

# DONATION FORM – “Childhood Cancer Association ALL Project ”

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- Credit Card via [www.givenow.com.au/kadcfchildhoodcancer](http://www.givenow.com.au/kadcfchildhoodcancer).

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Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation (ABN 68 395 086 292)  
Secretary, 4 Atherton Close, Aspendale Gardens Vic 3195  
Kiwanis Australia District Inc (Reg. No. A0043731W)



**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>  
Australia District Charitable Foundation



**childhood  
cancer**



## ALL Project

Improving outcomes for our children  
with

**Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL)**

The largest cause of non traumatic  
death of children under 18 years



## Overview

The Childhood Cancer Association and SAHMRI (South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute), are working together to unite researchers and families in the fight against **Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL)**.

This partnership helps to better inform current research practices and support services available for cancer patients.

## The Project

The aim of this research is to improve the outcomes for patients with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (**ALL**), the vast majority of whom are very young (<5 years of age).

In addition, the group provides genomic information for all **ALL** patients to:

- ◆ **Improve disease understanding.**
- ◆ **Improve treatment approaches.**
- ◆ **Improve survival and quality of life.**

## Background

**ALL** is a cancer that affects the blood and bone marrow.

**ALL** treatments include intense chemotherapy, radiation therapy, transplantation and irradiation.

More than 400 people are diagnosed with **ALL** each year in Australia and this is increasing; with ~80% being children.

**ALL** remains the leading cause of non-traumatic death in children in the western world.

Survivors are 5 times more likely to develop a second cancer.

## SAHMRI

Prof Deb White's **ALL** Research Group at SAHMRI is the **National Referral Centre for Genomic Screening** of **ALL** cases across all age groups.

The **ALL** research group screen genomic information from **ALL** patients to identify the genes that drive **ALL**.

Some of these genes may be targeted by drugs designed for other diseases with similar genomic changes.

The group is also studying the effect of therapy on a patient's immune system and microbiome (gut bacteria) to maximise treatment effect and minimise or reverse long lasting effects caused by current **ALL** therapies.

## Cost

The group has performed sequencing and other analyses (ie drug sensitivity testing) on more than 600 patients over the last 5 years.

Analyses of samples from patients cost >\$1000/sample, excluding labour.

This testing is supported by Grants from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) / Beat Cancer SA / Leukaemia Foundation Australia and generous philanthropic donations.

The cost of sequencing the microbiome samples is ~\$300-\$500/sample.

There is no Medicare rebate available for any of this testing and patients are not charged for these analyses.

Prof White and her team have to constantly seek funding from donors in order to provide this life changing work for the vulnerable young, relying heavily on philanthropic groups.

## Future

The approach taken at SAHMRI is based on a model for the provision of Precision or Personalised Medicine.

Therapies will be tailored for each patient, rather than one therapy for all (which may be either ineffective or seriously toxic) to improve the outlook for **ALL** patients.



**THE ULTIMATE AIM IS FOR EACH PATIENT TO BE TREATED, BASED ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL DISEASE TO ENSURE IMPROVED SURVIVAL AND THE BEST LONG TERM QUALITY OF LIFE.**

## **Kiwanis in Australia**

- Australia became the 22nd country in the world to embrace Kiwanis in October 1967
- Today Kiwanis undertake a variety of community projects throughout Australia and a listing of Clubs can be found at [www.Kiwanis.org.au](http://www.Kiwanis.org.au)
- Nationally Kiwanis supports:
- Childhood Cancer Research into Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (**ALL**)
- HeartKids Australia 'Grants-in-Aid' Program.
- Children First Foundation.
- Kiwanis International and UNICEF have joined forces to Eliminate Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus worldwide.

## **Kiwanis Australia Foundation**

The Kiwanis Australia District Charitable Foundation is:

- A company limited by guarantee and is a public ancillary fund.
- Endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a 'Discretionary Investment Trust' that is an income tax exempt fund and a Deductible Gift Recipient.
- Registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission and the Australian Securities and Investment Commission.

100% of donations will be distributed to Childhood Cancer Association in support of SAHMRI **ALL** Project a Kiwanis Australia District Program.