

The *progress* »» you enable

Thank you for helping us
to *accelerate* brilliant
Australian research.

2025
Impact Report

You are the reason we keep moving *forward*

As someone who generously supports Australia's
Cancer Research Foundation you understand **why
we need to progress innovative cancer research:**

- Over 2 in 5 Australians will be diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85
- Some cancers have limited treatment options and poor outcomes, such as brain and pancreatic cancer
- Current therapies can have devastating, long-term side-effects, especially in children

**The effect of cancer can only be changed
by research.**



A model built for *momentum*

With your support, we can fund the big, bold ideas that will have the greatest impact. Things like the cervical cancer vaccine and the Zero childhood cancer program. **An overview of our approach:**

- Prevention, detection and better treatments for ALL cancer types
- New, game-changing technology that accelerates breakthroughs
- Collaborations to increase impact: from choosing collaborative research programs that benefit all of Australia, to funder collaborations with OCRF, CINSW, NBCF and more to accelerate the success of the research we select
- Seed funding for transformative ideas that, once proven, attract further investment from government and other sources, ensuring people benefit sooner.

Benefit Society

Benefit People

Accelerate Discoveries

Builds Australian
Research Capability

ACRF Grants



You are the *driving force* behind ACRF's impact



As an independent, privately funded foundation, ACRF relies on the generosity of individuals and businesses to ensure we can keep fuelling progressive cancer research.

Thanks to our incredible community, we were able to inject a further **\$9.3 million** into research across the country in 2025.

This grant funding is an investment into technology that we know will drive and accelerate cancer research outcomes.

Four high-impact research programs funded in three states



ACRF Centre for High-Risk Breast Cancer

Revolutionising prediction for high-risk breast cancer, enabling earlier intervention and potential cure.

ACRF funding will provide a world leading magnetic resonance (MR) scanner that can detect concerning or worrying chemical changes in breast or ovarian tissue years before cancer appears.

For the thousands of Australian women at high genetic risk of breast cancer, this breakthrough technology has the potential to act as a real-time risk predictor.



ACRF Single Cell Cancer Proteomics Laboratory

Unlocking unprecedented insights into how individual cells behave and respond to treatment, to improve personalised treatments across Australia and globally.

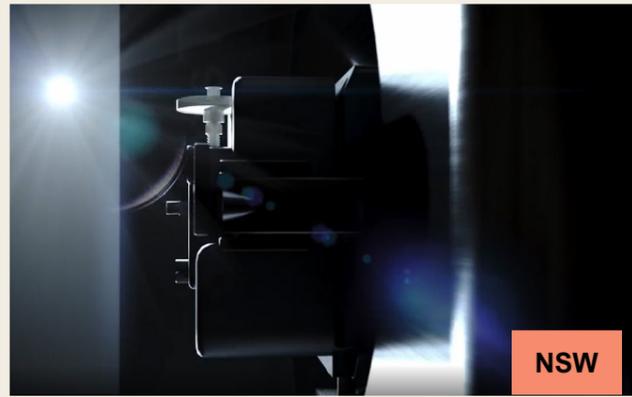
This will be Australia's first dedicated single-cell cancer proteomics laboratory.



ACRF BRAINSTORM Program

Fast-tracking the development of more effective treatments for aggressive and lethal brain cancers, in children and adults. From discovery to first-time-in-human clinical trials, the centre could improve patient outcomes for this notoriously difficult-to-treat cancer.

A look at 2025 and where your money goes. Your support is shaping the future of cancer care.



The ACRF Centre for Mass spectrometry Analysis of Tumour Response In complex microenvironments (ACRF MATRIX)

Whilst most cancer research focuses on tumour cells themselves, this centre is investigating the 'neighbourhood' the cancer cells live in.

This will revolutionise our ability to investigate why some cancers resist treatment and spread to other organs.

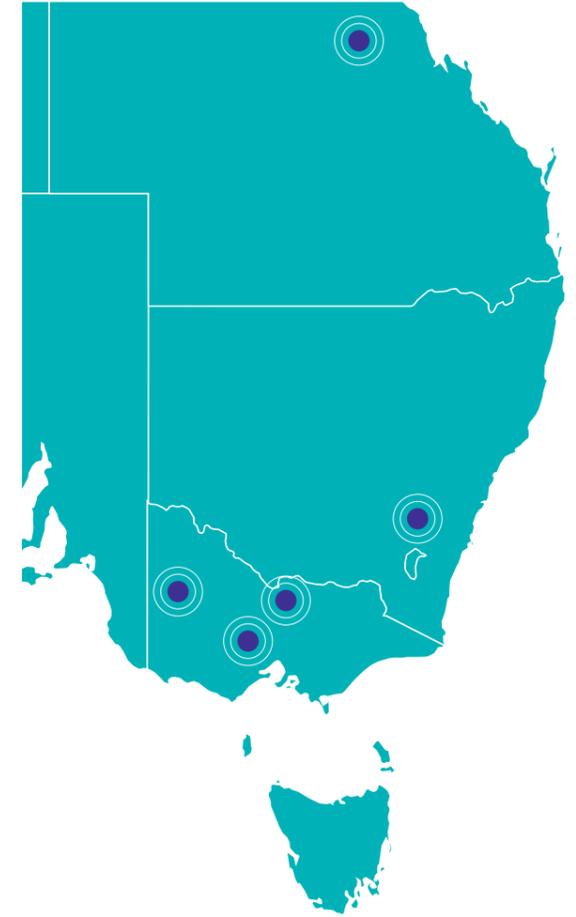
These programs will seek to discover and progress prevention, detection and treatment of the following cancer types:

- Brain
- Breast
- Ovarian
- Pancreatic
- Lymphoma
- Melanoma

As well as specific focus cancer types, a number of the research programs will include research across all types of cancer.

The spectrum of research encompasses the full bench to bedside model – meaning that the research will range from fundamental biology, new treatments, and better diagnosis to advancing clinical trials.

Progress with our previously funded facilities

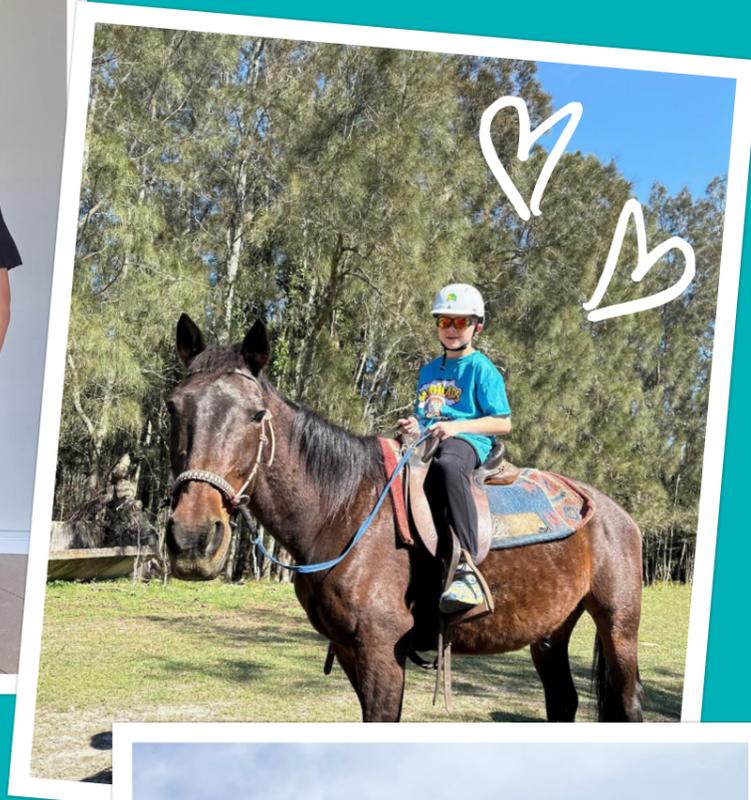


5 ACRF research facilities opened

Research is advancing in the areas of:

- Immunotherapy
- Precision medicine
- Theranostics (a combination of therapeutics and diagnostics [thera-nostic] that uses radioactive compounds to both find and treat cancer in a personalised way.)
- Imaging
- Genomics

Speeding up discoveries to give people more time



Bryson

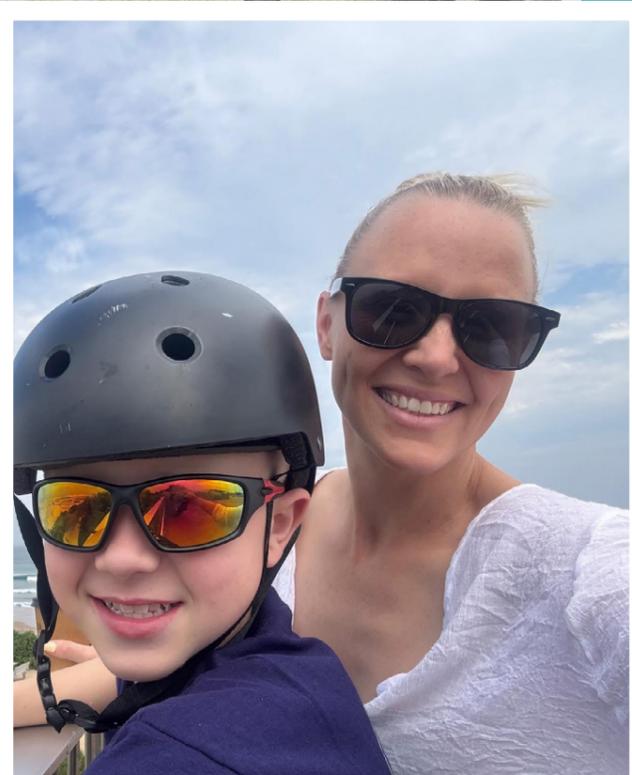
Bryson, who was featured in the ACRF Festive Appeal last year, is now a happy and curious 12-year-old who just graduated Year 6.

Earlier this year, he took part in a musical production of "School of Rock" with a local musical theatre society.

Bryson was also able to fulfil a wish by spending several days with different first responders—a profession he admires greatly.

Despite recently discovering that his cancer was caused by a rare gene mutation that is already causing sub-sequent tumours, his parents, Grant and Tamara, are trying to stay hopeful.

As a family, they are navigating their way through his condition by being extra vigilant and adhering to regular monitoring.



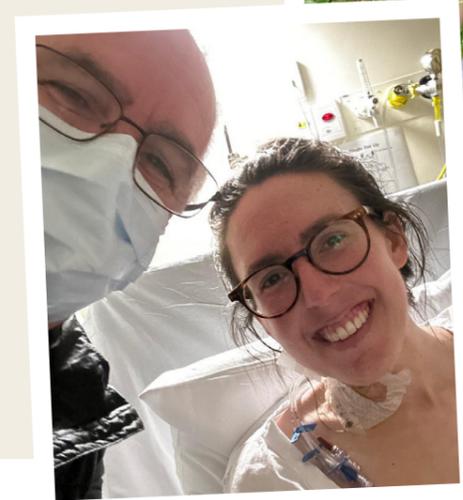
Sam

Shortly after celebrating her 31st birthday last year with family and friends, doctors discovered a Krukenburg tumour in Sam's uterus and ovaries, requiring urgent 15-hour long surgery.

Sam has just spent the entire festive season and welcomed the new year in hospital.

For anyone that is tough, but for a young single woman spending days on end alone in hospital, it's just devastating.

Despite these setbacks and a lack of treatment for her cancer, Sam is grateful for the small moments of joy, and she is hoping to recover well enough to visit Europe this year.



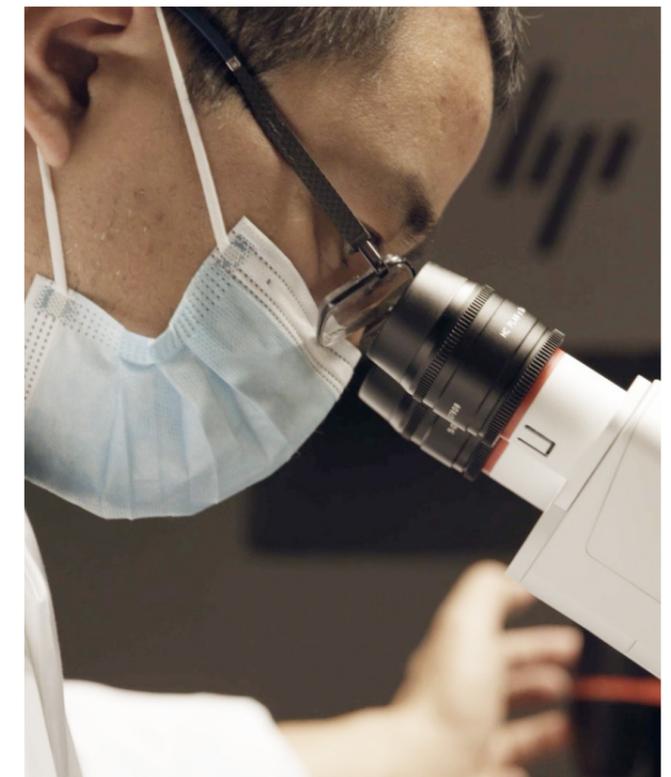
Your donations in *action* – the *advancements* you've made possible

The ACRF Intravital Imaging of Niches for Cancer Immune Therapy (INCITe)

Thanks to your support, the ACRF INCITe program at the Garvan Institute in NSW achieved a major breakthrough: identification of a new therapeutic target for pancreatic cancer, which could improve treatment outcomes for this deadly disease that claims over 4000 Australian lives every year.

The centre's imaging capabilities have expanded significantly beyond established expertise in breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, liver metastasis, melanoma, and muscle to also include lung, brain, eye, and head and neck cancer investigations.

Being able to observe disease processes in real time accelerates basic research and translational applications for a broad range of cancers.



Powering up labs across Australia, thanks to your support

The ACRF Centre for Advanced Cancer Modelling

Opened at Macquarie University in New South Wales on 28 March 2025, thanks to a \$2 million grant made possible by ACRF supporters.

The centre will test potential cancer treatments to help doctors quickly and more effectively select the best therapy options for their patients.

They will also gain a deeper understanding of treatment resistance in melanoma and how the body's immune system remembers and responds to cancer.

This is possible because of ACRF-funded equipment, including a special 3D printer that prints lab-grown cancer cells to create 3D models of cancer.



ACRF Centre for Optimised Cancer Therapy

Opened at QIMR Berghofer in Queensland on 5 August 2025, thanks to a \$2 million grant from ACRF.

The Centre integrates the latest advances in genomics and technology to understand how cancerous tumours respond to treatment.

ACRF's funding has provided researchers and clinicians with cutting-edge equipment to develop the technology for future clinical tests, ultimately delivering a "bench to bedside" precision medicine approach for deadly colorectal cancer.

ACRF Centre for Advanced Imaging-Guided Therapeutics

Thanks to an ACRF major grant award of \$9 million, Peter Mac installed a world-first GE HealthCare total body PET/CT scanner to advance precision medicine.

This new technology enables researchers to track how new diagnostic agents target tumours, visualise immune system responses, and monitor cell therapies in real time, accelerating the development of next-generation scans and targeted treatments that will detect cancers earlier and predict patient responses more accurately.



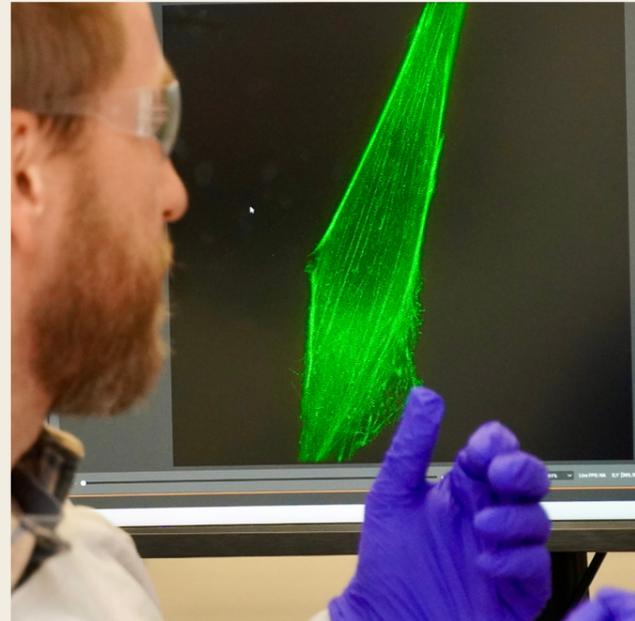
The ACRF Centre for Precision Medicine



Officially launched at the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute in Victoria on 23 July 2025.

It was established with a \$2.1 million grant from ACRF awarded in 2022.

This cutting-edge centre will use a 'theranostic' approach to provide new treatment options for ovarian and other cancers, by combining advanced imaging and targeted treatment with radioisotopes—special radioactive substances that help detect and treat tumours.



ACRF Centre for Cellular Imaging of Precision Immunotherapy

Thanks to \$3 million from ACRF donors, this new centre based at Peter Mac in Victoria will apply cutting-edge imaging technologies to help unlock the full potential of immunotherapy—which uses a person's immune system to fight cancer. This world-class facility will focus initially on common cancers like blood, breast, prostate, lung and skin cancer and aims to uncover why treatments fail.

It will develop better ways to predict and boost patient responses, making it a global leader in fighting cancer resistance with clear, innovative approaches.

Thank you for *propelling* research forward.



Leveraging ACRF's initial investment to maximise impact

Throughout ACRF's 40+ years of supporting cancer research, the foundation's support consistently leads to further significant investment by both government and commercial bodies, leading to increased impact of every dollar donated.

In 2025, the ACRF Centre for Precision Medicine that opened at Olivia Newton John Cancer Research Institute alone leveraged ACRF seed funding to win an additional \$2.15 million in grants, progressing their dynamic work in precision medicine.



Thanks to you, ACRF's year-on-year investment into infrastructure and equipment for cancer research in Australia equates to around 30% of all non-government funding in this area.



Looking *forward...*



Thanks to your support, ACRF has built real momentum through transformative funding of cutting-edge equipment.

We will continue to push forward personalised treatments that reduce side-effects, improve the way we seek out and discover cancers earlier, and advance innovative methods for the prevention, detection and treatment of ALL cancer types.

With your help, we can propel the best and boldest Australian research to even greater heights—so that the terrible impact of cancer on our lives is no longer felt.

