

HUMANS OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Understanding DISEASE...Finding a CURE



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PATRICK BERTOLINO



Associate Professor Patrick Bertolino and his group have recently discovered a new, never-before identified cell subset located in the outer membrane of the liver which could inform more targeted treatments for the fastest growing cancer killer in Australia, liver cancer as well as liver disease. The finding was published in the prestigious journal, Immunity,

At Centenary, Patrick leads the Liver Immunology Program, "For the past 25 years, the goal of my research aims to better understand the unique interactions between the liver and the immune system and why liver transplants have more chance of being accepted in the absence of anti-rejection drugs than any transplanted organ."

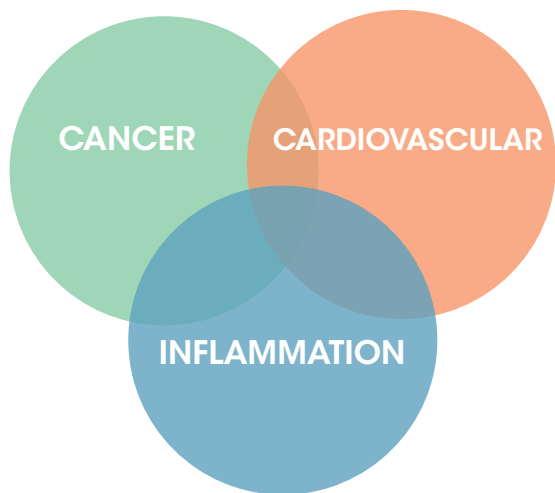
Patrick and his team have made many important, internationally recognised discoveries. They're currently focused on understanding the role of the newly identified cell in the outer membrane of the liver and understanding why some liver-tropic infections do not protect the individual against subsequent infections by the same microbe.

Patrick has been fascinated for much of his career by a single organ - the liver, "My passion for research is fuelled by an eager curiosity as well as a burning desire to dissect and understand the mechanisms that would explain a complex biological phenomenon or process. Research satisfies my personal intellectual need while at the same time increasing our basic knowledge, improving current treatments and potentially saving human lives."

When you meet Patrick, first you'll notice his friendly smile and perhaps his French accent, which might confuse some, when they hear his Italian surname, "Bertolino". Patrick has Italian parents, he was raised in Tunisia, North Africa, attending a French school and going on to study at the University of Lyon in France. It's fair to say he's travelled a unique path to Centenary Institute, where he has been for the past two decades.

Patrick's work requires extreme focus, on a single organ, cell, disease or mechanism, so outside of the lab, Patrick says it's important to relax. He loves to travel and socialise with his mates, of which he has many, thanks to that friendly smile!

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?



CANCER

Cancer is a disease of the cells, which are the body's basic building blocks.

1 in 3 women and 1 in 2 men will be diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85.

INFLAMMATION

Inflammation is the body's natural response to protect itself against harm. There are two types: acute and chronic.

1 in 9 Australians have asthma, around 2.5 million people.

CARDIOVASCULAR

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) is a collective term for diseases of the heart and blood vessels.

Almost 1 in 3 deaths in Australia in 2015 were due to cardiovascular disease.

Together we are the solution...together we can save lives.



Ask Patrick a question here <https://www.centenary.org.au/meet-dr-patrick-bertolino/>