



## Novel method to find genes that control cancer development

**Cancer type:** All (leukaemia, lymphoma, breast)

**Lead researcher:** Professor Andreas Strasser

**Research team:** Dr Marco Herold, Professor Jane Visvader, Professor Geoffrey Lindeman

**Project location:** Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

### Aims:

We are using an exciting technology to discover tumour suppressors that prevent the development of malignant tumours.

### What your support has made possible:

Importantly, our experiments so far have led to the identification of new growth preventing genes (so-called tumour suppressors) in the context of a specific lymphoma called Burkitt Lymphoma.

### What are our plans for the second year?

We want to further validate and test the tumour inhibiting capability of these genes in other cancers. And thanks to your support, we will be able to perform the search for new tumour growth inhibiting genes in pre-clinical models with the aim to identify tumour suppressors and targets which can be used in cancer therapy.

**We hope this will help the development of improved treatment regimes for patients presenting with a wide range of cancers.**

### What is your definition of success?

Our definition of success is best demonstrated by looking at the previous work of our Division which has led to the production of a drug that inhibits a critical mediator of cell survival. This drug has recently been approved by the US FDA for cancer therapy in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia with poor prognosis. In our current work we hope to likewise identify critical regulators of cancer development and cancer growth that we will aim to target therapeutically.

**“We could not do this work without the support of those, like you, who believe in what we can achieve in trying to control cancer development.”**



Photo: Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research.

