

Donor Impact Report



A shared vision of improving human health through excellence in medical research

Philanthropy holds the key to progressing the innovative, world-leading medical research at Centenary.



8

states and territories where our donors reside

A snapshot of Centenary



460+

domestic and international research collaborations



83

donors have given for 15+ consecutive years



5

early career researcher grants funded by philanthropic gifts



224

scientific achievements published



21

research programs and laboratories

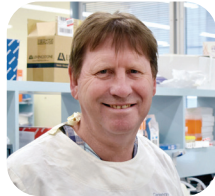


250+

staff, students and visiting researchers

More than 1,200 individuals, foundations and corporates make philanthropic gifts to the Institute annually. Their generosity contributes to funding world-class research for some of our most complex health challenges across cancer, inflammation and cardiovascular diseases.

Philanthropy has a powerful impact - here's some of what we have achieved with the support of our donors.



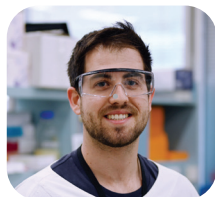
Found an increased expression of the enzyme ACE2 in older people and males which may explain their higher risk profiles for COVID-19.



Shown that a compound present in current beta blocker treatments could be repurposed to increase efficiency and safety of infantile hemangioma therapies.



Established in pre-clinical studies that the use of the chemotherapy drug temozolomide, in combination with chloroquine, was able to kill medication-resistant melanoma cells.



Discovered that two enzymes are increased in COPD patients and favour greater SARS-CoV-2 infection compared to healthy people.



Developed a world first genetic risk score (GRS) test able to identify patients at high-risk of developing alcohol-related cirrhosis.



Revealed new insight into tackling mycobacterial infections by finding a new way to improve host immunity by decreasing potassium levels in immune cells.



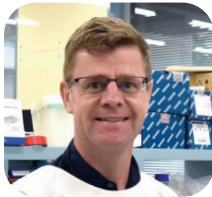
Found that concealed cardiomyopathy is an important cause of sudden cardiac death where no cause is found from autopsy.



Developed a new nasal vaccination strategy that induces potent lung immunity and protection against the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.



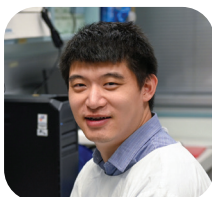
Shown that *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* remodels the architecture of the lymph nodes – limiting the immune system's ability to overcome tuberculosis (TB) infection.



Demonstrated that genetic testing for cardiomyopathy in children and their first degree relatives, provides a precise clinical diagnosis that could guide treatment options.



Contributed to new understanding of an enzyme called dipeptidyl peptidase 9 (DPP9) and its role in cancer development.



Identified a new drug target for the treatment and prevention of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).



“I’ve been extremely well supported at Centenary and had some amazing mentors who have encouraged and guided me at every point of my research journey. I am fortunate to have received a Future Leader Fellowship and thank the invaluable contribution and generosity of our donors who enable the award.”

Dr Jessamy Tiffen

The collective impact our donors are making at the Centenary

Dr Jessamy Tiffen, Head of the Melanoma Epigenetics Program at Centenary is a true example of how philanthropic investment can provide the catalyst for career success and longevity.

Dr Tiffen attributes her interest in science and cell biology to her grandfather who was a microbiologist. She recalls the many conversations with him when she was growing up that inspired her curiosity and led her to choose a career in medical research.

In 2005 Dr Tiffen joined the Centenary Institute as a PhD student with Professor John Rasko in his Gene and Stem Cell Therapy program.

Roll the clock forward to 2020 – Dr Tiffen was recognised by the Institute for her emerging career and awarded a Future Leader Fellowship. This important and career changing scholarship program is funded through the generous philanthropy of our donors. It is awarded to assist exceptional mid-career scientists at the Centenary

who demonstrate true leadership potential. The Fellowship enables successful recipients to strengthen their research, enhance their competitiveness and to develop into future leaders.

Dr Tiffen has now received independent grant success and leads her own team in the Melanoma Epigenetics Program at the Centenary Institute. She is an exceptional scientist recognised both nationally and internationally for her important melanoma research.

This year, Dr Tiffen was promoted to the Scientific Faculty at Centenary where she is part of the senior science leadership team.

Outside of the laboratory, Dr Tiffen is mum to two young children and loves all things food related. “Scouring recipe books, cooking and most of all eating,” she says. “When I’m not studying the abstract books at international conferences, I’m researching the menus of the best local restaurants”.

Thank you to our donors for the hope they share in us. Together we are driving discovery and advancing knowledge.

Our donors are contributing to better health outcomes for all Australians and we are grateful they have chosen the Centenary Institute as the beneficiary of their philanthropy and trust.

I believe this update provides a powerful expression of the impact our donors have made and highlights what continues to be achieved with thanks to them.

Professor Mathew Vadas AO
Executive Director



Supporting Centenary

The Centenary Institute is privileged to benefit from the generous support of individuals, corporates, trusts and foundations.

giving@centenary.org.au

02 9565 6100

Designated funds

Gifts directed to key priorities are a powerful way to advance our mission. Discover the areas you can support.

Karen McBrien, Acting Head of Philanthropy

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Bequests

A gift in your Will to the Centenary Institute is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact on the health and lives of future generations. We can help you plan today to secure permanent support for Centenary tomorrow.

Grace Windeyer, Individual Giving Manager

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Gifts to Centenary make an immediate impact on the research programs that need them the most.

centenary.org.au/donate

Gifts by mail

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Centenary Institute

The Centenary Institute is a world-leading independent medical research organisation based in Sydney. Since 1985, our scientists have brought renewed health and hope to Australians and people around the world by unlocking knowledge of complex diseases, and developing treatments that save lives. Philanthropy plays a critical role in accelerating our research.