



How are we going?

The CONFIRM Kidney Study has come a long way since commencing in 2010. Our goal is to recruit 1,300 people who've been diagnosed with kidney cancer through the Victorian and Queensland Cancer Registries. So far, 1,173 have generously agreed to take part.

In scientific terms, the research we are conducting is a case-control study. That is, we will make comparisons between people who've been diagnosed with kidney cancer (the cases) and those who are not affected by kidney cancer (the controls). The role of controls in this study is very important, as it's only by comparing information about cases and controls that we can begin to gain a better understanding of the causes of kidney cancer.

To date, 807 people have agreed to take part as controls, but it's important that the study has about the same numbers of cases and controls.

If you are participating in the CONFIRM Kidney Study and have a partner or sibling who would be willing to take part as a control, please contact study manager, Jennifer Walsh on 1800 172 3532 or email confirm@cancervic.org.au.

Kidney cancer and genes

As the CONFIRM Kidney Study is investigating the role of genes in kidney cancer, genetic cancer services across Australia are putting us in touch with people who have a genetic-based risk of developing kidney cancer. These are people with inherited familial cancer syndrome or with a strong history of kidney cancer in the family.

We aim to recruit 200 people, and their family members, through the genetic cancer services. Currently, 125 have agreed to take part.

If you joined the study through your genetic cancer service and have family members who would also like to take part, please contact the CONFIRM Study Team on 1800 172 352 or email confirm@cancervic.org.au.

We now have 12 genetic cancer services supporting the CONFIRM Study. The most recent additions are:

Westmead Hospital Familial Cancer Service : Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Cancer Genetics Department : Royal North Shore Hospital Department of Clinical Genetics : Tasmanian Clinical Genetics Service : South Australian Clinical Genetics Service : Genetic Services of Western Australia

Thank you to staff at the genetic cancer services who dedicate time and resources to this important research.



Fiona Bruinsma

Thank you for taking part in the CONFIRM Kidney Study

Getting results from research can take time, but the progress that has been made in cancer research is all thanks to the kind people who take part in the studies.

Your generous contribution of time and information is vital to our kidney cancer research. Without it our study would not be possible. We want to sincerely thank all of you who have taken part in the CONFIRM Kidney Study.

With thanks,

Dr Fiona Bruinsma & the CONFIRM Study Team



Do you still have questionnaires to complete?

The information you give us in your questionnaires is essential to the success of the research.

We understand that the questionnaires are quite detailed, and filling them out can be a challenge, so if you need any assistance in completing them please contact us on 1800 172 352 or email confirm@cancervic.org.au

We can also provide you with replacement copies of the questionnaires, or additional reply-paid envelopes if needed.



Blood samples

If you are yet to provide your blood sample, could we ask that you do so as soon as possible. Blood samples are needed so that we can extract DNA and this will allow us to investigate the genetic basis of kidney cancer.

If you need to confirm what arrangements have been made for you, or you would prefer to give a saliva sample instead, please contact us.



CONFIRM Kidney Study

Change of contact details?

We would like to keep you posted on how the studies are progressing and new activities that are underway.

If you've changed your contact details please let us know.

Please contact us on 1800 172 352 or email confirm@cancervic.org.au

CONFIRM Kidney Study

Kidney cancer ranks among the top 10 most common cancers in the world. It is estimated that 2-3% of adults will be affected by kidney cancer, with men being twice as likely as women to be affected.

The Consortium for the Investigation of Renal Malignancies (CONFIRM) is run by the Cancer Council Victoria and led by principal investigator Dr Fiona Bruinsma. We are investigating the causes of kidney cancer, looking at both the known risks, such as smoking, obesity and hypertension, and a number of possible risks, such as diet and chemical exposures. We will also explore the role that genes play in the development of the disease, and the differences in occurrence between men and women.

The study aims to improve our understanding of the causes of kidney cancer to provide new opportunities for prevention and treatment.

The study is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia and involves researchers at the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, University of Melbourne and Cancer Council Victoria.

The research journey

Cancer research involves a long and complex journey. There are three main stages in conducting large scale research studies.

Stage 1. Recruit people into the study and collect information and biological samples.



Stage 2. Analyse the information and data.



Stage 3. Interpret the findings and report the results.

Each of these stages can take quite some time to complete, usually a number of years. The CONFIRM Kidney Study is currently in Stage 1 and making good progress.

We will continue to keep you informed of the progress of the study.