

# ANNUAL REPORT

20  
23



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At the Telethon Kids Institute, our vision is simple – **happy healthy kids.**

We bring together community, researchers, practitioners, policymakers and funders, who share our mission to improve the health, development and lives of children and young people through excellence in research.

Importantly, we want knowledge applied so it makes a difference.

Find out more at [telethonkids.org.au](https://telethonkids.org.au)

Telethon Kids Institute acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters of Australia. We also acknowledge the Nyoongar Wadjuk, Yawuru, Kariyarra and Kurna Elders, their people and their land upon which the Institute is located and seek their wisdom in our work to improve the health and development of all children.

Cover image: Zoe Li, aged six years, is a survivor of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL)

# CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOREWORD

HON JULIE BISHOP (CHAIR) & PROFESSOR JONATHAN CARAPETIS (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)



As we submit this annual report, Telethon Kids Institute is entering a period of transition and transformation. Three decades since our founders had the vision to create a world-leading child health research centre in Western Australia, our scientists are facing higher expectations to deliver game-changing health impacts, under greater funding pressure than ever. But as you will see outlined in this report, we continue to produce extraordinary scientific advances and outcomes that are changing the lives of children in Western Australia and beyond.

At Telethon Kids Institute, we remain committed to ensuring that our research is at the cutting edge, and where possible is translated into action and policy. The strong foundations we have built over more than three decades, including our exemplary scientists and support staff, along with our shared desire to make

a difference, means that Telethon Kids Institute is well placed to meet the current challenges facing the whole research sector and to charter an exciting future with even greater impact.

In late 2023 we announced the intention to rebrand. This was a mutual decision between the Channel 7 Telethon Trust (Telethon), the Institute, and Telethon Speech and Hearing. It reflects the fact that the three organisations are separate legal entities, with their own governance, structures and distinct missions.

The Institute will, of course, remain a major beneficiary of Telethon, which over five decades has generously donated more than \$605 million to Western Australian organisations to ensure a better life for our children now and in the future. Telethon will always be a strong and committed partner of our child health research.

Coinciding with our rebrand is the development of our new strategic plan. In this we are presented with an excellent opportunity to set ambitious, long-term goals and think about the big, bold ideas and health challenges that we want to tackle as we embark on the Institute's next defining period.

It is a unique and exciting opportunity to take stock of where we have come from and look forward to a future where we are willing to back our brightest minds and dedicate ourselves to delivering transformational health impacts.

## Research with impact

In 2023 we continued to set the bar high with exciting and impactful research. Our Vaccine Trials Group was involved in two pivotal clinical trials in collaboration with Perth Children's Hospital, ultimately leading to a national-first RSV immunisation program being rolled out for babies under eight months old in Western Australia.

Our Cancer Team led a pilot clinical study which found an immunotherapy drug can dramatically increase survival rates for babies with a rare form of leukaemia, paving the way for a major international trial. And newly published research from the Institute and The University of Western Australia found an immunotherapy gel applied during surgery to treat sarcoma tumours was both safe and highly effective in preventing the cancer recurring.

In July we celebrated the formation of a national alliance of the brightest minds in genomic science, academia, policy makers, industry and Indigenous leaders to break down barriers to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people benefit from advances in genomic medicine. Telethon Kids is one of 30 partners

committed to delivering the benefits of genomic medicine to all Australians. A unique partnership between the Institute, BHP and Aboriginal service providers in Perth and WA's north-west is delivering extraordinary results directly where it's needed. The Journey Together Initiative in Port Hedland, Newman and Perth is embedding research into service delivery through pre and post-natal care, supporting families with high needs, and developing a new paediatric and child development model of clinical care. The data derived from this work will help to update the ground-breaking WA Aboriginal Child Health Survey and provide an unprecedented level of understanding about the needs of these families.

Telethon Kids researchers have also been at the forefront of the global race to fight superbugs responsible for antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections. Mobilised by a need to help children with chronic lung conditions fight these infections, our scientists are using so-called 'friendly' bacteriophages to combat anti-microbial resistance.

## People power

After we implemented our People Review, 2023 provided the opportunity for the Institute to embed our shared values across everything we do in our research and our work.

The Institute Way, our new behavioural framework, was developed through a series of culture workshops which identified the core behaviours that bring our values to life.

These workshops illustrated that we are an organisation of world-class researchers and support staff, all of whom are committed to maintaining the highest levels of excellence.

Relentlessly curious, we demand this of ourselves and of each other.

The pillars of our framework are achieving excellence, challenging ourselves and supporting one another to do this; acting with honesty, fairness and respect and building trust by honouring our word; enabling the growth and development of ourselves and others; and building a supportive and inclusive environment and fostering strong partnerships.

Throughout 2023 this framework has been incorporated into every element of our daily work, through our onboarding of new staff, our policies and procedures, our promotions process and our reward and recognition process.

During the year we were pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Melissa Penny as the inaugural Fiona Stanley Chair of Child Health Research and Professor Aleksandra Filipovska as the inaugural Louis Landau Chair of Child Health Research. These two new roles pay homage to Professors Stanley and Landau's life-long commitment to the Institute and their pivotal role in its founding.

Professor Penny is a leading researcher in malaria and infectious diseases, using mathematical models to guide drug and vaccine development, to inform prevention, treatment and health policy for vulnerable populations.

Professor Filipovska is an internationally renowned genetic disease researcher



who leads a team examining ways to better understand and treat mitochondrial diseases – a group of rare but debilitating and potentially fatal disorders.

In 2023 South Australian Premier Peter Malinauskas officially opened our office in Adelaide. The event helped to cement the Institute's presence in South Australia, where our researchers are working on breakthroughs in Indigenous genomic medicine and where our early development team is based.

### Financial sustainability

A focus of the Institute's new Strategic Plan is financial sustainability as we navigate the economic, legislative and compliance challenges impeding our research.

In 2023 we have posted a second consecutive budget deficit of \$2.4 million, which represented an improvement on forecast after operational spending restraints implemented across the Institute.

These constraints will continue to be applied as we navigate an environment where we are seeing contributions to infrastructure costs tighten. We have a strong investment portfolio designed to provide the Institute with financial security.

To succeed it is critical that we are smarter and more efficient with our funding, to ensure every dollar we raise is maximised to support great research that has impact and to focus on the work of our

early to mid-career researchers. In order to succeed it is critical that we become smarter and more efficient with our funding, to ensure every dollar we raise is maximised to support great research that has impact, and to focus on the work of our early to mid-career researchers.

### Enduring partnerships

Our partnerships – and the organisations and people behind them who help to make our work possible – are among the Institute's major strengths.

In 2023 we celebrated a decade of support from Wesfarmers Ltd. This investment from Wesfarmers has enabled the Wesfarmers Centre of Vaccines and Infectious Diseases to secure a further \$119 million in competitive research funds and establish the Centre as a national leader in paediatric infectious disease and vaccine research.

We also acknowledge with pride our relationship with Western Australia's Channel 7 Telethon, whose support over the course of 30 years has led directly to ground-breaking research into childhood cancer, funded research which has led to new therapies for ear infections - a major cause of childhood hearing loss - and funded pivotal trials contributing to the licensing of more than 10 childhood vaccines. While from mid-2024 we will no longer bear the Telethon name, our strong association with the beloved WA fundraiser is indelible.

In 2024 we will recognise three decades of incredible support from the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation. The Foundation has helped to fund both people and platforms to build research capacity at Telethon Kids and has led to directly to initiatives which

are preventing ear infections in Aboriginal children and helping kids manage living with type 1 diabetes.

Our community is at the heart of everything we do and we would not be able to achieve the outcomes we have without the support and strength of our volunteers, community reference group members, trial participants, corporate partners and many, many supporters who share our mission to be a research institute that makes a real difference to our community.

We would also like thank our Board of Directors and members of our Sub-Committees who volunteer their time, expertise and guidance to the Institute. Their support has been invaluable as we continue to work through financial challenges while keeping our focus on finding answers to some of the most debilitating and chronic conditions that impact children.

Finally, thank you to everyone who supports the Institute in whatever way – big or small. Your contribution and support is so important to us as we continue to deliver on our vision for happy, healthy kids.

Hon Julie Bishop  
Chair

Professor Jonathan Carapetis AM  
Executive Director

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## Hon Julie Bishop, Chair

Chair of the Board, Telethon Kids Institute; Chair, Remuneration and Nomination Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Chair, Development Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Chancellor, Australian National University; Chair, King's Trust Australia; Trustee, The King's Trust Group Company; Former Member, Human Vaccines Project (resigned April 2023); Global Board of Advisors of the Council on Foreign Affairs; Director, Julie Bishop and Partners; Patron, Shooting Stars; Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the United Nations on Myanmar; Fisher Family Fellow, Harvard Kennedy School, Belfer Centre for Science and International Affairs; Kissinger Fellow, The McCain Institute of International Leadership, Arizona State University.



## Jonathan Carapetis AM

Executive Director, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Finance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Risk and Compliance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Development Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Chair, Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) WA; Chair, MRFF Childhood Mental Health Research Grant Assessment Committee; Member, GOALIE Trial Advisory Committee; Member, Innovation Advisory Group, The University of Western Australia; Member, Viertel Foundation Medical Advisory Board (MAB); Member, Advisory Board, Sydney Institute for Women, Children and their Families; Member, Board of Directors, Kimberley Aboriginal Health Research Alliance (KAHRA); Member, Executive Committee, Strep A Vaccine Consortium (SAVAC); Fellow, Australian Academy of Science; Fellow, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.



## Fiona Drummond

Chair, Finance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Remuneration and Nomination Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Managing Partner - Western Region and Assurance Partner, EY; Fellow, Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand; Fellow, Financial Services Institute of Australasia; Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors; Fellow, Leadership WA Program; Former Board Member, United Way WA.



## Jane Muirsmith

Chair, Risk and Compliance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Remuneration and Nomination Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Chair, HealthDirect Australia; Non-Executive Director, Australian Finance Group; Non-Executive Director, Cedar Woods Properties Limited; Fellow, UWA Business School Ambassadorial Council; Executive Director, Lenox Hill; Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors; Former President, Women's Advisory Council to the WA Government.



## Professor Jozef Gezc

Member, Risk and Compliance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Honorary Chair, Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation for the Prevention of Childhood Disability; Professor of Human Genetics, Adelaide Medical School, University of Adelaide; Fellow, Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences; Fellow, Australian Academy of Science; Founding Fellow, Faculty of Science of RCPA; Member, National Steering Committee, Australian Genomics Health Alliance; Member, Board of the European Society of Human Genetics; 2019 South Australian Scientist of the Year.



## Nicole O'Connor

Member, Commercialisation Committee; Telethon Kids Institute; Regional State Director (WA, SA, NT & TAS), ServiceNow (from August 2023); WA State Manager Public Sector, Amazon Web Services (concluded August 2023); Former Non-Executive Director, Remsense; Former Director of Research Services and Systems, Curtin University; Former General Manager Western Australia, SAP; Former Member, Advisory Board, School of Information Systems, Curtin University; Former Member, Fremantle Primary School Board; Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## Hon Ben Wyatt

Member, Finance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Non-Executive Director, Woodside; Non-Executive Director, Rio Tinto; Non-Executive Director, West Coast Eagles; Non-Executive Director, Perth International Arts Festival; Non-Executive Director, APM; Member, Advisory Committee, Australian Capital Equity; Former WA State Treasurer



## Ed Bostock

Chair, Commercialisation Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Member, Remuneration and Nomination Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Former Chairman, Wespine Industries Pty Ltd; Chief Financial Officer - Health, Wesfarmers Ltd; Former Managing Director Business Development, Wesfarmers Ltd.



## Professor Brendan Crabb AC

Member, Finance Committee, Telethon Kids Institute; Chair, Australian Global Health Alliance; Chair, Pacific Friends of Global Health; Member, Brain Cancer Research Advisory Committee; Member (former Chair), Victorian Chapter, Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) Pty Ltd; Member, Board, Institute for Health Transformation; Member, Alfred Research Alliance; Member, Victorian Government Medical Research Strategic Advisory Committee; Member, mRNA Victoria Scientific Advisory Board; Member, WHO Malaria Vaccine Advisory Committee (MALVAC); Member, Advisory Board, Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC), Victoria; Member, Scientific Advisory Board, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, UK; Adjunct Professor, The University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, Monash University; Fellow, Australian Academy of Science; Chair, Sectional Committee 9 Molecular and Cell Biology and Human Genetics, Australian Academy of Science; Director and CEO, Burnet Institute.

# ORGANISATIONAL CHART



# SCIENCE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Science Leadership Committee oversees the strategic direction of the science and research undertaken at Telethon Kids Institute. It is the primary decision-making body for the organisation's science and research.

Pictured (L-R): A/Prof Glenn Pearson, Prof Liz Davis, Prof Catherine Elliott, Prof Jane Pillow, Prof Ben Jackson.



# EXECUTIVE



**Professor Jonathan Carapetis**  
**Executive Director**

Professor Carapetis is the Executive Director of the Telethon Kids Institute. He is also an infectious diseases consultant physician at Perth Children's Hospital and a Professor at The University of Western Australia. He holds qualifications as a medical practitioner (MBBS), specialist paediatrician (FRACP Paediatrics), specialist infectious diseases physician (FRACP Infect Dis), and specialist public health physician (FAFPHM).



**Professor Catherine Elliott**  
**Deputy Director; Director of Research**

Professor Elliott commenced as the Director of Research at the Telethon Kids Institute in 2020. Her leadership role brings people together to work collaboratively to elevate our research excellence to improve the health and development of children. Prior to starting at the Institute she was the Professorial Chair of Allied Health and Kids Rehab at Curtin University and the Child and Adolescent Health Service.



**Associate Professor Glenn Pearson**  
**Director of First Nations Strategy & Leadership**

Associate Professor Glenn Pearson is a Nyoongar man and the Director of First Nations Strategy and Leadership at the Telethon Kids Institute, which is located on Nyoongar Whadjuk boodjar. A member of the Executive Team, his position leads the implementation of the Institute's Commitment to Aboriginal Children and Families (2020-2023) Statement. A trained primary school teacher, he has 15 years of experience in senior positions within the Australian and State Governments.



**Adam Maxwell**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

Adam Maxwell was appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Telethon Kids Institute in early 2023 following a seven-year tenure in the same role at Rocky Bay Limited, one of Western Australia's leading disability service providers. His ability to assist organisations through change is extensive and he was instrumental in helping relevant stakeholders to navigate through the once-in-a-lifetime revolutionary change that the National Disability Insurance Scheme has brought about.



**Colin Smith**  
**Chief Operating Officer (until April 2024)**

Colin Smith joined Telethon Kids Institute in 2023 from State energy body, Synergy. During his twelve-year tenure at Synergy, Colin maintained several roles including General Manager Customer Experience and Manager Corporate Strategy Implementation. He led the rollout of several community programs specifically focusing on supporting vulnerable customers, including Synergy's Family Violence program.



**Elizabeth Chester**  
**Director of Partnerships & Engagement**

Developing and deepening relationships with community, donors and funders, policy makers and practitioners is core to increasing the impact and sustainability of our research at Telethon Kids. Elizabeth has responsibility for the fundraising and philanthropy, communications, marketing, government and community engagement functions at the Institute, as well as the support functions for Indigenous research. A journalist by profession, she has worked with the Institute for more than 20 years using her extensive experience in media, advocacy and stakeholder relations.

# 2023 AT A GLANCE

## OUR WORK

Submitted  
**366**  
grant applications



Awarded more than  
**\$70.5 million**  
research funding



Researchers received

**\$4.78m**

from the **WA Child Health Research Fund**



**35**  
clinical trials



**69**  
non-clinical trials



Our researchers contributed to  
**645** publications

**6**  
Invention Disclosures lodged



**1**  
Patent Cooperation Treaty



We partnered with  
**289**  
national and international organisations



Our researchers were involved in  
**278**  
external decision making and advisory groups around Australia and the world

## OUR REACH

Travelled more than  
**20,902 kms**  
taking science to WA schools



**7,082**  
students at our workshops

**78 schools**  
benefited from our Outreach Program



Reached more than  
**4.7 million**  
people through social media channels



**148,226**  
unique users read about our research on our website



## OUR PEOPLE



**825**  
Staff



**196**  
Students



# RESEARCH THEMES

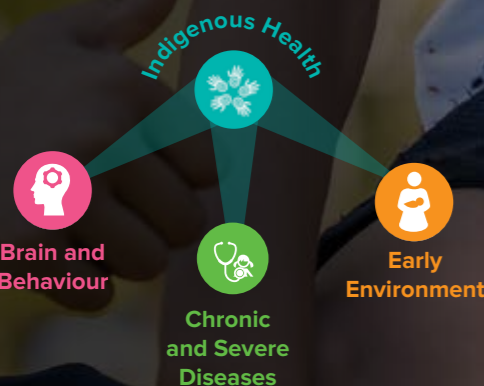
We are searching for answers to some of the most debilitating and chronic conditions that affect children. Our four research themes are Indigenous Health, Brain and Behaviour, Chronic and Severe Diseases, and Early Environment.

**Indigenous Health** is an overarching theme which is embedded across all of our research. Improving the health and wellbeing of Indigenous children and families is a priority of the Institute.

**Brain and Behaviour** focuses on the core of many issues impacting the ongoing health and wellbeing of children and young people. Our research investigates the developmental, genetic, family and environmental determinants of child wellbeing and how clinical, educational and community practices can provide every child with the best opportunity for optimal health and development.

Childhood cancers, diabetes, respiratory conditions and rare diseases can be debilitating and life threatening. Our **Chronic and Severe Diseases** research them, interrogates effective intervention and prevention to understand the complex interactions between genetic and environmental factors, as well as better ways of diagnosing, treating and controlling disease.

**Early Environment** is our research theme which focuses on the ways that environments early in life can affect a child's life-long health and development. Factors ranging from infection and climatic conditions to pollutants, housing and our complex microbiome all have an impact. Understanding these exposures and their impact on early growth and development is key to preventing and treating a number of common childhood conditions.



## INDIGENOUS HEALTH

**Head: Glenn Pearson**

Indigenous Health is an overarching research theme at Telethon Kids in recognition of the priority we place in addressing the ongoing disparity in outcomes for Aboriginal children compared with other Australian kids. It is embedded across every theme, with all research expected to be inclusive in considering the specific cultural, social and economic contexts of Aboriginal families and children. We set high standards for the conduct of Aboriginal health research and are committed working in genuine partnership with community, and responding to their priorities.



**The Australian Alliance for Indigenous Genomics (ALIGN)** was formed to ensure Indigenous Australians are considered and included in the application of genomic medicine – where information from DNA is used to better inform patient risk, diagnosis and care. Supported by **Telethon Kids Institute, the Australian National University and 28 other key partners**, ALIGN will be governed by an Indigenous Council to ensure every 'gift' of DNA provided by Indigenous Australians is treated with respect.



**Rebecca Famlonga**, a proud Wadawurrung woman, Senior Research Officer with Telethon Kids Institute and Research Masters student with Murdoch University, was named **Aboriginal STEM Student of the Year** at the Premier's Science Awards.



**Telethon Kids Institute and Australian National University Professor of Indigenous Genomics, Professor Alex Brown**, has become the **first Indigenous member** of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) Board.

We kick-started the development of our **Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)** with the establishment of a **RAP Working Group**. The development of our RAP reflects the commitment we've made at Telethon Kids to **prioritise our partnerships with Aboriginal families and communities to improve the health and development of Aboriginal children**.



Telethon Kids Institute's **Glenn Pearson and Slade Sibosado** joined the **Expert Committee on Aboriginal Health** to inform WA's Future Health Research and Innovation Fund and ensure that programs and initiatives supported by the Fund are **best placed to achieve positive outcomes for Aboriginal people in WA**.





# BRAIN AND BEHAVIOUR

**Head:** Ben Jackson  
**Deputy Head:** Tolu Okitika

## CHILD HEALTH ANALYTICS PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Peter Gething

- ▶ **GEOSPATIAL AND TUBERCULOSIS:** Kefyalew Alene
- ▶ **GEOSPATIAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT:** Peter Gething
- ▶ **INFECTIOUS DISEASE ECOLOGY AND MODELLING:** Nicholas Golding

## DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Jenny Downs

- ▶ **AUTISM RESEARCH:** Andrew Whitehouse
- ▶ **CHILD DISABILITY:** Jenny Downs
- ▶ **EARLY NEURODEVELOPMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH:** Amy Finlay-Jones

## HEALTHY BEHAVIOURS AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Hayley Christian

- ▶ **CHILD PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT:** Hayley Christian
- ▶ **PSYCHOLOGY OF ACTIVE, HEALTHY LIVING:** Ben Jackson

## MENTAL HEALTH AND YOUTH PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Yael Perry

- ▶ **ABORIGINAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING:** Brad Farrant, Carol Michie
- ▶ **HEALING KIDS, HEALING FAMILIES:** Jeneva Ohan
- ▶ **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH:** Yael Perry

## POPULATION HEALTH PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Francis Mitrou

- ▶ **ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING:** Peter Azzopardi
- ▶ **EARLY YEARS SYSTEMS EVIDENCE:** Yasmin Harman-Smith
- ▶ **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY WELLBEING:** Francis Mitrou

**CliniKids** – Telethon Kids Institute’s first stand-alone clinical service – won the **Excellence in Allied Health** category at the inaugural National Disability Awards, which promote high-quality, sustainable disability services, while celebrating the achievements of disability service providers and their staff who demonstrate excellence and commitment to supporting people with disability.



**The Malaria Atlas Project (MAP)** – based at Telethon Kids Institute and Curtin University – was awarded **\$16 Million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**, a portion of which will go to establishing a new MAP Node in the East African region.



Dr Yael Perry received a **Telstra Health 2023 Brilliant Women in Digital Health Award** in recognition of her innovative use of technology to achieve positive mental health outcomes for marginalised young people.

A team led by researchers from Telethon Kids Institute and Curtin University conducted the **first global review of the effectiveness of current strategies to fight tuberculosis** – the leading infectious cause of death globally – and found **preventive therapy is the most effective intervention strategy.**



Baby in Guinea Bissau receiving vaccination. Credit: Sofia Busk



Professor Andrew Whitehouse was named **2023 Western Australian of the Year** in the HBF Professions category for his leading autism research and science communication initiatives.

Prominent consultant psychiatrist, Telethon Kids researcher and Western Australia’s 2021 Australian of the Year, **Professor Helen Milroy AM**, was recognised as a **Member of the Order of Australia**

(General Division) in the Australia Day Honours List.



The **Transforming Families website** was launched, offering resources and guidance to parents, friends and carers of gender diverse children and young people to **better understand and help their loved ones.**





# CHRONIC AND SEVERE DISEASES

**Head:** Elizabeth Davis  
**Deputy Head:** Vacant

## CANCER PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Joost Lesterhuis

- ▶ **BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH:** Raelene Endersby, Nick Gottardo
- ▶ **LEUKAEMIA TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH:** Rishi Kotecha, Laurence Cheung
- ▶ **SARCOMA TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH:** Joost Lesterhuis
- ▶ **TRANSLATIONAL GENOMICS IN LEUKAEMIA:** Sébastien Malinge

## DIABETES, METABOLISM AND CLINICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Jane Valentine

- ▶ **DIABETES AND OBESITY RESEARCH:** Tim Jones, Elizabeth Davis
- ▶ **KIDS REHAB RESEARCH WA:** Jane Valentine, Ashleigh Thornton

## PERIOPERATIVE CARE PROGRAM

**HEADS:** Britta Regli-von Ungern-Sternberg & Fiona Wood

- ▶ **PAEDIATRIC BURN CARE:** Fiona Wood
- ▶ **PERIOPERATIVE MEDICINE:** Britta Regli-von Ungern-Sternberg

## PRECISION HEALTH PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Timo Lassmann

- ▶ **COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY:** Timo Lassmann
- ▶ **INDIGENOUS GENOMICS:** Alex Brown
- ▶ **MITOCHONDRIAL MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY:** Aleksandra Filipovska
- ▶ **TRANSLATIONAL GENETICS:** Vanessa Fear

## RESPIRATORY HEALTH PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Andre Schultz

- ▶ **AIRWAY EPITHELIAL RESEARCH:** Anthony Kicic
- ▶ **BREATH TEAM (BUILDING RESPIRATORY EQUITY FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH):** Andre Schultz
- ▶ **CHILDREN'S LUNG HEALTH:** Shannon Simpson, Kathryn Ramsey
- ▶ **CHILDREN'S RESPIRATORY SCIENCE:** Ingrid Laing
- ▶ **P4 RESPIRATORY HEALTH FOR KIDS:** Stephen Stick
- ▶ **RESPIRATORY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:** Alexander Larcombe



**Dr Timo Lassmann** received Google's Open Source Peer Award for his work on Kalign, an algorithm he developed 23 years ago as a first-year PhD student. Kalign, now freely accessible

to scientists everywhere, has since helped build a breakthrough artificial intelligence method used to accurately predict the shape of thousands of proteins.

Cancer researchers found that an immunotherapy gel applied during surgery to treat sarcoma tumours was both **safe and highly effective at preventing the cancer from growing back**, with the findings underpinning a trial under way to test the feasibility and safety of the gel on pet dogs.



**Professor Aleksandra Filipovska** was appointed the inaugural **Louis Landau Chair of Child Health Research** by Telethon Kids and The University of Western Australia.

**Professor Britta Regli-von Ungern-Sternberg** was named joint winner of Mid-Career Scientist of the Year at the Premier's Science Awards and elected as a **Fellow to the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences**.



**PhD student Denby Evans** was named **Student Scientist of the Year** at the Premier's Science Awards in recognition of her ongoing research into the lung health of babies who are born early.



A pilot clinical study led in Australia by **Dr Rishi Kotecha** — a Telethon Kids Institute and Perth Children's Hospital researcher — found an immunotherapy drug can dramatically increase survival rates for babies with a rare form of leukaemia, paving the way for a major international clinical trial.





## EARLY ENVIRONMENT

**Head:** Jane Pillow  
**Deputy Head:** Vacant

### EARLY LIFE & LIFE-COURSE HEALTH PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Debbie Palmer

- ▶ **CHRONOBIOLOGY:** Jane Pillow
- ▶ **CLINICAL EPIGENETICS:** David Martino
- ▶ **NEONATAL HEALTH:** Tobias Strunk
- ▶ **NUTRITION IN EARLY LIFE:** Debbie Palmer
- ▶ **ORIGINS PROJECT:** Desiree Silva, Jackie Davis

### END RHD PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Glenn Pearson

- ▶ **HEALTHY SKIN AND ARF PREVENTION:** Asha Bowen
- ▶ **STREP A & ARF THERAPEUTICS:** Laurens Manning
- ▶ **STREP A TRANSLATION:** Jonathan Carapetis, Glenn Pearson
- ▶ **STREP A PATHOGENESIS & DIAGNOSTICS:** Timothy Barnett
- ▶ **STREP A VACCINES:** Alma Fulurija

### IMMUNOBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOTHERAPEUTIC

**HEAD:** Deborah Strickland

- ▶ **EARLY LIFE MICROBIAL IMMUNOLOGY:** Archita Mishra
- ▶ **IMMUNOLOGY AND BREAST FEEDING:** Valerie Verhasselt
- ▶ **INFLAMMATION:** Prue Hart
- ▶ **PREGNANCY AND EARLY LIFE IMMUNOLOGY:** Deborah Strickland

### INFECTION AND VACCINES PROGRAM

**HEAD:** Hannah Moore

- ▶ **BACTERIAL RESPIRATORY INFECTIOUS DISEASE GROUP:** Lea-Ann Kirkham, Ruth Thornton
- ▶ **EAR HEALTH:** Chris Brennan-Jones
- ▶ **INFECTIOUS DISEASES EPIDEMIOLOGY:** Hannah Moore, Chris Blyth
- ▶ **INFECTIOUS DISEASE IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH:** Tom Snelling
- ▶ **INTERVENTION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE MODELLING:** Melissa Penny
- ▶ **VACCINE TRIALS GROUP:** Peter Richmond



**Mrs Catherine Hughes**, a consumer advocate who holds multiple consumer advisory roles at Telethon Kids Institute including Chair of the Vaccines and Infectious Diseases Advisory Group, was a **finalist for the Research Australia 2023 Health and Medical Research Awards Advocacy Award** for her tireless advocacy around immunisation, particularly whooping cough.



A world-leading international trial examining the **immune-boosting benefits of the tuberculosis vaccine, BCG**, found it does not protect healthcare workers against COVID-19. The **BRACE trial** tested whether the BCG vaccine could protect healthcare workers against SARS-CoV-2 in the first six months after vaccination. It found it didn't reduce the risk of developing COVID-19 among those on the pandemic frontline.



Telethon Kids Institute researchers are involved in a **global study investigating if a world-first nasal spray vaccine can provide superior protection against whooping cough** by preventing the bacteria from causing an infection in the first place and therefore halting the spread to vulnerable young babies.



A world-first study found a new vaccine against potentially deadly respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) was safe and effective for use in pregnant women to **help protect their babies from RSV**, one of the leading causes of hospitalisation for babies globally.



**Professor Melissa Penny** was appointed the inaugural **Fiona Stanley Chair of Child Health Research** by Telethon Kids and The University of Western Australia.

## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



### Telethon Kids research behind RSV immunisation program

**Clinical trials and epidemiology data analysis undertaken by Telethon Kids Institute in collaboration with Perth Children's Hospital have helped pave the way for a national-first Respiratory Syncytial Virus immunisation program in Western Australia.**

The Western Australian Government announced a \$11 million immunisation program to tackle RSV, which is responsible for significant infant hospitalisations every winter. Every baby aged eight months and under will be eligible for the program.

Professor Chris Blyth, Centre Head of the Wesfarmers Centre of Vaccines and Infectious Diseases at the Institute, and a PCH paediatrician, said the investment was a giant leap forward to prevent a virus that caused havoc for children and families during peak RSV season, typically May to September.

**"I think as a State, Western Australia can look forward to healthier babies over winter and realise significant health care savings with decreased public health pressure," Professor Blyth said.**

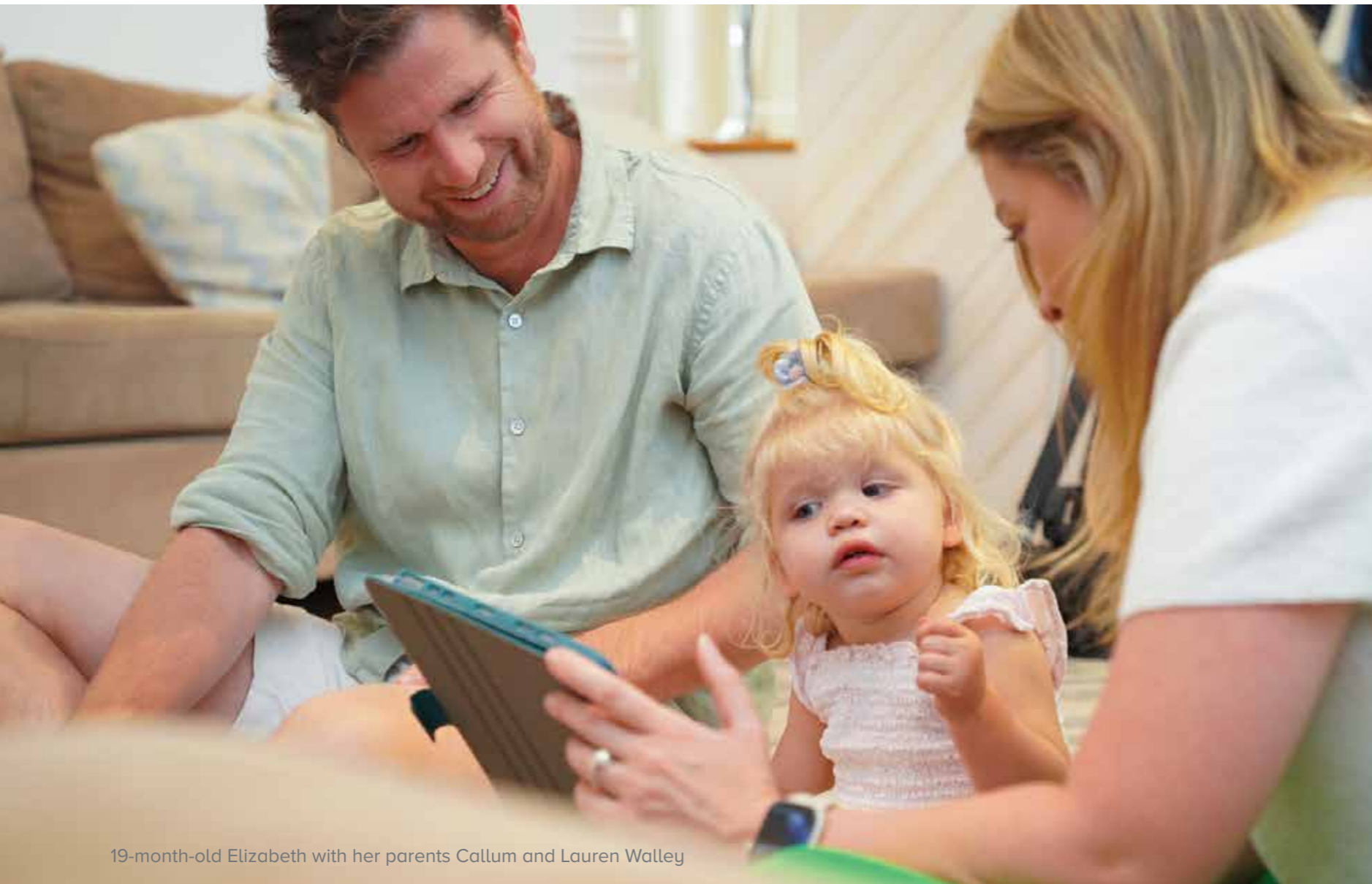
The long-acting monoclonal antibody treatment Nirsevimab, which was approved by the Therapeutic Goods Association in 2023, has shown to be 80 per cent effective at preventing RSV-related hospitalisations.

Telethon Kids researchers were involved in two pivotal clinical trials testing the effectiveness of Nirsevimab in pre-term and full-term babies, leading to licensure and roll-out in Europe and North America, with significant positive impact.

Epidemiologist, Associate Professor Hannah Moore, has dedicated the past two decades to better understanding the burden of RSV. Her population-based data research has addressed critical questions around the burden, risk factors and seasonal patterns of infectious diseases in children and vulnerable communities. This research has provided evidence for governments, clinicians and others to guide effective vaccine policies and public health interventions.

With further research being undertaken in the infection prevention space, it is hoped that a number of drugs and vaccines will be available in the future to tackle RSV, for all age groups.

## Study shows screen time is replacing vital language opportunities



19-month-old Elizabeth with her parents Callum and Lauren Walley

**A first-of-its kind study has found that for every minute of screen time toddlers are exposed to at home, they hear fewer adult words, make fewer vocalisations and engage in fewer back-and-forth conversations with their parents.**

The research, led by Telethon Kids Institute Senior Research Officer Dr Mary Brushe, saw researchers track 220 Australian families over a two-and-a-half-year period to measure the relationship between family screen use and children's language environment.

The study – part of Dr Brushe's PhD with the University of Adelaide – saw researchers use Fitbit-like devices to measure the amount of electronic noise and parent-child talk surrounding children aged between 12 and 36 months. This included noise generated by screens viewed by the parent and/or child.

Worn at home by children for 16-hour periods at multiple points in time (when the children were aged 12, 18, 24, 30 and 36 months), the device used LENA speech recognition technology to reveal the number of adult words, child vocalisations and parent-child interactions that occurred during the recorded period.

In all, researchers coded more than 7,000 hours of audio to calculate the amount of screen time children were exposed to as opposed to other electronic noises.

"We wanted to understand how much screen time children were exposed to during the early years and whether that interfered with the amount of language these kids heard and spoke in their home," Dr Brushe said.

"We know the amount of talk and interaction children experience is critical for their early language development – this study highlights that screen time may be getting in the way of that."

The findings – published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Pediatrics* – showed the more screen time children were exposed to, the less parent-child interaction they experienced during the critical early years.

"Our findings support the notion of 'technoference' as a real issue for Australian families, whereby young children's exposure to screen time is interfering with opportunities to talk and interact in their home environment," Dr Brushe said.

**"The results were most profound when children reached three years of age. Just one minute of screen time was associated with seven fewer adult words, five fewer child vocalisations and one less back-and-forth interaction."**



Dr Mary Brushe

Dr Brushe said the findings suggest children whose families follow current World Health Organization screen time guidelines – one hour a day for children aged 36 months – could be missing out on up to 397 adult words, 294 vocalisations, and 68 conversational turns every day.

"We know, however – both from our own data and from international estimates – that children on average are exceeding these guidelines," she said.

"Based on the actual average daily screen time for children in this study at 36 months – 172 minutes, or just under three hours – they could in fact be missing out on up to 1,139 adult words, 843 vocalisations and 194 conversational turns per day."

Families who took part in the study did not know at the time of recording that screen time was going to be measured. This analysis was done retrospectively, after parents' consent was sought.

"This meant we ended up with a more realistic view of young children's screen exposure because parents were not subconsciously altering their normal habits," Dr Brushe said.

**The study, *Screen time and parent-child talk when children are aged 12 to 36 months*, was a collaboration with the University of Adelaide, the University of Oxford, and the Menzies Health Institute at Griffith University.**

## Virtual insight into most serious public health issues

Data-driven research at Telethon Kids Institute is helping to understand and solve the most serious public health problems.

Drawing on immense sources of information, researchers have built Virtual WA – a digital replica of Western Australia – using neighbourhood spatial modelling with data including population characteristics, demographics, connections to public transport, schools, GP clinics, hospitals and workplaces.

Professor in Epidemiology Professor Pete Gething – who is Kerry M Stokes Chair in Child Health Research at Telethon Kids Institute and Curtin University – said the platform will be used to ask real-world questions to stem the tide of poor health in the most vulnerable members of our community.

“We can ask and answer questions such as, where do children with asthma live and what is the role of air quality? Do areas with high suicide rates have easy access to mental health services? Can kids more easily walk to school and would this help combat rising child obesity?”

“This information will help to inform policy and research to address these challenges to the health of our kids” Professor Gething said.

In WA, of our 620,000 children and young people, one in ten have asthma, three in ten are considered obese, 2,600 have type 1 diabetes and 20 per cent have a developmental delay when they start school. We also know suicide is the leading cause of death in children, and in the past decade self-harm hospitalisation of young girls aged 14 years and younger has trebled. For girls aged between 15 and 19 years it has doubled.

Professor Gething said the work on Virtual WA, co-developed by Associate Professor Ewan Cameron, was built on the game-changing research developed by his team over the past 18 years to tackle one of the world’s deadliest diseases: malaria.

“We have used geospatial modelling to map the prevalence of malaria in some of the world’s poorest countries, and developed the world’s largest database of malaria prevalence, incidence, mortality and interventions across Africa.

“By building a huge toolbox of new analytical approaches, we’ve been successful in bringing these complex data together and answering the questions that policy makers needed to answer.



Professor Pete Gething



Modelling epidemic patterns. Fine-grained simulation outputs can be generated with the COVID-19 modelling work. This graphic shows an example for the spatial pattern of the final Omicron outbreak size in one of the hundreds of realisations generated by the simulation software for the Perth Metropolitan Area. These modelled patterns are compatible with non-spatial daily reported cases for Western Australia. *This image was generated using Location Information from Landgate.*

“We’ve engaged with those making the important decisions, helped determine public health activities and then tracked the outcome of their policy decisions based on our research. We know from our work that a simple action like enabling the use of bed nets at night has had enormous impact on the incidence of malaria in many parts of Africa.”

Professor Gething said the power of where and how geographical analysis can offer transformative insights for child health is significant.

“Globally, we are in the midst of a data revolution - with the volume and complexity of data being generated growing exponentially – and data on population health and wellbeing is no exception.”

“By viewing these data through a geographical lens – and harnessing the power of asking ‘where?’ – we have an unprecedented opportunity to use data and analytics to deliver the insights we need for improved policy and practice, to ensure a bright future for happy, healthy kids.”

**Virtual WA has been made possible thanks to support from the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation and the Channel 7 Telethon Trust.**

## New cell knowledge a boon for research into incurable diseases

**Researchers from Telethon Kids Institute and The University of Western Australia have developed a new technique to see inside cells with unprecedented detail, revealing a complicated web of interactions that provides new insights into how cells stay healthy.**

According to lead researcher Professor Aleksandra Filipovska, Lou Landau Chair in Child Health Research at Telethon Kids Institute and UWA, the knowledge gained could pave the way for new treatments for a range of currently incurable diseases – in particular, debilitating mitochondrial diseases which affect up to 1 in 5,000 babies born in Australia.

Much like our body needs organs to function, each of our cells has inner ‘organs’ called organelles. Within each cell, these organelles collaborate, with each performing specific functions: the mitochondria produce energy, the rough endoplasmic reticulum makes and folds proteins that are exported from the cell, the Golgi apparatus processes proteins and fats, and the peroxisome deals with the destruction of fats no longer needed by the cell.

Professor Filipovska said it was already well known that the structures and functions of organelles in cells depended on each other for cell health, however, until now these relationships had not been systematically explored.

To understand more about how their interactions influence cellular health, she and her team used advanced cellular biology techniques to visualise organelle structure and function in three dimensions. In a multi-year study detailed in the prestigious journal *Nature Cell Biology*, they used a powerful imaging technique – focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy – to watch what happens within cells deliberately engineered to harbour mutations that damage organelles.

**“We showed that if one of the organelle team members isn’t doing their job, it can cause trouble for the whole cell – and that has implications for how diseases may be understood and treated,” Professor Filipovska said.**

In particular, organelles rely on specific types of fats (ether-glycerophospholipids) to function properly. The study found that when certain genes related to these fats were turned off in cells, it caused problems in various organelles.

“These gene changes led to a decrease in specific fats in the cells, affecting the structure and function of mitochondria – the cell’s powerhouses,” Professor Filipovska said.

“Additionally, disrupted fats impacted how different organelles communicated and behaved. Certain cells, when lacking these fats, showed issues in their Golgi, a structure involved in processing fats. This led to changes that affected overall cell health.”

The study explored potential solutions and found that by providing the cells with specific fat-building blocks, they could partially fix the issues.

“Our work has identified that specific lipids can rescue the function of the powerhouses in the cell and improve their communication with the rest of the cell,” Professor Filipovska said.

“This finding has important implications for treatment of diseases caused by diminished energy supplies.”

Professor Filipovska said the study’s findings had the potential to make a huge difference to

clinicians’ ability to diagnose disease and could pave the way for therapies for mitochondrial diseases and other diseases caused by cellular mutations, which have lacked effective treatments until now.

This study was supported by the Channel 7 Telethon Trust and the McCusker Foundation and was a collaboration with a team of researchers including Professor Oliver Rackham from the Curtin Health Innovation Research Institute, Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research and Telethon Kids Institute.

The work is now set to be expanded into a full research program. Using a newly announced Investigator Grant – awarded to Professor Filipovska by the National Health and Medical Research Council – the team will build on the study’s findings to address the prolonged and complex diagnostic process for mitochondrial diseases and develop new treatments.

### About mitochondrial disease

Mitochondrial diseases – most often caused by mutations in mitochondrial DNA which deplete energy in the body – are progressive multi-system disorders that affect up to 1 in 5,000 live births. There are no cures and very limited treatments available, with patients mostly supported by measures including palliative surgeries or anti-epileptic drugs. The diseases can be debilitating and devastating, causing diminished growth, brain and nervous system failure, loss of hearing, motor function impairments, liver dysfunction and heart failure that require constant medical care and can result in premature death. Mitochondrial diseases most often affect young babies and children.



Professor Aleksandra Filipovska

## New drug boosts survival rates for babies with rare leukaemia

**A pilot clinical study, led in Australia by a Telethon Kids Institute and Perth Children's Hospital researcher, has found an immunotherapy drug can dramatically increase survival rates for babies with a rare form of leukaemia, paving the way for a major international clinical trial.**

The phase two study tested the safety and effectiveness of a drug called blinatumomab for the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) in infants diagnosed under 12 months of age.

The results, published in the prestigious *New England Medical Journal*, showed it was safe and feasible to administer blinatumomab to babies with ALL and, remarkably, also identified a strong signal for efficacy, with an almost 30% improvement in disease-free survival at two years from diagnosis – from 49.4% to 81.6%.

Associate Professor Rishi Kotecha, co-head of the Telethon Kids Institute's Leukaemia Translational Research team and consultant in clinical haematology and oncology at Perth Children's Hospital, said the small-scale pilot study involving 30 babies from around the world has significant global implications for the disease.

"Infant ALL constitutes a subgroup of childhood leukaemia which has really poor survival rates, significantly lower than many of the other forms of blood cancers we see in children.

**"The pilot study has shown a massive early improvement to survival, and it really shows that this strategy can have a real impact on the way we treat babies with ALL worldwide," he said.**

Findings from the pilot trial will now be expanded to test the drug in a larger cohort of babies in the upcoming global Interfant-21 trial. Thanks to further funding from the Medical Research Future Fund and The Kids' Cancer Project, the trial will involve all 10 of the tertiary paediatric cancer centres in Australia and New Zealand, including Perth Children's Hospital.



Associate Professor Rishi Kotecha

Associate Professor Kotecha said there had been very few improvements in survival rates for babies with ALL over the past 20 years, and the new trial was an exciting step forward.

**"Blinatumomab is an immunotherapy drug that links the immune system to destroy the leukaemia cells," Associate Professor Kotecha said.**

"What's exciting is that it doesn't have the toxic side effects we see from chemotherapy, which is known to kill healthy cells as well as cancer cells. This is what causes the horrendous side effects we associate with chemotherapy, and when we're treating very young babies it's particularly distressing.

The immunotherapy allows babies the chance to recover in between the chemotherapy cycles, while still attacking the cancer cells."

In the pilot trial, babies were still given conventional chemotherapy in addition to blinatumomab, but in the upcoming Interfant-21 trial, one of the chemotherapy treatment blocks will be completely replaced by the immunotherapy drug.

"The most distressing thing is seeing a newborn baby with this disease; for parents it's the worst scenario you can imagine," Associate Professor Kotecha said.

"With this treatment strategy, in addition to improving survival outcomes we're hoping that the babies will not only experience less short-term toxicity but fewer of the long-term side effects as well."

Recruitment of babies with ALL from Australia and New Zealand into the new clinical trial will begin in the third quarter of 2023.

Associate Professor Kotecha will continue in his role from Perth as the National Principal Investigator for the Interfant-21 trial, with continued support for centralised trial management and administration of funding from the Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology/Oncology Group, based at the Hudson Institute of Medical Research, Monash University.






THANK  
YOU

## PHILANTHROPIC SPECTRUM



What powers the work of our talented researchers every day is the community's support in helping us to achieve our mission. Our incredibly generous and passionate donors have been critically important in our success as one of Australia's leading child health research institutes. That success sees us deliver real-world impact to kids and families who need it most.

Each supporter's story is unique. Some people choose to support us through fundraising efforts coordinated by local schools or clubs. Some families choose to make a gift at the end of the tax year. A group of visionary supporters have joined our Fiona Stanley Circle by leaving a gift to the Institute in their Will to sustain our work for generations to come. We have partnered with Trusts, Foundations and corporations who support our research with multi-year commitments to fund transformational and world-leading work. Our staff are also a special part of fundraising and generously give through workplace giving, raising tens of thousands of dollars a year to champion the work of their colleagues, including grants to help early career researchers get vital funding at the beginning of their research career.



# OUR CHAMPIONS

## Maggie Dent — A LEGACY OF GRATITUDE



Much-loved parenting author and educator Maggie Dent is a proud mother of four sons and an enthusiastic and grateful grandmother to seven grandkids. She's always been a passionate, positive voice for children of all ages.

It's that strong sense of social conscience to help the vulnerable that led Maggie to a longstanding philanthropic relationship with Telethon Kids. She's witnessed first-hand the positive impact child health research has on communities.

"When I wrote my first book, I decided to donate some of the proceeds to this wonderful organisation and it's something that I've continued to support in any way I can, including a gift in my Will. Leaving a gift in my Will to Telethon Kids Institute is a meaningful way for me to express my gratitude and support the incredible work that is changing the lives of so many of our children, all around the world."

## Darcey Brooks — MAKING A SPLASH FOR RESEARCH

After watching a friend slowly lose his battle with cancer when he was just six-years-old, and faced with her own health battles, Darcey Brooks' interest in making a difference in child health research was sparked at a young age. It was this interest that led her to the Institute, where she keeps tabs on the latest news, exciting research, and opportunities to be connected.

In 2021, Darcey set herself an amazing goal of completing a solo swim across the Rottneest Channel while raising awareness and funds for the Telethon Kids Cancer Centre. Not only did Darcey complete the gruelling 19.7km swim, but she also finished within the top 20 female competitors and raised more than \$6,000.

This year, Darcey again undertook an ultra-swim challenge - this time a 20km stretch of Lake Argyle - in honour of her childhood friend Charlie. Her superstar efforts to promote the swim in the media helped bring her fundraising total to \$10,000 - money that will fund new, less invasive, and less dangerous treatments for kids with cancer.

Darcey is an inspiring member of our supporter community who has witnessed the impact of our life-changing work through her lived experience.



### Stan Perron Charitable Foundation -CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS

This year we celebrate thirty years of partnership with the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation. Throughout that time the Foundation has displayed leadership through its purposeful commitment to research capacity building, including at the Telethon Kids Institute. Throughout our 30-year relationship, built on shared values, the Foundation has supported more than 100 postgraduate students and research fellows at the Institute via the Stan and Jean Perron Awards, helping to ensure we keep the brightest and best here in WA. All this in addition to their ongoing and generous support across many research areas.



Telethon 2019 finale, photo courtesy Telethon

### A PROUD BENEFICIARY OF TELETHON

And, of course, Telethon, who have been with us since the beginning. We are proud to be a beneficiary of the Telethon Trust, which since 1968 has supported medical research into childhood diseases and provided equipment, clinical services and life-changing opportunities for sick, disadvantaged and vulnerable children.



### THE DIFFERENCE A GIFT CAN MAKE

We value every single gift that is given — no matter the size.

We know that an act of kindness and generosity can start a journey that leads to a young PhD student receiving a grant for new research that goes on to uncover a brand new discovery in cancer treatment. Or the Institute can purchase an advanced piece of equipment that helps to look at proteins in a way we've never been able to before. Or perhaps it spearheads work in our Kulunga Aboriginal Unit to ensure the needs of our Indigenous communities are at the forefront of every research question we ask.

*Thank you to every donor and funder that joined us on the journey in 2023 – your gift has had a meaningful impact on helping kids at home and around the world.*

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Ivan Kekez  
Scott Kennedy  
Damian Kenny  
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Mark Kester  
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Colm Kiely  
Paul & Kaylee Kildahl  
Michael & Katherine King  
Heddy & Alfred King  
Chloe King  
MC & JA King  
Emma Kirk  
Kyra Kirkup  
Frith Klug  
Natasha Koekemoer  
Ed Kopsen  
Anita Kurniadi  
Joanne Kwee  
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Michael Lai  
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Daniel Lajoie  
Stuart Lamont  
Vanessa Lanciano  
Jessica Landless  
John Landrigan  
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Karl Laufmann  
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Christine Ledden

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Jordan Leedham  
Kay Lee  
Yung Lee  
Fiona Lee  
Fanny Lefert  
Braden Lehembre  
Tamlyn Lennox  
Mat Lenz  
Amanda Lewis  
Stephanie Lewis  
Simon Lim  
Frances Lim  
Sun Lim  
Kak-Ming Ling  
James Little  
Nelson Loh & Tee Ching Hun  
Francis J Longhurst Estate  
Jan & David Lord  
Tania Lourensz  
Kim Louw  
Hannah Lowther  
Amber Lucas  
Ava Lucchese  
Ian & Joanne Ludlow  
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Shani Macaulay  
Linda MacLeod  
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Marion Macnish

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Gino Macri  
Leonardo Macri  
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Daniel Mahon  
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Domonick Mancini  
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Astral Mansfield  
Alison Maraldo  
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Dr David Martino  
Melanie Mason  
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Bridget Mawby  
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Matthew McConnell  
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Rachel McCoy  
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Kyle Mcleary  
Valerie McMahan  
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Sherry Middleton

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Gracen Murphy  
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 Elfrida Rozalyn  
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 Gerry Ryan

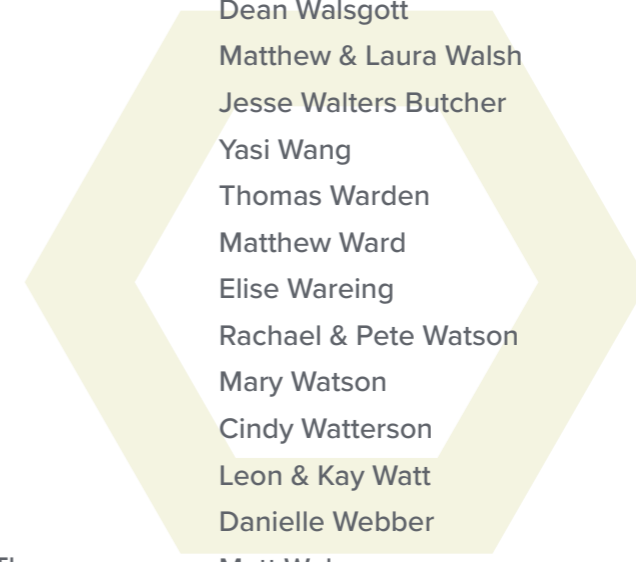
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 Mirella & Krys Sadkowsky  
 Geetha Saiganesh  
 Kaina Salivaji  
 Fathmath Sana  
 Brooke Sanderson  
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 Veronica Santika  
 Scott Sargant  
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 Julie Stoppani  
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 Cuong Tran  
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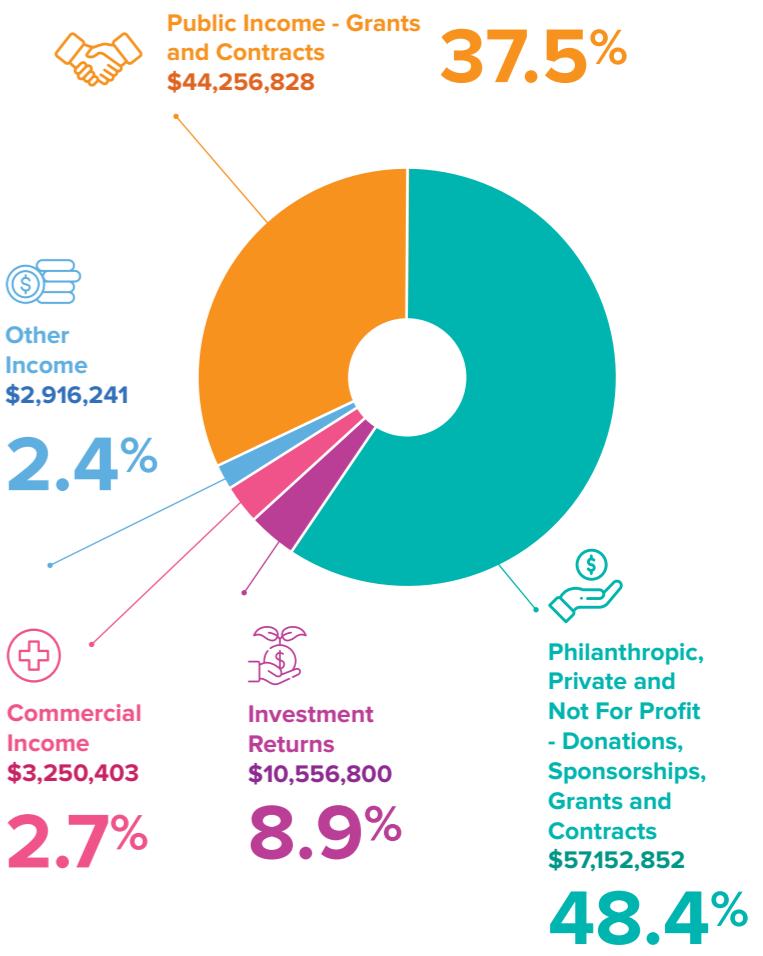
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 Rena Vithiatharan  
 Nita Vorster  
 Andrew & Kathryn Wackett  
 Diana Waese  
 Allun Waller  
 Dean Walsgott  
 Matthew & Laura Walsh  
 Jesse Walters Butcher  
 Yasi Wang  
 Thomas Warden  
 Matthew Ward  
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 Rachael & Pete Watson  
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 Cindy Watterson  
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 Robyn Weinstein  
 Natalie Weissel  
 Kate Wellstead  
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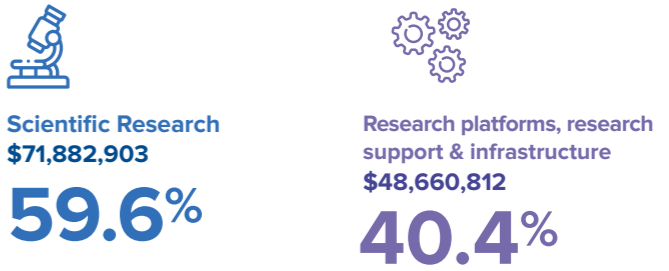
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 Zac Zainudin  
 Dannie Zappa  
 Rachael Zemek  
 Steve Zera  
 Tina Zhang  
 Lianping Zhang  
 Cassie Zuidevels  
 Dennis & Emily Zuvela  
 Anonymous (247)

# OUR FINANCES

## TOTAL INCOME \$118,133,124



## TOTAL EXPENSES \$120,543,715







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