cancer cells, but also to the developing bodies and brains of children. Too often, the cure is almost as terrible as the disease.

Financial support from the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation (ALCCRF) will significantly advance and accelerate Telethon Kids Cancer Centre research to develop new immunotherapy treatments for paediatric sarcoma, medulloblastoma, melanoma, leukemia and other childhood cancers. Our focus is not only on discovery and evaluation of new therapeutical approaches but the rapid translation of those findings into new treatments that can reach the clinic and cure children.

Our researchers at the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre are pioneering cancer immunotherapy for children in Australia and are undertaking the only comprehensive program of its type in Australia.



[1]File IP, liaise with CRO for clinical grade materials, partner with VC for commercialization of the product, start design clinical trial in humans.

Research Streams - Progress & Next Steps (additional $200,000 allocated)

Harnessing the immune system to enhance radiation therapy and improve survival outcomes for children with brain cancer

A/Prof Joost Lesterhuis

44**Goal**: To test if a new immunotherapy called anti-CD47 can increase survival in mouse models of high-risk brain cancer, when used in combination with radiotherapy. The expected benefit of this project is the development of a new combination therapy that will increase the survival of cancer patients.

Research Focus: T cell checkpoint blockade is a type of cancer immunotherapy that has shown remarkable clinical success in adult cancers, but not in brain tumours. This is because the brain is different to other organs and has a specialised immune system that is less reliant on T cells. Instead, microglia are the main type of immune cells found in the brain. However, brain cancer cells have devised a way to avoid microglial attack by expressing a "do not eat me" signal called CD47.

To tackle this problem, it is proposed to use an antibody called anti-CD47, which blocks this "do not eat me signal". The end result is that microglial cells will attack and destroy brain cancer cells. This approach has proven successful in laboratory models of various brain cancers, including high-risk medulloblastoma. However, so far, this promising therapy has not yet been tested in children with paediatric brain cancer.

To expedite translation of this new treatment to the clinic, the goal is to identify treatments that enhance current therapies.

It is proposed to use anti-CD47 therapy in combination with radiotherapy to treat paediatric medulloblastoma (MB), a deadly and difficult to treat brain cancer. The approach is to test this new treatment in gold-standard MB mouse models alongside chemotherapy and radiation therapy protocols, scaled down for mice so that they mimic clinical schedules as accurately as presently possible.

In pilot studies it was found that anti-CD47 treatment enhanced radiation-mediated tumour control in mice with high-risk MB. The aim is to progress this research in mouse models of MB and other brain cancers to assess the impact of treatment on survival, immunobiology, toxicity and in-depth tumour growth kinetics.

TKI are uniquely positioned to conduct this study as we have acquired Australia's only XRAD SmART system – a sophisticated piece of equipment that precisely mimics clinical radiation therapy protocols in animal models. This study is essential to move anti-CD47 therapy into clinical trials for paediatric brain cancer and, if incorporated into standard practice, will herald the first immunotherapy to be introduced in frontline treatment for children with this disease.

Next steps: Survival studies will be performed next, which will determine if anti-CD47 can enhance the efficacy of radiation therapy in the child-specific model of medulloblastoma. TKI will then develop additional models to determine if efficacy is consistent across a set of diverse models, which represent the diverse patient population as closely as currently possible in a laboratory. In this way, we will mimic patients and clinical treatment in order to predict real clinical outcomes in a meaningful way, ahead of translating this exciting new therapy to clinical trial.

Cancer Australia

1. Exploiting and enhancing brain-resident immune cells for the treatment of paediatric brain stem glioma (DIPG)

Dr Jessica Buck

Dr Jessica Buck: University WA / TKI (Cancer Australia, Priority-Driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme PdCCRS)

DIPG is a fatal brain cancer that affects children, with no effective treatments. This research project is proposing a new combination of treatments targeting the immune system in the brain to treat DIPG. First, the cancer cells will be labelled with a "flag" so the immune system can see them. The investigator will then use another treatment to block the "don't eat me" signals on the cancer cells, so the immune system can attack the cancer.

This new treatment could help save the lives of children with DIPG, who currently have a 0% chance of survival.

Project Synopsis and Aims

Diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG, or diffuse midline glioma) is a fatal, highly aggressive brain tumour affecting children. Less than 10% of children diagnosed with DIPG are still alive 2 years later, highlighting an urgent need for improved treatments.

The problem: Due to the location of the tumour in a vital part of the brain, surgery is not an option in the treatment of DIPG. Currently, the only treatment shown to prolong survival is radiotherapy, however this only offers palliative relief of symptoms. No chemotherapy treatments for DIPG currently exist, and previous chemotherapy clinical trials using a single drug have also been unsuccessful. Novel combination treatments are desperately needed.

Major finding: Therapies targeting the immune system have shown remarkable clinical outcomes in other cancers, but not in brain tumours. This is in part because the brain has a specialised immune system less reliant on T cells, which are the target of most immunotherapy approaches. Instead, cells called microglia are the most common immune cell of the brain, comprising up to 50% of some brain tumours. Brain tumour cells, including DIPG cells, avoid microglial attack by expressing a "don't eat me" signal called CD47. Blocking CD47 with a therapeutic antibody (a-CD47) results in remarkable disease control by increasing the ability of microglia to recognise and kill brain cancer cells.

2. Novel targets for paediatric brain tumour immunotherapy

Dr Pouya Faridi: Monash University (Cancer Australia, PdCCRS)

Project Synopsis and Aims

Every year more than 170 Australian children are diagnosed with brain cancer. Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) is the most aggressive childhood brainstem tumour with no cure and median survival of only nine months post-diagnosis. Cancer vaccination is the emerging approach for untreatable cancers. The fundamental mechanism of the immune system for combating cancer.

is recognition of peptides exclusively presented on the tumour surface in complex with Human Leukocyte Antigen (HLA) molecules. However, selecting the right antigen and corresponding peptide-HLA complex (p-HLA) is the most challenging part of any vaccination strategy.

Dr Pouya Faridi

Generation and presentation of p-HLAs is a dynamic process within the cell. Therefore, intra and extracellular factors can affect the composition of the immunopeptidome (the array of peptides presented by a given HLA molecule). In the case of DIPG, two mechanisms can generate or potentiate DIPG tumour exclusive p-HLAs: 1) As the only, and first line of management of DIPG, radiotherapy not only causes tumour cell death, releasing antigen for subsequent presentation by professional antigen- presenting cells and the initiation of further immune responses; but can also increase the expression of p-HLA on the surface of resistant tumour cells rendering them more susceptible to immune attack. 2) Methylation/mutation of the Histone3 gene are epigenetic signatures of DIPG. Recently, it has been discovered that these two signatures turn on the expression of particular endogenous retroviruses (ERV) in DIPG tumours. These viral antigens can also form novel targets of immune responses.

3. Targeting nicotinamide adenosine dinucleotide (NAD) metabolism to overcome therapeutic resistance in acute myeloid leukemia

Dr Klaartje Somers: Childrens Cancer Institute (Cancer Australia, PdCCRS)

Acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) is a highly fatal blood cancer in adults and children. On average, less than 30% of adults with AML survive 5 years after diagnosis and in children, one-third of patients relapse on current treatment, with only 30% of relapsed children surviving. Resistance of AML patients to current treatment is thus a major challenge. In addition, current treatment protocols often cause detrimental long-term health effects, negatively impacting quality of life, especially in children, where two thirds will suffer long-term side effects as a result of their treatment. There is thus an urgent need to develop ways to overcome resistance to treatment in AML. In addition, a more personalised approach - the identification of those patients who are more likely to respond to a particular therapy - would be a tremendous step forward in current AML treatment.

Dr Klaartje Somers

Based on their complimentary expertise within the field of therapeutics for childhood leukaemia and adult leukaemia, Dr Klaartje Somers (Children's Cancer Institute) and Dr Donia Moujalled (WEHI) joined forces to develop clinically relevant strategies to mitigate AML treatment resistance. Together, they showed that AML cells are addicted to the metabolic enzyme nicotinamide phosphoribosyltransferase (NAMPT). They have demonstrated that inhibition of NAMPT can kill AML cells, block AML progression in their living models and re-sensitise treatment-resistant paediatric and adult AML cells to chemotherapeutics and molecular targeted agents. Based on their exciting new data, they hypothesise that addiction of AML cells to NAMPT contributes to resistance to AML therapy. NAMPT inhibition therefore constitutes an exciting new therapeutic strategy for AML that could substantially improve treatment outcome in children and adults and lead to a new standard of care.

WEHI (Walter & Eliza Hall Institute)

1. An innovative approach to tackling treatment resistance in medulloblastoma by using bioinformatics and machine learning

Assoc Prof Melissa Davis (lead): WEHI Melbourne

A/Prof Melissa Davis

Researchers at WEHI have developed a 'street map' of the genes involved in medulloblastoma. Like a map shows streets connecting places, the genetic map shows connections between different genes that contribute to more aggressive tumours. In this project, WEHI researchers will expand this genetic map to discover the genes and pathways that control tumour dormancy, drug resistance and relapse. Using computational biology techniques, WEHI researchers aim to discover how cells that are tolerant to existing therapies survive treatment and become resistant to treatment. With this knowledge, weak points in the survival process will be identified that could then be targeted by drugs and used in combination with existing effective therapies to prevent relapse and resistance.

2. Enhancing CAR-T cell therapy to treat childhood leukemia

Professor Marco Herold and Dr Emily Lelliott: WEHI, Melbourne

Leukemia is a cancer that arises from abnormal white blood cells. It is the most common cancer diagnosed in children, accounting for approximately 35% of all childhood cancers. CAR-T-cell therapy is an innovative therapy recently approved to treat childhood leukemia. This therapy involves collecting the patient's T cells (a type of immune cell) and engineering them to selectively seek out and destroy cancer cells. It is generally used for high-risk leukemias as a last line treatment after traditional treatments, such as chemotherapy, have failed. It has been remarkably successful, leading to remission in ~90% of patients, however, sadly, around half of these patients will eventually relapse and succumb to the disease.

Dr Emily Lelliott

WEHI researchers Prof Marco Herold and Dr Emily Lelliott are developing a new generation of CAR-T cells that will overcome this challenge and more effectively treat childhood leukemia. The team are taking an innovative, two-part approach that will lead to lower rates of relapse whilst ensuring that those children who do relapse have access to the follow-up treatment, they need to make a full recovery.

The project will be a two-part exercise: -

1. Identify genes that can be edited to generate CAR-T cells with optimal and long-term cancer-fighting ability.
2. Develop and test new therapeutic technology that enables CAR-T cells to be engineered

directly inside the body

Griffith University's, Institute for Glycomics

Sarcoma diagnoses and treatment to deliver novel diagnostic technologies and precision treatment options improving patient outcomes.

Prof Mark von Itzstein AO (lead): Griffith University's, Institute for Glycomics, Gold Coast.

Prof Mark von Itzstein

The Institute is focused on a vital sarcoma research project developing a novel diagnostic and treatment options for Sarcoma. The aim is to close current gaps in accurate Sarcoma diagnosis and precision treatment to deliver novel diagnostics and treatment opportunities that improve patient outcomes and survival. The term sarcoma summarises a large number of different cancers that arise in the bones and connective tissues such as fat and muscle. Depending on where they first occur in the body, the different types of sarcomas differ significantly in their pathogenesis and thus, need to be considered as individual cancer types. While it is considered a rare cancer in adults, sarcoma is a prevalent cancer in children representing about 20% of all childhood cancer diagnoses. We, along with a global philanthropic foundation have linked arms on this important research program and wholeheartedly believe this partnership will propel progress in sarcoma research to deliver solutions to the disease.

The University of Newcastle

Precision Immunotherapeutic Strategy for Paediatric Brain Tumours

The University of Newcastle A/Prof Matt Dun (lead) & Dr Lana Staudt

A/Prof Matt Dun

Diffuse midline glioma (DMG) is a universally fatal paediatric and adolescent cancer responsible for 1/5th of all cancer-related deaths in children. DMGs are localised to the midline of the central nervous system, most commonly diagnosed in the pons (called diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma), thalamus, midbrain and spine. The tumours are characterised by an immunodeficient/cold tumour microenvironment, meaning the patient's immune system cannot/ doesn't recognise the tumour as "foreign", and so does not automatically mount a defensive response against the malignancy. Novel therapies previously developed by our group are currently being assessed in a clinical trial, and excitingly, further studies have shown that these therapies promote increased visibility of the tumour to the immune system. In this project we will test whether these therapeutics (plus newly identified, more potent drugs), can further illuminate DMGs to the immune microenvironment, aiming to develop combination strategies that enhance tumour recognition and destruction.

HYPOTHESIS AND AIMS

We hypothesis that a precision-immuno-therapeutic treatment strategy will improve the survival of DMG patients. To test this hypothesis, we aim to:

Dr Lana Staudt

1. Increase DIPG antigen presentation in in vivo clinical models using exciting combination therapies used in the clinic, with novel therapeutic drug, TR-107.
2. Identify cancer specific 'neoantigen complexes' expressed across different subtypes of DIPG following treatment with these exciting novel therapies.
3. Generate a subtype and/or DIPG specific immunotherapy, and validate the specificity of novel immunotherapeutics.
4. Test efficacy, specificity and toxicity of precision immunotherapeutic strategy using our preclinical models of DIPG.
5. Progress findings to an international precision immunotherapeutic clinical trial in collaboration with Pacific Neuro-Oncology Consortium (PNOC) and Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology and Oncology Group (ANZCHOG).

DISTRICT GOVERNOR CHALLENGE

An initiative that the Foundation started prior to the pandemic has been resurrected for the coming year.

To encourage Districts fundraising efforts, the first $2,000 raised by each District Governor, will ensure their eligibility to receive a Barry Palmer Fellow. This award will be presented to them at the 201 Lions Multiple District Convention in Darwin. For each consecutive $2,000 raised, they will receive another Barry Palmer Fellow to present at their changeover to a worthy Cabinet, or Club member of their choosing.

The tools to assist this initiative were handed to all District Governors Elect in an envelope at the Multiple District Convention on the Gold Coast. This will help them to achieve their fundraising goals, including fundraising ideas, promotional materials, and information about the ALCCRF. The Foundation encourages the DGE's to use these resources to get creative and engage their communities in this important cause.

Let's see which District Governor and District can raise the most for this worthwhile cause.

Together, we can make a real impact and support the important work of the ALCCRF.

Note: Clubs encouraged by the District Governor to participate, and wishing to support the challenge must indicate that the donation is supporting the **"District Governor Challenge"** otherwise the donation will not be included in the challenge.

FUN WAYS TO RAISE MONEY AND JOIN THE FIGHT FOR A CURE

Lions Coin Lion

Biggest BBQ

JulikeMyChops

Biggest High Tea

Virtual Sausages

FUNDRAISING

Australian Lions Coin Line

Lay it on the Line for Childhood Cancer

Get your District Clubs motivated by encouraging them to organise a coin line with their Club, School, Sporting Group or work-place. Money raised will go towards funding projects of the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

Stay up to date on our Facebook Page and share events of participation Australian Lions Coin Line.

More information is available at alccrf.lions.org.au/events

Or Contact Board Appointee Katherine Moore

moz1965@hotmail.com

Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

LAYING IT ON THE LINE FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER

Australian Lions Longest Coin Line

Lions Biggest BBQ

The Lions Biggest BBQ is a fantastic way to promote Lions Clubs in Australia and to raise awareness in your community. All Clubs may conduct their BBQ or multiple BBQs between January through to December 2022.

All Clubs are provided with an updated Marketing Kit annually, plus information which highlights how best to promote the Lions Biggest BBQ activities in your local area. It is easy to register, simply complete the Application Form and return it in the Reply-Paid envelope to PO Box 97, Mandurah WA 6210, or email to peter@lambgroup.com.au.

"It never ceases to amaze me what Aussies can do when they work together" said Peter Lamb, Trustee of ALCCRF. Who would have thought the good old Aussie Barbie could have been used to help Lions raise over $12 million for childhood cancer research? Well that's what we have done but the job's not over. More than 800 Australian kids are diagnosed every year with various forms of childhood cancer and unfortunately, we are still seeing around three kids dying every week.

Many of the 1,200 Lions Australia clubs will hold barbeques during the year to raise funds for medical research into the causes and prevention of, and to find a cure for, childhood cancer. Why Lions have been passionately supporting childhood cancer research since 1996 is very simple. "We believe every child deserves the chance at a healthy life" said Peter Lamb.

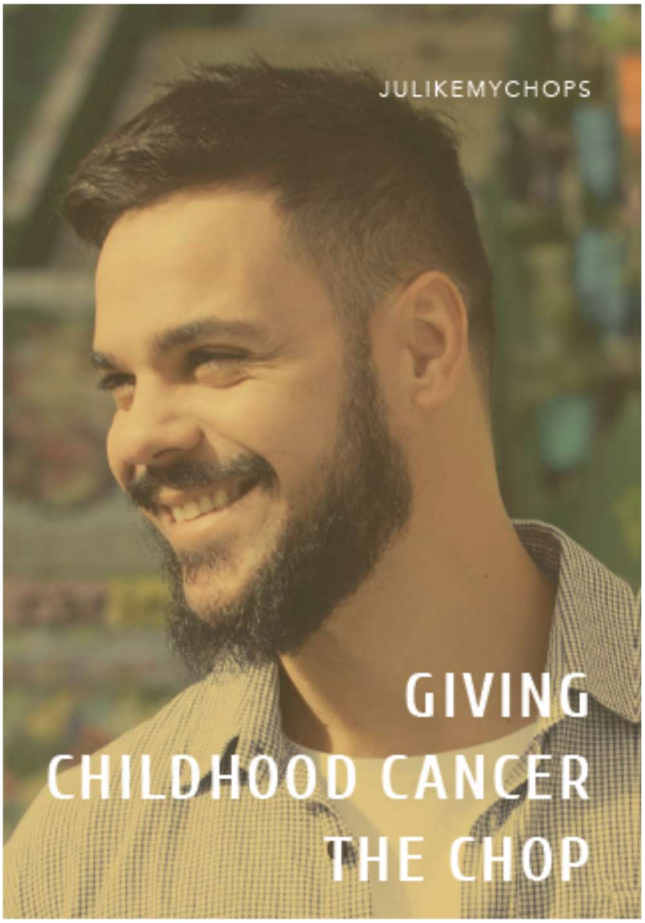
Two initiatives, one tried before and one new for clubs looking for a way to raise funds other than a BBQ

JuLikeMyChops

How it works

JuLikeMyChops encourages all men across Australia to grow their 'chops' through the month of July.

To promote JuLikeMyChops the Australian Lions clubs around the country will be approaching businesses within their areas via email and written information.



Ladies can participate by becoming a 'Chop Cop'. These empowered ladies involved within a company or wife/partner of a 'Chopper' can fine fellow work mates for matters such as, not wearing his tie straight, not wearing PPE correctly, parking in the wrong spot, swearing within the work office, etc. Chop Cops can use their imagination as far as they 100% of all funds raised go to research to give childhood cancer the chop see fit to help raise money for a chop grower or add to a company donation. All funds raised by a Chop Cop can be entered into the JuLikeMyChops website using her name in the register icon.

Other ways to support our cause are to become a corporate sponsor, Chops Ambassador or company fund-raiser where you match your employees fund-raising efforts dollar for dollar. Visit our website for more details. So, get on-board for the month of July and help us eliminate Kids cancer – GIVING CHILDHOOD CANCER THE CHOP!

Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

JULIKE MY CHOPS

A new way to raise funds for a fantastic cause.

Biggest High Tea

Encourage Clubs to hold a Biggest High Tea in the month of September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Interested clubs can visit the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation's website https://alccrf.lions.org.au/events/high-tea/ to find a comprehensive list of resources needed to run a fun filled Biggest High Tea.

Enjoy a cuppa and delicious food with likeminded people.
Let's all work together for 100% survival of children with cancer.

Do you need further information ?
Contact Lion Kate Moore
Phone 0409 228 075
alccrf.biggesthightea@lions.org.au

Merchandise

Although not a major part of our fundraising, we do have items available for Sale at MD and District Conventions and/or throughout the year from our District Chairmen – new items may be added from time to time while some disappear

Stylish Pens which include the ALCCRF Logo $5 each

all enquiries for pens or aprons contact Trustee Tony Roney
anthonyvincentroney@bigpond.com

Lions Biggest BBQ Apron – just $20 including postage

Originally released for Xmas 2013 this attractive Xmas Pin is currently sold for $6.

A new design is released each year and they are sure to be valued by collectors.

The 2022 version will be available in October – all enquiries to PDG Austin Lanphier ausandtoni@bigpond.com

The Lions Rose

The original idea for a Lions Rose started in 2000 at the Lions club where Wilhem Kordes (Kordes Roses - Germany) is a member. The Club wanted to start an activity for the Friedensdorf Oberhausen (peace village Oberhausen) where heavily injured children from war torn countries are taken care of with the aim that they go back to their countries after successful recovery.

After receiving approval from LCI, the rose was officially named in a ceremony at the Kordes gardens in Sparrieshoop. It then went on to be released for sale in 2002. In the same year, it also received an award due to its great disease resistance.

Since its release in 2002, the Lions Rose has raised over AUD $386,000 for Oberhausen and is one of Kordes most successful rose releases to date.

This rose has been hugely popular overseas and has raised a great deal of awareness of our Lions Organisation throughout the world.

Based in Portland Victoria, Treloar Roses (Australia's Leading Supplier of rose bushes) have been supplying bare root rose plants / bushes Australia-Wide for more than 45 years.

Following discussions and the signing of an agreement between the Foundation and Treloar Roses, ALCCRF will receive $1 for each rose plant sold anywhere in Australia from 2012 on.

We ask Clubs and their members to support this initiative by purchasing the rose and / or promoting in your local community. They make a great guest speaker gift in place of flowers or wine.

Roses can be ordered online on the Treloar Roses website for your convenience. Or you can call them on 1300 044 85.

The Lions Rose currently sells for $26.50.

Our Newsletters & Communications

Our Newsletters are published quarterly and have proven to be an excellent way to communicate to Lions Members and our supporter base outside Lions on the progress of the Foundation, forthcoming events and showcasing activities from Clubs and District Chairmen across the Country.


WE BELIEVE EVERY CHILD DESERVES A CHANCE AT A HEALTHY LIFE

Childhood Cancer Research Foundation

June 2018 Newsletter

Hello to you all

A very big thank you to all for the support shown for our continued efforts raising funds to enable us to finalise our commitment to The Lions Kids Cancer Genome project. Our fund raising for the project is well on track, and a progress report is in this newsletter - we all know that we as Lions kick-started Whole Genome sequencing for high risk children with cancer resulting in more targeted and personalised treatment which is showing good signs of some success.

Also in the newsletter are pics from the MD Convention in Townsville which for the Foundation was a great success with all 9 Trustees putting in time at our display stands where they were kept very busy.

ALCCRF has finally gained DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status from the ATO which means we can finally offer tax deductible receipts for any personal donations at https://alccrf.lions.org.au/ please help to spread the word

We can now also seek Corporate sponsorship and donations which has previously been offered but we have been unable to accept. At present Trustees are investigating a partnership with Cancer Australian (Federal Department of Health) in which they would match our donation dollar for dollar for approved high risk childhood cancer research

A committee of Mandurah Lions (WZ) has commenced a new project to raise funds

"JuLikeMyChops" encourages men of all ages in Western Australia to grow 'Chops' throughout the month of June and receive sponsorship from family, friends, work mates and businesses they may work for. I wish every success to Lion Brook Arelette and his team

for more information, what the project is all about check out the website at https://www.julikemychops.com.au/

Joke Thorpe ALCCRF National Chairman

"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"

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Regular Direct Communications to District Chairmen via Video Conference and to Clubs should keep all members aware of all upcoming activities of the Foundation.

Regular Contributions to the Australian Lion Magazine are also part of our overall plan.

Our Website & Facebook Page

Our Website has information on all our activities, including our Fundraisers such as the Lions Biggest BBQ, where our Funding grants go, Awareness program - The Lions Rose, our latest newsletters, awards programs – Barry Palmer Fellow, ALCCRF Fellowship and our former Neil Williams awards. Information on all these programs is available as a download, including order forms for all the awards

Also, included on the website is a "donate now" button to enable all individuals to make a direct donation via Credit Card if they wish but the facility is there mainly to encourage the public to support our Foundation – As we now have Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR Status) – any donation is a gift and any amount over $2 is tax deductible

Our Facebook page is updated regularly with photos etc. that are made available to the editor

Our Web address is http://alccrf.lions.org.au/

Our Facebook page is at https://www.facebook.com/ - enter ALCCRF in "search"

Registered Charity

ALCCRF is a recognised and registered charity and endorsed by ACNC and the ATO – the logo can now be seen on our publications

District Conventions

Trustees have pledged support for District Chairmen at their Conventions by providing them with;

- Access to a pull up banner
- A set of Display Posters
- A Horizontal Banner
- An assortment of order forms
- Information brochures

This support will continue in future years

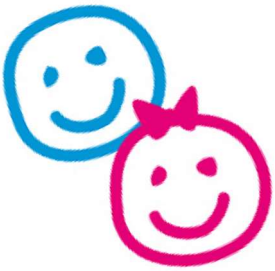
Lions Kids Cancer Genome Project

"We believe every child deserves a chance at a healthy life"

MD Conventions

Trustees are normally available to discuss and answer any questions at the Multiple District Conventions

Promotional Video



Video can be viewed on our website

Professor Terrance Johns, Former Head of the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre, said that as one of Australia's only comprehensive, paediatric cancer immunotherapy centre, the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre was making its mark on medical research.

"The Centre is on a mission to prevent paediatric disease and improve the wellbeing of children with cancer. We bring together leading researchers and oncologists focused on developing therapies that destroy cancer cells, while minimising the side effects to children's short- and long-term health," Professor Johns said.

The $1.25 million of funding to Telethon Kids Institute builds on the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation's long history in supporting leading and innovative research into childhood cancer.