



The
Westmead
Institute
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH



Liberating future generations from the burden of disease

Leaving a gift in your Will to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research



We save lives.
You can too.

Your legacy will live on through our life-changing research

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research.

Leaving a gift in your Will is a wonderful way to make a real and significant impact, enabling researchers at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research to find better preventions, treatments and cures for some of the most serious diseases affecting Australians and people throughout the world.

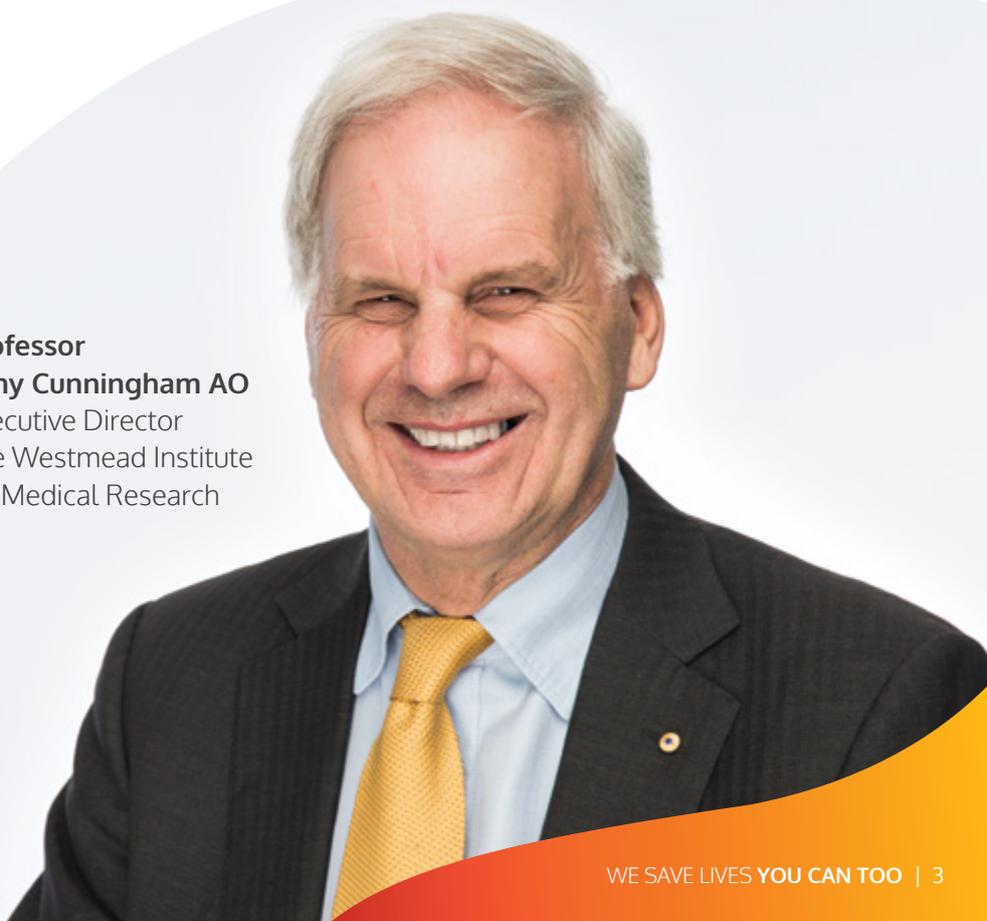
Medical research is essential to improve the health of people throughout the world by identifying better ways to diagnose, treat and cure serious illnesses. Yet, research is time-consuming and highly expensive. The Westmead Institute for Medical Research team relies on philanthropic support, like gifts in Wills, to deliver its groundbreaking research.

Should you choose to leave a gift in your Will, you will form a special group of people, our Discovery Partners who, like you, will know that their generosity has contributed to preventions, cures and treatments of tomorrow. Your proud legacy and vision for a healthier future will live on through our work.

At The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, our promise to you is that we will honour your legacy by investing in the best and brightest research talent. We will ensure that our work remains visionary and groundbreaking, and will improve health outcomes for people throughout Australia and the world.

Again, we sincerely thank you for considering making a gift in your Will to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research.

**Professor
Tony Cunningham AO**
Executive Director
The Westmead Institute
for Medical Research





You will make a difference to the health of future generations

Good health is something that many of us take for granted, until something happens and we become sick. This has the potential to change our life course, creating pain, sadness, loss and grief, not just for ourselves, but for people close to us.

We've come a long way in addressing some of the most critical health issues facing the world today, however there's still so much more that needs to be done. Research is our best hope for creating a future where health outcomes are improved for Australians and people throughout the world.

The rise of personalised medicine and treatments tailored to an individual's unique genetic profile is bringing about significant advances in health outcomes. If we want to see a world transformed and free of some of the most serious illnesses we currently face, medical research must continue.

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research is investing heavily in people and facilities to make a difference.

We are committed to using the most advanced research technologies and attracting and retaining bright, capable and passionate researchers who are best placed to change the future.

Your gift will support the inspiring work being undertaken at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research well beyond your life.

We thank you for joining us on our journey to change health outcomes for future generations.



At The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, we don't just research one disease. Our dedicated and talented team of scientists are tackling some of the most serious diseases affecting Australians and people throughout the world. Together, they are developing the preventions, treatments and cures of tomorrow.



Why support The Westmead Institute for Medical Research?

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research is a leading Australian research institute delivering groundbreaking discoveries that will result in better diagnosis, prevention, treatment and cures for some of the most serious health issues affecting Australians and people throughout the world.

Our vision is to liberate people from the burden of disease through transformational research discoveries. Our passionate people are the best and brightest, unearthing life-changing discoveries and applying them to enrich people's lives. At The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, we believe that everyone is entitled to good health.

What sets The Westmead Institute for Medical Research apart from other research institutes? A number of things differentiate us from other research organisations.

Many of our researchers are also practising clinicians, engaging with patients on a daily basis.

This means that our research is informed by real and significant health issues. It also means that the findings of research projects are more immediately applied in the treatment of patients, making our research practical and highly translational. We call this approach 'bedside-bench-bedside' and it means that we can better understand and address individual patient needs, as well as the health issues that affect our community and people across the world.

We don't just research one disease.

Our dedicated and talented team of researchers are tackling some of most serious diseases affecting Australians and people throughout the world. Together, they are developing the preventions, cures and treatments of tomorrow. The benefit of having a diverse range of research themes and projects in progress means that our researchers are able to identify and investigate the possible inter-relationship or connection between different diseases and how this applies to improved treatments and potential cures.



Infection & immunity

HIV, herpes viruses, influenza, life-threatening fungal infections, antibiotic resistance, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, type 1 diabetes, kidney diseases



Cancer

Melanoma, blood cancers and leukaemia, breast cancer, ovarian cancer and liver cancer



Liver & metabolic

Hepatitis B and C, liver inflammation, cirrhosis, fibrosis, type 2 diabetes, obesity, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease



Neuroscience & vision

Mental illness, eye diseases, traumatic stress, neuro-developmental disorders



Cardio-respiratory

Irregular heart rhythm, heart disease, heart attack, sleep disorders, cystic fibrosis

Our people

The world-leading researchers at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research are its greatest strength.

They are passionate, collaborative, dedicated and brilliant. They have a personal connection to their research and to the people they strive to help that is second to none.

Scientists at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research are driven and truly thrive on solving the challenges that come from addressing the most serious disease challenges of our time.

“

Mental health is an issue that is quite personal to me. I grew up watching a close family member live with a mental disorder. Its personal impact was huge, as was its impact on our whole family. What I still can't fathom is the stigma related to this and the lack of acceptance in society. Knowing that mental health research can make a difference to so many lives gives me hope and inspires my work every day.

- Associate Professor Mayuresh Korgaonkar

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**Associate Professor
Mayuresh Korgaonkar**

One of the many gifted and dedicated researchers at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research



Professor Anna deFazio

Head of The Westmead Institute for Medical Research's Gynaecological Oncology Research Laboratory and Director of The Westmead Institute for Medical Research's Centre for Cancer Research

We save lives and you can too

Leaving a gift in your Will is a great way to ensure that you continue to support and help progress medical research into the future. Gifts of all sizes make a critical difference in funding research breakthroughs.

A gift in your Will is a perfect way to ensure that your contribution to those things that are most important to you continues beyond your lifetime, giving hope to future generations.

Your generous gift will help researchers at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research to continue their life-saving work, discovering breakthroughs into the most serious diseases in our local communities and across the globe.

Groundbreaking discoveries - our researchers at work

Research is not a short, quick fix initiative. It takes many years of effort and a commitment to developing and testing new theories in the hope that discoveries will be identified.

Our team of researchers devote their lives to developing new prevention strategies, treatments and cures.

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My research is focused on ovarian cancer. It has been notoriously difficult to find a treatment that works well in every woman. It seems that to make progress in this disease, we will need to tailor treatment to each patient.

- Professor Anna deFazio

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“My research aims to determine the ovarian cancer characteristics that will help to predict response to treatment. These characteristics may also be useful in matching patients with the right clinical trial for their particular type of ovarian cancer, to test promising new treatments that are being developed. My ultimate hope is to be able to improve outcomes for all women with ovarian cancer.”



Professor Jacob George
Studies the causes and mechanisms of liver disease and liver cancer.

Research to results

Help people like Nikola Supercharging the immune system

Nikola Barac lived with a rare genetic immunodeficiency disorder, hyper IgM, which left him defenceless against life-threatening infections.

When he was four years old, an ultrasound picked up the parasite cryptosporidium in his liver.

Nikola's mother, Fiona Stamenkovic, said it was devastating.

"I knew what it meant. I thought his liver was going to fail and he would die," she said.

Nikola received two bone marrow transplants from his younger brother, Novak, to fight the infection. It worked, but another virus, cytomegalovirus, flourished in its place and threatened to destroy his lungs and liver.

In a final effort, Nikola's doctors weaponised the very thing that had failed him in the first place: his immune system.

He was given two rounds of T-cell immunotherapy, grown here at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, which supercharged his immune system to attack the deadly infection.

This time he was given the all clear.

"It's incredible," Ms Stamenkovic said.



Associate Professor James Chong
Is working to repair heart muscle damaged by heart attack.

Meet a researcher dedicated to saving lives

Mending a broken heart

Associate Professor James Chong and his team from The Westmead Institute for Medical Research's Centre for Heart Research are investigating the use of stem cells to grow new heart muscle with the aim of repairing damaged muscle.

This could prevent heart failure and potentially eliminate the need for a heart transplant.

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I am captivated by the concept of heart regeneration. At medical school, I was taught that the heart couldn't repair itself. So when I learned that there was a new branch of heart research showing otherwise, I knew that I wanted to contribute and had to be involved.

- Associate Professor James Chong

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Help improve the lives of future generations: your children and grandchildren

Your gift will make a real difference to health and medical research, helping us to improve the health of future generations.

It will ensure that The Westmead Institute for Medical Research continues to make vital breakthroughs, improving outcomes for some of the most critical health issues facing the world today.

Our researchers are working to change the health of future generations in three key ways:



Stop

We know that preventing disease is the most effective way of creating a healthy future.

Find

Detecting and treating disease early can save lives.



Cure

Our researchers are developing the cures and treatments of tomorrow, improving the quality of life for people in Australia and around the world.





Join the Club

In choosing to leave a gift in your Will, you'll be joining like-minded others who have decided to make a lasting impact to medical research as part of the Discovery Partners Club.

You will be regularly kept up to date with the progress of research at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research. You will also be extended invitations to attend special events to meet our researchers and to tour our labs so that you can learn more about the impact of your generous support in contributing to medical research breakthroughs.

We hope that you'll take great pleasure in knowing that your contribution will make a significant impact to medical research and positively improve health outcomes for generations to come.

How to include The Westmead Institute for Medical Research in your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is a big decision and we suggest that it is something you discuss and arrange with your solicitor or estate planner. If you don't currently have a Will, a solicitor can help you to draft one to ensure that your wishes are appropriately expressed.

Making a Will need not be complicated. In many cases it is very straightforward. It's important to ensure that you do make a Will so that your assets and the results of your lifetime of hard work are directed to people and organisations that are most important to you.

Tell us about your gift

If you have left a gift in your Will to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, please do let us know. This doesn't affect your right to alter or update your Will if your circumstances or wishes change. It simply helps us to be aware of your support and organise for it to be directed to an area of research most important, or of particular interest to you. This helps us to plan our research into the future and to ensure that your wishes are upheld.

It also means that you'll become a member of The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Discovery Partners Club. This will provide you with opportunities to be actively involved in our research community, with invitations to attend seminars and events, to connect with others who have left a gift in their Will, to learn about our research through regular updates and to remain engaged across key areas of research that are of particular interest to you.

Some useful information – how to leave a gift in your Will

What type of gift would you like to leave in your Will?

There are a range of options available when making a gift in your Will. These options include:

A percentage gift

This type of gift enables you to leave a percentage of your Estate to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research and others listed in your Will, up to 100 percent.

A residual gift

With this type of gift, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research receives the balance of your Estate after those specifically named in your Will have been provided for.

A pecuniary gift

This type of gift is a fixed sum of money that you specify you would like to be provided to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research.

A specific gift

This type of gift enables you to leave a specific cash amount or other assets such as shares or particulars to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research.

Suggested wording for your Will

Your solicitor will help you with the wording of your Will. The wording below is an example that might help you specify your gift:

“I give to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation, 176 Hawkesbury Road Westmead, ABN 90 141 847 634, (a percentage), or (a specific sum or piece of property), or (my whole estate) or (the residue of my estate) free from all duties to be used for the general purposes of research to be conducted by The Westmead Institute for Medical Research or for the purposes of (specify the research purpose) conducted at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research. A receipt from an authorised representative of The Westmead Institute for Medical Research to my executor shall be considered acknowledgement for the payment of such benefit.”





Carol's legacy

Gavin Pettigrew describes himself as an "unemployed carer", a role forced upon him since the tragic passing of his beautiful wife, Carol from ovarian cancer in 2007.

Carol was a remarkable, kind, gentle and gracious woman. She was generous with her time and her attention. Even in the midst of her illness, Gavin says that Carol was thinking of others.

"Throughout her whole journey she enjoyed a great rapport with all she met and she was always thinking of what she could do for others, rather than what they could do for her."

"Early in her treatment, Carol was asked if she would donate her tumour, or her 'football', as she called it, to medical research at Westmead. She more than willingly agreed, realising that her contribution might assist in some way."

Thanks to Gavin, Carol's contribution toward improving outcomes for ovarian cancer continues. Gavin has also left a gift in his Will to ovarian cancer research being carried out at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research.

"I had the chance to meet Professor Anna deFazio from The Westmead Institute for Medical Research not long after Carol's passing, and since then, I have learned a great deal about the really important work she and her team are conducting. Professor deFazio is an amazing researcher, and her efforts to find a way to deliver a more effective treatment for ovarian

cancer based on the molecular make-up of an individual's tumour is remarkable. I'm happy to support it and her in any way that I can."

“ I know the money donated to medical research helps, and I believe that by leaving a gift in my Will to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, I am investing in a cure for ovarian cancer. That is why I am confident that I am making an excellent investment. ”

To anyone who has sadly found themselves in a similar situation to Gavin, he says, "I strongly encourage you to consider leaving a gift in your Will. Every contribution helps, and it truly is an investment that will benefit the generations to come."

Gavin hopes that Carol's journey will contribute to finding a cure for her particular cancer, and that her story provides comfort and inspiration to others.

"What an outstanding legacy that would be."

**RIP Carol Ann Pettigrew
5.3.42 - 8.11.07**

We'd love to talk with you

If leaving a gift in your Will is something that you'd like to consider or if you have any questions, we invite you to make contact with The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation Development Team.

You can reach the team at development@westmeadinstitute.org.au or by calling 02 8627 3000.

Wishing you good health and happiness.





The
Westmead
Institute

FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH



If you have any questions or you are interested in making a gift in your Will and joining the Discovery Partners Club, please contact The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation Development Team for a confidential chat.

Call 02 8627 3000

Email development@westmeadinstitute.org.au

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