



SUNBAKER

By **Anne Gately**, Stage IV melanoma patient

In 1937 Max Dupain photographed a sunbaker,
timeless, iconic
But has it led us down the path of a chronic illness
we continue to ignore in our suntanned haze
Sitting blissfully in the sun's midday blaze.

This country of ours promotes outdoor living
But we just aren't prepared for how unforgiving
The sun is being on our community
Our Governments are ignoring the reality.

Where's the ad campaign that helps educate?
Why is a skin check register such a debate?
Where are the council planning regulations
for more shade structures across this nation?
More people die from Melanoma than die
crashed on our road
The sun it's a time bomb watch it explode.

I see your body shimmering in the heat
Lie back, get burned, roll over and repeat
At beaches and pools around this wide land
Lying near naked in the pursuit of a tan
Lie back, get burned, roll over and repeat.

Sizzling on a rotisserie like a piece of meat
You are my son, my daughter, my nephew and niece
What do I need to say to give you release from this
narrative that says a tan is good health?
I can't say it more plainly, the sun it kills by stealth.

You think it's for old people and yes whilst that's true
If you're aged 20 to 40 it could come for you
It's the cancer that kills the most people your age
Just one sun burn could put you on that stage
So, whilst checking your prostate or having Pap smears
Ask your Doctor for a skin check to avoid future tears.

Stage IV Melanoma, I've survived it, for now
With science, good luck and God knows how
See my vitiligo, let it be your reminder
That protecting yourself is ultimately kinder
Than the pain and the fear of Melanoma in your life
Stop seeking a tan so there's no need for the knife
Don't you be the one to leave your family bereft
Don't wait to be told you've got 1 year left.

ADDRESS TO NATIONAL PRESS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA



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'As a society, we have collectively
dropped the ball in terms of
preventing Australians from
developing melanoma.'



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'We need to change the way we think,
talk and act around sun safety.'



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'We need to urgently bolster sun safety
as a cancer prevention message.'

All photos from National Press Club address courtesy of Hilary Wardhaugh and the National Press Club of Australia

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STATE OF THE NATION

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FEATURE: State of the Nation
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'It is critical that we act now, and modernise the melanoma prevention campaign and make it relevant to a new generation.'



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'Casual references to sunburn and the glamourisation of tanning are everywhere – normalising behaviour which we know kills.'

CHAIR'S WELCOME

It is with great pride that we present Melanoma Institute Australia's (MIA) Annual Report 2021-22.

Despite the many external challenges of the last 12 months, our advances in research, treatment, education and advocacy continued at pace as we pursued our mission of zero deaths from melanoma.

On behalf of the MIA Board, I commend all involved in the advances of the last year. From our clinical, research and infrastructure teams, to our faculty and supporting committees, and especially to our wonderful supporters, donors, patients and their families - thank you.

I am particularly pleased we invested a record of \$15.2 million directly towards our mission activities, and kept our administrative and fundraising infrastructure efficient, at only 23% of all expenditure.

Australia may lead the world in melanoma diagnoses, but we also remain firmly at the forefront of global efforts to save lives from this disease. For that, we can all be proud.

Grant King
Chairman



CO-MEDICAL DIRECTORS AND CEO REPORT

Melanoma Institute Australia (MIA) pushed the boundaries this year on many fronts – from research and treatment, to advocacy and awareness.

A pivotal moment was the February launch by the Federal Minister for Health & Aged Care of the landmark *State of the Nation – A Report into Melanoma, A National Health Priority*. 18 months in the making, the independent report involved input from melanoma patients, carers, clinicians, researchers and policy leaders from across the country. In addition to outlining the dire health and economic impacts of melanoma on our country, the report provided a roadmap for reaching zero deaths from melanoma and also significantly lowering the burden of the disease in the decades ahead. We are delighted to include a special feature on *State of the Nation* in this Annual Report, including detailing its recommendations for action.

We were proud to have the opportunity to address the National Press Club of Australia in Canberra on the urgent action required to save lives from melanoma. The address, which also included MIA's National Ambassador Cate Campbell, shone a national spotlight on prevention strategies detailed in *State of the Nation*. We all know prevention is better than a cure, and we felt compelled to use this national platform to call for better sun safety in sport, a modernised prevention campaign, and the need for cultural change in how sunburn and tanning are portrayed in Australia. Throughout this report are extracts from the Press Club address.

It was pleasing to see a return in 2022 to in-person research collaboration, with our research teams sharing latest breakthroughs at international conferences including ASCO in Chicago, ESMO in Paris and SMR in Scotland. Unfortunately, the uncertainty around COVID restrictions in spring 2021 meant both our MIA Research Retreat and the Australasian Melanoma Conference (AMC2021) hosted by MIA had to be held virtually. However the impact was immense, and this report details the breadth of expertise shared at AMC2021, as well as other research advances and breakthroughs.

Our 2022 impact



\$21.5m

raised to fund
our mission



1,699

new patients added to our
world's largest melanoma
research database



1,142

new patients donated samples
to our Biospecimen Bank



102

research projects fuelled
by our patient data



203

research papers published, 20
in top 1% high impact journals



30

clinical trials opened



Launch of landmark
*State of the Nation –
A Report into Melanoma*



Address to National Press Club of
Australia about urgent action to
prevent melanoma



‘We never lose sight of the patients and their families who drive us. They remain our inspiration and our reason for doing what we do.’

Despite COVID impacts continuing in various degrees throughout the year, our patient facing services were uninterrupted. Our special thanks to our Clinical Committee, under the leadership of Professor Angela Hong and Dr Kerwin Shannon, for their guidance in ensuring appropriate protocols were in place to protect our patients and staff, whilst enabling essential care to continue. Masks remain a requirement for patient-facing services, and we extend our thanks to our patients and their carers for their continued understanding and support.

In an exciting development, we expanded our national footprint this year with a merger with Skin Cancer Tasmania, providing increased prevention and awareness campaigns and bolstering melanoma support services in the state. We now have sites in NSW (Sydney and Wagga Wagga), WA and Tasmania.

With the long COVID lockdowns behind us, it was pleasing to see our community once again rallying to support our programs and campaigns. Melanoma March returned with physical events across the country, raising an impressive \$700,000 for our Personalised Immunotherapy Platform Clinical Trial. Our Tax Appeal, which supported the expansion of our clinical trials program and which featured Annette St Clair who lost her daughter Amie to melanoma, was our most successful ever.

We also welcomed CoolCabanas as our Official Shade Partner, as well as new ambassadors including Ch9’s Peter Overton, dual international and Parramatta great Ray Price and his wife Sandy, and young swimming sensation Sam Short. Our local community fundraisers also returned with gusto, and we thank each and every one of them for their passion and their support. This report highlights just some of the incredible events and fundraising activities during the year.

Just prior to going to print with this report, the Federal Government announced a four year commitment of \$14.8 million for MIA to establish a National Melanoma Nurse Network, a recommendation from the State of the Nation. We look forward to updating you on progress in next year’s Annual Report.

As proud as we are of the research and clinical advances we continue to make, and our increased advocacy in putting melanoma prevention and education under the national and political spotlight, we never lose sight of the patients and their families who drive us. They remain our inspiration and our reason for doing what we do.

Professor Georgina Long AO, Co-Medical Director
Professor Richard Scolyer AO, Co-Medical Director
Matthew Browne, CEO



Melanoma specific 6½ year survival rate for advanced melanoma has increased to 56%

NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

Melanoma Institute Australia's Co-Medical Directors, Professor Georgina Long AO and Professor Richard Scolyer AO, and Olympian and melanoma survivor Cate Campbell made headlines around the country when they addressed the National Press Club of Australia about the urgent action needed to prevent melanoma.

The address in Canberra, moderated by National Press Club Director Tim Shaw, was broadcast live on ABC television and radio. Professors Long and Scolyer highlighted key recommendations from the State of the Nation report, and called for improved sun safety in sport as well as a year-round modernised sun safety prevention campaign.

'We're calling for the establishment of a Sun Safe Sport Initiative, as the key mechanism to elevate sun safety across all Australian sports at all levels, including professionals who are role models for the next generation,' they told the Press Club.

The Press Club was told that sun safe strategies across sport could be as

simple as swapping out a cap for a broadbrimmed hat, providing a long-sleeved UPF 50+ playing kit, ensuring sunscreen was applied and re-applied, moving games and training times from outside the middle of the day, and providing portable shade structures for the sidelines.

The Press Club heard concerns that a whole generation of young Australians may have slipped through the sun safety net, due to the absence of a current and impactful sun safety prevention campaign. 'It is critical that we act now, and modernise the melanoma prevention campaign and make it relevant to a new generation.'

Professors Long and Scolyer also issued a plea to media, advertisers and social media influencers to change how sunburn and tanning are portrayed.

'We need to urgently bolster sun safety as a cancer prevention message, and give it the public health prevalence it deserves,' Professor Long said. 'Casual references to sunburn and tanning are everywhere – normalising behaviour which we know kills,' said Professor Scolyer. 'You don't see people smoking or driving without seatbelts in television ads. So why do we see people sunburnt?'

At the Press Club and adding their voices to the calls for urgent action to prevent





‘It’s about protecting from sunburn now – and preventing developing potentially deadly melanoma in years to come.’

Address to National Press Club

melanoma, were swimmer Sam Short who was diagnosed with melanoma only weeks before taking gold in the 1500m at the 2022 Commonwealth Games, and NRL legend Ray Price and his wife Sandy who are both battling advanced melanoma. Also in attendance were MIA Ambassador Oceana Strachan, advanced melanoma patients Jen Benfield and Gina Savage, parents Leon and Tamra Betts and Annette and Peter St Clair who lost daughters to melanoma, and representatives from sporting bodies including Softball NSW.

We are proud to share throughout this report extracts from the National Press Club address. The address in full can be found at www.melanoma.org.au

All photos from National Press Club address courtesy of Hilary Wardhaugh and the National Press Club of Australia



EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS

“ Whilst Australia is leading the world in melanoma research and treatment, that’s where the plaudits stop. As we all know, prevention is better than a cure. And melanoma is a largely preventable cancer - preventable by leading a sun safe life.

As a society, we have collectively dropped the ball in terms of preventing Australians from developing melanoma.

The ‘*State of the Nation in Melanoma*’ report...estimates that without critical action being taken today, by 2030:

- 205,000 Australians will be diagnosed with melanoma
- a further 16,000 Australians will die from the disease
- 350,000 people will be living with the disease
- the economic cost to the nation will be \$8.7 billion.

Importantly, what the *State of the Nation* report also provides us with, is a roadmap to significantly reduce this burden. For the first time, Australia has a clear plan - a blueprint for ridding ourselves of the unenviable title of the melanoma capital of the world.

Implementing the report’s key recommendations – specifically those around melanoma prevention – will take collaboration, courage and commitment. So let’s be courageous. ”

MIA Co-Medical Directors, Professor Georgina Long AO & Professor Richard Scolyer AO



LABORATORY & APPLIED RESEARCH

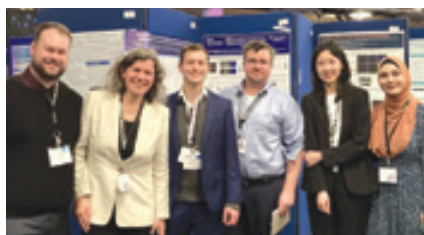
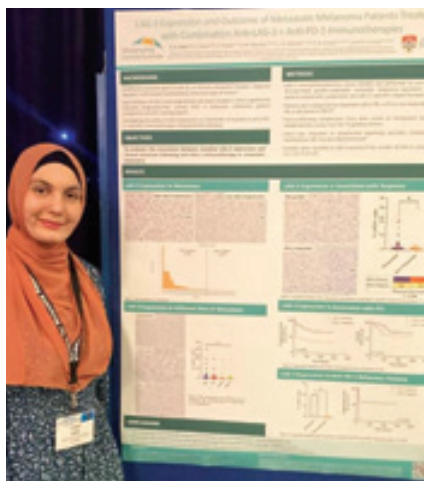
MIA's translational research team works at the Charles Perkins Centre at The University of Sydney. Under the leadership of Professor Georgina Long AO and Professor Richard Scolyer AO, the team's work in building knowledge and understanding of melanoma ultimately benefits clinical practice.

The Personalised Immunotherapy Platform (PIP)

The Personalised Immunotherapy Platform (PIP) is a tool to ensure advanced melanoma patients receive effective treatment the first time based on their own genetics and tumour biology. PIP enables the identification of patients who are likely to respond to standard treatments and those who require novel agents as part of a clinical trial. The platform was completed this year, with the PIP clinical trial to begin enrolling patients at MIA's The Poche Centre and multiple centres across the country in 2023.

Unveiling the tumour immune microenvironment of organ-specific melanoma metastatic sites

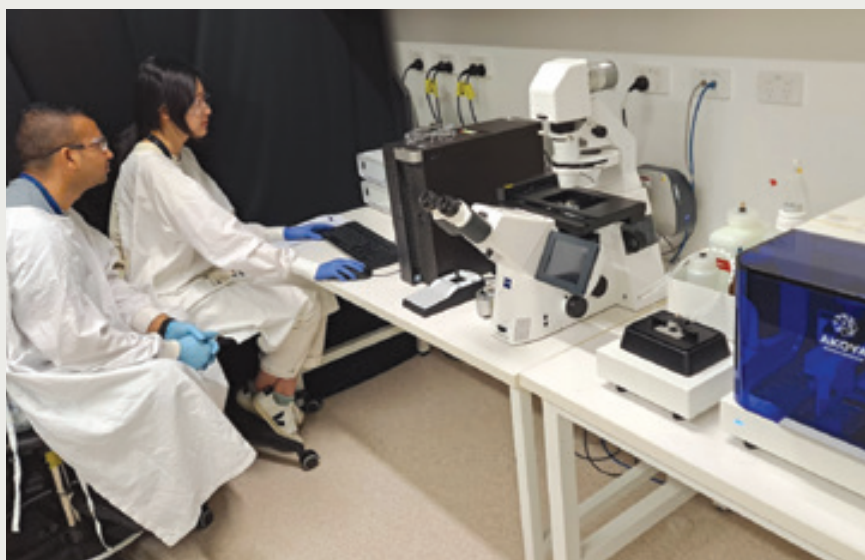
MIA PhD student Jordan Conway completed a study outlining anti-tumour immune cells, or lack of, in melanoma metastasis throughout the body. He found that melanomas in the brain or liver, sites associated with lower response rates to immunotherapies, had significantly less immune cells.



MIA researchers shared latest breakthroughs at the Society for Melanoma Research (SMR) international congress in Edinburgh Scotland.

The Australian Melanoma Genome Project

The Australian Melanoma Genome Project achieved its goal of characterising the whole genome sequences of over 570 melanomas. This landmark study provides the most comprehensive assessment of the inherited predisposition mutations associated with risk of developing melanoma, the mutagenic processes driving melanoma development (sun exposure and genomic repair deficiencies) and unsurpassed analysis of the range of somatic mutations that occur in melanomas that arise in sun exposed skin, acral (palms, soles, or nail beds), mucosal (nose, mouth, anus, and vagina) and uveal (eye) sites in the body. This widespread and extremely productive research program, led by Melanoma Institute Australia, produced numerous papers in prestigious journals including *Nature*, *Nature Communications*, *Cancer Cell* and *Cancer Discovery*. These studies have expanded our understanding of why melanomas develop, particularly in non-sun exposed skin, and have identified the diverse biology within melanoma and treatment options specific to genomic subtypes. This body of work now forms a highly valuable resource for the international research community to accelerate the progress towards zero deaths from melanoma.



MIA PhD student Catherine Bai and PIP Histology Scientist Saurab Raj using the CODEX instrument (funded by the CLEARbridge Foundation), to visualise the locations of over 50 proteins in individual cells in the melanoma biopsies of patients who received anti-PD-1 based immunotherapies. The aim is to identify why a large subset of advanced melanoma patients don't respond to immunotherapy.



Associate Professor James Wilmott at the Charles Perkins Centre.

AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS

It has been another proud year for Melanoma Institute Australia, with our clinicians and researchers again recognised and awarded for their leadership in advancing melanoma research and treatment globally.

Professor Georgina Long AO named world's top melanoma expert

In the latest rankings released by expertscape, based on articles published over the last 10 years (2012-2022), MIA's Co-Medical Director Professor Georgina Long AO was named the world's No. 1 Melanoma Expert.

'Professor Long has for the last decade been at the forefront of global clinical trials of new treatments for melanoma, including immunotherapies, which have transformed the melanoma treatment landscape and saved lives, and which are now extending to also benefit other cancers,' said fellow MIA Co-Medical Director Professor Richard Scolyer AO, who along with former MIA Executive Director Professor John Thompson AO was also listed in the world's top 10.

'Professor Long's dedication, expertise, ground-breaking research, and clinical care are second to none, and many patients are alive today because of her brilliance.'

Professor Richard Scolyer AO

MIA CEO Matthew Browne said the expertscape rankings were the result of years of dedication from MIA's clinical and research leadership teams.

'For MIA to boast the world's top melanoma expert, and have three in the top 10, shows our incredible standing on the world stage,' he said.

'On behalf of all melanoma patients, my sincere congratulations to Professors Long, Scolyer and Thompson for your intellect, determination and passion which are leading the global mission to save lives from melanoma.'

2021 NSW Premier's Awards for Outstanding Cancer Research

The prestigious **Wildfire Highly Cited Publication Award** was awarded jointly to MIA's Co-Medical Directors Professors Long and Scolyer, and MIA Faculty member Associate Professor Alex Menzies. They led a multi-site collaboration to produce the 'Combination nivolumab and ipilimumab or nivolumab alone in melanoma brain metastases' paper, first published in the prestigious *Lancet Oncology* in 2018. The paper has been cited 427 times globally.

'This trial single-handedly changed practice overnight.'

Professor Georgina Long AO

Sydney Local Health District/Sydney Research 2022 Research Excellence Award

Professors Long and Scolyer, and Associate Professor Alex Menzies received this award in recognition of the best publication in a high impact journal for the *Nature Medicine* paper 'Pathological response and survival with neoadjuvant therapy in melanoma: a pooled analysis from the International Neoadjuvant Melanoma Consortium'.

Other
Key Awards
& Honours

Co-Medical Directors
(JULY 2021 TO JUNE 2022)

PROFESSOR GEORGINA LONG AO

- ▶ The University of Sydney's 2021 Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research - jointly awarded with Prof Scolyer AO
- ▶ Ramaciotti Medal for Excellence in Biomedical Research 2021
- ▶ Clarivate Analytics 2021 : Highly Cited Researcher – Clinical Medicine

PROFESSOR RICHARD SCOLYER AO

- ▶ The University of Sydney's 2021 Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research - jointly awarded with Prof Long AO
- ▶ Clarivate Web of Science Group: Highly Cited Researcher 2021.
- ▶ University of Tasmania 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award

PUBLICATIONS - THE MEASUREMENT OF RESEARCH OUTPUT

	Number of papers published	Publications in top 25% journals	Publications in top 10% journals	Publications in top 1% journals
2022 (as of 31 Oct '22)	203	140	65	20
2021	220	140	79	12
2020	180	151	112	22
2019	149	115	98	23
2018	183	151	125	25
2017	162	131	114	27
2016	123	94	83	6

AMC2021 - PROMISING FUTURES

More than 600 clinicians and researchers from across Australia and beyond united online for the virtual 2021 Australasian Melanoma Conference (AMC) bringing the conference theme of *Promising Futures* to life. The conference, postponed from 2020, was held virtually due to ongoing COVID restrictions.



SYDNEY 19-20 NOVEMBER

Proudly hosted by Melanoma Institute Australia, and chaired by MIA's Co-Medical Directors Professor Georgina Long AO and Professor Richard Scolyer AO, the two-day conference covered the latest understandings of melanoma across all stages of the disease spectrum and featured a range of multidisciplinary experts from across the globe.

'The most important thing is we put the patient at the centre of everything we do – our clinical care and the focus of our research. They drive everything we do.'

Professor Georgina Long AO



The conference used a customised virtual platform that mimicked an in-person conference, featuring concurrent sessions, a poster gallery, an exhibition hall, and even a meeting hub! In addition to presentations, the program also featured skill-based workshops, case-study based panel discussions and engaging debates on topics related to melanoma diagnosis. Wellness breaks were also scheduled to help delegates refocus and re-energize throughout the conference.

AMC2021 opened with a powerful story from patient Josephine Gluhak, who shared her journey with Stage IV melanoma with the clinicians and researchers who dedicate their lives to helping patients just like her.

The conference shared key insights covering a vast array of topics addressing our latest understanding of treatment for early and advanced melanoma (including drug resistance and toxicities), rare melanoma subtypes, loco-regional disease, early diagnosis and staging, supportive care, fundamental melanoma biology, and identifying molecular targets for future treatments.

Josephine Gluhak reflected on how going from having a Stage IV diagnosis to having a promising future was truly remarkable.



We were delighted to hear from MIA's former Medical Director, Emeritus Professor John Thompson AO.

Professor Thompson AO provided a keynote address titled: *Lessons learned during a career in melanoma*. Thank you Professor Thompson for your wonderful insights and continuing dedication to fighting this disease.

Other interesting sessions included two entertaining and informative live debates on: *to shave biopsy or not to shave biopsy*, and, *the role of sentinel lymph node biopsy in melanoma*.

'We were disappointed not to be able to meet in person, but had a wonderful program covering melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers, which highlighted patient perspectives and the latest in clinical care and research.'

Professor Richard Scolyer AO



The conference used a customised virtual platform that mimicked an in-person conference.

A key message that resonated throughout many of the presentations, discussions and debates was the importance of multidisciplinary care when it comes to treating a patient with melanoma. Managing melanoma requires a team of people with different skill sets to develop the best possible management plan for each patient, and it was reassuring to see so many different specialists coming together at AMC to grow their knowledge together.

An inspiring and informative Melanoma Patient and Carer Forum was co-hosted by MIA and Melanoma Patients Australia, with dedicated sessions for GPs also held to ensure our latest understanding of melanoma is translated into the clinical setting to ensure improved patient care.



Multidisciplinary panel discussion - diagnosis and management of primary melanoma.

Thank you to our AMC2021 sponsors – Bristol Myers Squibb, Novartis, MSD and Pierre Fabre – and all AMC exhibitors together with the esteemed program organising committee from institutions around Australia.

OUR NATIONAL NETWORK



Melanoma Institute Australia further expanded its national network by merging with Skin Cancer Tasmania. The merger bolstered access to melanoma support services for melanoma patients and their families in Tasmania, increased local melanoma awareness and prevention campaigns, and expanded opportunities for local clinicians to access leading melanoma education and research.

Dianne Mason founded Skin Cancer Tasmania in memory of her mum who passed away from melanoma in 2004 after only an eight-week battle with the disease. Dianne is now MIA's State Manager Tasmania.

Since the merger, MIA Tasmania's work has included fundraising events as well as awareness activities at College Health Expos, providing presentations to community groups and workplaces, and hosting the monthly Tasmanian Virtual Support Group (supported by MPA). Dianne Mason was one of only two Australian delegates to be sponsored to attend the Global Coalition for Melanoma Patient Advocacy Conference.



It was a busy year in the Riverina with many activities back on track after COVID cancellations. The Nurse Symposium in Wagga Wagga was attended by 35 nurses who were updated on latest treatments and clinical care advances. Flooding prevented some nurses from attending.

We also commenced enrolling patients from the region to the BMS 098 Clinical Trial. This is the second trial run in Wagga Wagga under the umbrella of MIA, and represents another successful collaboration between MIA and the Riverina Cancer Care Centre.

Another highlight was the inaugural 'Mole Check For Amie Day' - a community event supported by local GPs, surgeons and nurses who generously donated their time to do free skin checks. Around 150 checks were carried out, with all attendees being educated about the importance of sun safety and early detection. There are plans for this to become an annual event.

'I am delighted that this merger will give melanoma patients and their families throughout Tasmania access to increased support services, as well as the opportunity to benefit from MIA's world-leading research and clinical education.'

Dianne Mason, MIA State Manager Tasmania



(L-R): Candice Terhell (former board member of Skin Cancer Tas), Minister Jacquie Petrusma MP, Prof Richard Scolyer AO, Di Mason, Peter Hodgman (former Patron of Skin Cancer Tas)



In WA, a highlight was our four-day education, prevention and skin screening event held at Cottesloe Beach in support of National Skin Cancer Action Week. 125 spot checks were carried out by GPs who specialise in skin cancer, with all participants also educated about sun safety and early detection.

We were also a proud participant in two sessions held by the Western Australia Melanoma Initiative (WAMI), fostering collaboration between those involved in melanoma research in WA. WAMI is aiming to drive development of new diagnostics and therapies to benefit melanoma patients.

Our melanoma support group monthly meetings continued in a hybrid model, with a combination of virtual and physical meetings supported by guest speakers and facilitated by our WA nursing resources.



Awareness raising at Cottesloe Beach



Mole Check for Amie Day

SUPPORTIVE CARE & SURVIVORSHIP

The *State of the Nation in Melanoma* report highlighted the importance of supportive care in addressing survivorship issues experienced by people diagnosed with melanoma. Supportive Care and Survivorship is one of the five strategic priorities for MIA, making for a busy and productive year for supportive care researchers and clinicians.

MIA's Supportive Care and Survivorship theme is led by Dr Iris Bartula and Associate Professor Robyn Saw, in collaboration with a consumer advocate, Ms Ingrid Kivikoski. Five studies completed recruitment this year, two of which were observational studies to help us understand what people with melanoma need and how to best deliver this support. The other three studies focused on investigating different ways to identify people with melanoma who may need additional support, and the provision of timely and appropriate interventions. Our interventions were delivered by nurses, medical practitioners, and clinical psychologists.

Our clinical psychology service at The Poche Centre continued to be an integral part of overall care at MIA, doubling its capacity this year. Established in 2021 and continuing throughout 2022 thanks to generous philanthropic support, this service was open to all MIA patients diagnosed with melanoma and their family members, with the aim of providing support with psychological issues following melanoma diagnosis and treatment. In the first year of operation, 156 people were referred to the service, with 70% of these engaging

in psychological treatment. Most common issues treated were anxiety, grief, loss, adjustment to changes and low mood. While anecdotal feedback about this service was overwhelmingly positive, we plan to conduct a formal evaluation in 2023 to inform us about aspects of the service that are working well and potential areas for improvement.

Our Supportive Care and Survivorship team continued to provide informal and formal education and advice for patients and healthcare practitioners including oncologists and nurses. In a new initiative designed to connect with the wider melanoma community, monthly supportive care articles about clinical and research issues helpful to melanoma patients and their families were posted on MIA's website. These were accessed over 1,100 times.

Effective supportive care encompasses many different strategies. Research and subsequent development of services for supportive care coordinated by MIA will continue to improve quality of life for each melanoma patient and their support persons.



'Our research will continue to assess ways to support people with early and advanced melanoma, with the aim of embedding sustainable and effective supportive care into routine medical care of people with melanoma.'

Associate Professor Robyn Saw

'With continued funding, we anticipate that supportive care research and service infrastructure will grow to provide much needed evidence-based support services for MIA patients as part of holistic melanoma care.'

Dr Iris Bartula

EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS

“ Australia harbours a completely invisible menace - something hidden in that 'beach bronzed Aussie' stereotype. Its name is melanoma, and it holds the unofficial title of Australia's National cancer.

It was September of 2018, when I had my first encounter with melanoma...

I stand before you, with nothing but a scar running down my arm, the only visible sign of my brush with cancer. But there are many people in this room and thousands more across Australia who are not lucky enough to have any visible scars from their encounter with melanoma. They carry invisible and yet far more traumatic scars. The absence of loved ones, the destruction of futures, the permanent degradation of their health or the health of their loved ones.

We need to make these invisible scars visible. We need to change the way we think, talk and act around sun safety. ”

Cate Campbell, Olympian and MIA Ambassador



CLINICAL TRIALS

Our Clinical Trials program expanded rapidly this year, with 355 patients recruited across 30 clinical trials. This represented a 20% increase on last year.

Personalised Therapy Clinical Trials - the right drug for the right patient at the right time

There are nine Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidised drug therapies for metastatic melanoma, including three immunotherapy medications (nivolumab, pembrolizumab and ipilimumab). Whilst immunotherapy successfully cures a large proportion of patients with advanced melanoma, around 50% of these patients either don't respond or develop resistance to currently available immunotherapy treatments.

It is therefore critical for medical oncologists to have an ability to predict resistance to standard treatment and to identify alternative effective drug options to improve survival, reduce exposure to unnecessary treatment, and reduce side-effects.

Providing the right treatment to the right patient at the right time will not only save lives, but it will also reduce the physical, emotional, and financial costs of a patient having to go through several treatments with no certainty they will work.

Two new clinical trials at Melanoma Institute Australia will lead the way in personalising drug selection.

Personalised Immunotherapy Platform (PIP)

MIA's Personalised Immunotherapy Platform has three main components:

1. PIPdx® – an immunotherapy response prediction test using melanoma tissue and blood
2. PIP PREDICT – testing of the PIPdx test
3. PIP TRIAL – A clinical trial which uses PIPdx test results to guide the selection of new melanoma drugs when standard PBS immunotherapy drugs are unlikely to work

PIP PREDICT is a clinical study evaluating the use of a MIA-developed immunotherapy prediction tissue and blood test known as the PIPdx test. The study aims to assess the accuracy and usability of the PIPdx test on patients with high-risk melanoma undergoing immunotherapy treatment. The study opened at MIA in May 2021, with 157 patients so far having undergone testing.

The PIP TRIAL is a world-first clinical trial which will use PIPdx test results to identify patients in need of novel melanoma drugs. The clinical trial will open in 2023 and will provide access

to new drugs when the PIPdx test demonstrates a low likelihood of cure using PBS listed immunotherapies. The clinical trial is being led by MIA and will enrol patients in multiple centres around Australia.

MatchMel Clinical Trial

The most common genetic mutation, found in about half of all people with melanoma, is called the BRAF gene. There are six approved targeted therapies used in the treatment of BRAF mutant metastatic melanoma (dabrafenib and trametinib, encorafenib and cobimetinib, vemurafenib and cobimetinib). Patients without a BRAF mutation do not have access to these PBS-subsidised targeted therapies in Australia. The MatchMel trial aims to address this unmet need through the identification of non-BRAF mutations in a person's melanoma.

Patients eligible for the MatchMel clinical trial undergo genetic testing across 324 genes to look for less common genetic mutations within their melanoma. The aim of the study is to identify genetic mutations, other than BRAF, which can be treated with experimental targeted therapy medications known

Current Recruiting Trials

Melanoma Drug Clinical Trials		
Stage II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbus-AD Wagga Wagga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relativity 098 Metastatic Brain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABC-X 	Resectable Stage III/IV NEO ADJUVANT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keymaker 02C • Morpheus • NeoPeLe • NADINA ADJUVANT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relativity 098 	Unresectable Stage III/IV FIRST LINE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keymaker 02B • Roche BP43963 • Evaxion • BMS 030 IMMUNOTHERAPY REFRACTORY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NL201-101 • BNTIII-01 • BMS CA027-D02 • Monette • Seagen LIV-1 • Kinnate 2787 • Keymaker 02A

Melanoma Surgical Management and surveillance Clinical Trials	
• Melmart II	• Image
Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer Drug Clinical Trials	
• I-MAT	• SONIB
Personalised Therapy Clinical Trials	
• Matchmel	• PIP Predict

to block the cancer growth pathway associated with the specific genetic mutation identified. Individual patient genetic reports are reviewed during a monthly multidisciplinary team meeting involving immunologists, cell biologists, pathologists, and the patient's treating medical oncologist to personalise the selection of the investigational targeted therapy based on a person's own unique cancer genetic profile. The MatchMel clinical trial commenced recruitment at MIA and Westmead Hospital in November 2021 and has enrolled 70 patients so far.

Neoadjuvant Clinical Trials – the next research frontier

Neoadjuvant treatment is where drug therapy is given before surgical resection for Stage III melanoma that has spread to lymph nodes. It is the newest frontier in melanoma research and is demonstrating groundbreaking results. Various clinical trials at MIA continue to show that patients who have an almost complete eradication of their melanoma, in response to pre-surgical treatment with immunotherapy, can expect to be cured of their melanoma, never to experience advanced melanoma recurrence in their lifetime.

The NeoPeLe clinical trial

The NeoPeLe trial is the most recent clinical research study demonstrating promising neoadjuvant results. Developed by MIA researchers, the NeoPeLe trial tests the hypothesis that the combination of immunotherapy (pembrolizumab) with a second type of cancer treatment (lenvatinib) which is designed to suppress the growth of blood vessels feeding the melanoma cancer cells, will result in the eradication of melanoma cells within affected lymph nodes when given prior to lymph node removal surgery. The trial results, presented by Professor Georgina Long AO at the 2022 European Society for Medical Oncology Congress (ESMO), show that 75% of patients on the NeoPeLe trial experienced either a complete or near-complete eradication of melanoma within affected lymph nodes.



The results are so exciting that the trial reopened to recruitment in November 2022 to allow more patients to receive this treatment and to further explore the initial scientific findings.

The NADINA clinical trial

The hypothesis that neoadjuvant (pre-surgery) treatment is more effective than adjuvant (post-surgery) treatment in preventing recurrence after Stage III melanoma diagnosis will be tested in the NADINA clinical trial. In collaboration with international colleagues, the NADINA trial was developed by MIA doctors and scientists and will be the world's first trial to compare neoadjuvant treatment with combination immunotherapy (using ipilimumab and nivolumab) to the current standard adjuvant approach with single agent immunotherapy (using nivolumab). The NADINA trial is led by MIA across 8 Australian centres (MIA, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Westmead Hospital, Alfred Health, Tasman Health Care, Lake Macquarie Hospital, Fiona Stanley Hospital, and Princess Alexandra Hospital). The trial opened to recruitment in November 2021, with more than 200 of the 420 patients needed already recruited.

What is the difference between targeted therapy and immunotherapy?

Targeted therapy medications block cancer growth pathways that are triggered when a cancer cell develops a genetic malformation (mutation), whereas immunotherapy medications stimulate the body's own immune system to recognise and kill cancer cells.

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

Biospecimen Bank

All Melanoma Institute Australia patients are given the opportunity to contribute samples to the Biospecimen Bank.

MIA's Biospecimen Bank underpins global melanoma research and helps fuel treatment breakthroughs and advances. It holds the largest collection of melanoma samples in the world, which are distributed for use in research projects internationally. All MIA patients are given the opportunity to contribute samples to the Biospecimen Bank, which is a tangible way for them to play a significant role in progressing the understanding of melanoma and the development of new and more effective diagnostic techniques and treatments.

Our cryostorage capacity was boosted by the recent installation of three new cryogenic freezers – two at The Poche Centre and one at our Charles Perkins Centre (CPC) site at the University of Sydney. A new temperature monitoring system was also installed in all fridge and freezer storage units, enabling them to be monitored remotely in real-time and staff automatically alerted to any outages.

Two new CellDrop cell counters were also installed as additions to our blood processing system, enabling us to determine the quality and integrity of all isolated Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cell (PBMCs) Collections and provide accurate cell counts to researchers.

The Biospecimen Bank played a critical role in the pilot phase of the Digital Melanoma Imaging Project, which aims to establish a digital repository of histopathology images for future research and teaching applications. So far, the Biospecimen Bank has produced over 1000 high-quality histopathology slide images, which will become a valuable teaching and research resource in the future.

The Biospecimen Bank also began a blood collection service to the oncology clinic at The Poche Centre, with a specific focus on the strategic collection of blood specimens for current and future liquid biopsy and ctDNA projects.



Pathology fellow reviews cases and selects a representative subset of slides which are submitted for scanning.

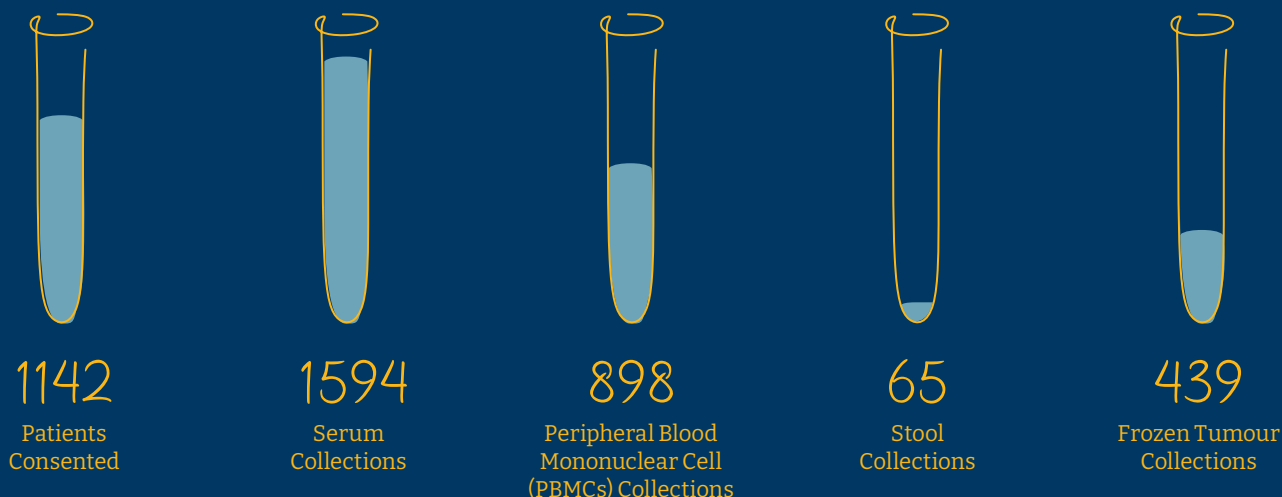


MIA Biospecimen Bank staff prepare slide for scanning by cleaning to remove dust and debris. Slide labels are de-identified.



Slides are imaged using a Leica Aperio system. Images are quality checked and transferred to long-term storage.

COLLECTIONS From 1/7/21 to 30/6/22



Research Database (MRD2)

Development of new clinical trials and treatment pathways is driven by MIA's Research Database. Known as MRD2, and containing the records of more than 50,000 patients, the database also supports national and international research projects and scientific collaboration.

102 research projects were fuelled by data from MRD2 this year, including:

1. InterMEL study – which aimed to investigate the genomic landscape of tumors in early stage primary cutaneous melanoma. The study demonstrated the feasibility of multi-omic data collection of small tumor specimens, and yielded a greater understanding of the molecular profiles of earlier stages of melanoma. MRD2 contributed more than 42% of the data in this project. The study was published in *Pigment Cell & Melanoma Research*.
2. An international multicentre study assessing whether all sentinel node (SN) biopsy-positive patients benefit from adjuvant systemic therapy. This retrospective analysis of 3,607 patients found that a maximum tumor deposit size threshold of 0.3 mm separated higher-risk and lower-risk melanoma SN metastases. This value was much lower than the current National Comprehensive Cancer Network referral guidelines for adjuvant systemic therapy. MRD2 contributed more than 43% of the sample pooled from 9 centres. Findings of this study were published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Project TEAL

Project TEAL is a bespoke data transfer program which acts as a conduit between data captured daily by clinicians when treating patients in clinic, and MIA research teams working on cutting edge projects to further advance melanoma treatment and management. The efficient transfer of research relevant clinical data is critical to MIA's future research output.

Developed by MIA, Version 1 of Project TEAL will soon be ready to roll-out to The Poche Centre multi-disciplinary clinics following its successful launch in MIA's WA and Wagga nursing clinics. Artificial intelligence, voice recognition and prognostic tool integration will feature in future versions of the program.



Melanoma Institute Australia is proud to confirm that we continue to invest in and enhance our patient data security infrastructure. Data security and privacy is paramount and MIA will always ensure appropriate level protections are in place.



EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS



**The main risk factor for developing melanoma is UV over-exposure
So, live a sunsafe life, and reduce your risk of developing melanoma.**

It sounds too simple. But it is true.

Unless you live in a country, like Australia, where sun exposure year round permeates nearly every aspect of life – from our sports, to our weekend pursuits, our workplaces, and our schools. And unless you are exposed to tanning and sunburn being normalised, glamorised, even trivialised every time you scroll through socials or turn on the TV.

A tan is actually skin cells in trauma. It is the result of sun-damaged cells producing melanin in an attempt to protect from further UV damage.

We need to do better. We need to urgently bolster sun safety as a cancer prevention message, and give it the public health prevalence it deserves.

It is the (State of the Nation) Report's calls for improvements in sun safety across sport, and modernising the iconic SLIP SLOP SLAP awareness campaign, where we believe we can all make the biggest impact in terms of melanoma prevention.



MIA Co-Medical Directors, Professor Georgina Long AO
& Professor Richard Scolyer AO



Roadmap to zero deaths from melanoma by 2030

For the first time, Australia has a roadmap to achieving zero deaths from melanoma by 2030, thanks to the landmark State of the Nation – A Report into Melanoma, A National Health Priority released this year.

The independent report by Insight Economics was jointly commissioned by Melanoma Institute Australia and Melanoma Patients Australia (MPA) and involved widespread national input from melanoma patients, carers, clinicians, researchers and policy leaders over an 18 month period.

Melanoma survivor and MIA National Ambassador, Olympian Cate Campbell, delivered the keynote address at the launch of the report at MIA's The Poche Centre in Sydney. Federal Health Minister, The Hon Greg Hunt, officially launched the report via video link, with the event streamed live to melanoma patients, carers and health professionals across Australia.

The report estimates that without critical action being taken, by 2030:

- a further 14,000 Australians will die from melanoma
- 205,000 will be diagnosed with the disease, and
- the economic cost to the nation will be \$8.7 billion.

The report also highlights that melanoma deaths in Australia exceed the road toll, yet road safety funding dramatically exceeds melanoma awareness and prevention funding.

'This independent report is a wake-up call for all involved in funding melanoma health care, public health policies, and community interventions.'

'Whilst Australia has led the way in global melanoma research and treatment breakthroughs in the last decade, this report for the first time highlights the enormity of the impact of melanoma on this country.'

Prof Georgina Long AO and
Prof Richard Scolyer AO

STATE OF
THE NATION

Importantly, the report also provides a roadmap for reducing Australia's melanoma impact. It outlines a five point strategy critical to achieving zero deaths from melanoma by 2030:

1. Implement a national melanoma prevention and awareness campaign
2. Invest in Australia's high impact research
3. Improve early detection and targeted screening programme
4. Reduce variation in diagnosis and treatment
5. Establish a model for melanoma supportive care and survivorship.

The five point strategy includes a raft of recommendations for action (detailed overleaf).

'Government commitment to each of these recommendations is critical if we are to make inroads in reducing the burden of melanoma.'

'This report provides the roadmap, it is crucial that we heed the advice given and put plans in place and take action now.'

Prof Long and Scolyer

LEFT TO RIGHT: MPA CEO Victoria Beedle; MPA's Karen van Gorp; Olympian and MIA Ambassador Cate Campbell; MIA Co-Medical Directors Prof Georgina Long AO & Prof Richard Scolyer AO; patient Anne Gately; MIA CEO Matthew Browne

Just prior to this Annual Report going to print, the Albanese Government committed \$14.8 million over four years for Melanoma Institute Australia to develop a National Melanoma Nurse Network.

This is the first recommendation since the release of the State of the Nation report to receive government funding.

'Melanoma Institute Australia looks forward to working with the Federal Government and other partner organisations to develop and implement the National Melanoma Nurse Network, which will benefit melanoma patients and their families across the country,' said Matthew Browne, CEO, Melanoma Institute Australia.



1. **Implement** a national melanoma prevention and awareness campaign

A national strategy for melanoma prevention and awareness would include:

- Invest in modernised, national prevention and awareness campaigns that reflect the new ways Australians consume public health messages in light of an evolving media landscape
- Accelerate investments in shade for the highest risk public spaces within five years
- Improve adherence to sun safe behaviours in primary schools and uptake in secondary schools
- Treat sun safety in the workplace in a manner consistent with other OH&S issues, such as the prevention of injury or chemical exposure, including by requiring explicit training in sun safe behaviours for all outdoor workers
- Make sun safety explicit in child safe sport.

3. **Improve** early detection and targeted screening programme

The actions to improve early detection outcomes include:

- Increase education and awareness of the risks of melanoma and the need to 'Know the Skin You're In' through routine self-skin checks
- Define minimum standards for skin checks, including the consistent use of wholebody examinations and dermoscopy
- Invest in GP training and dermoscopy program
- Develop a Roadmap for a National Targeted Melanoma Screening Program.

2. **Invest** in Australia's high impact research

The actions to improve research outcomes include:

- Fund a Nationally Collaborative Melanoma Research Mission and Discovery Program
- Develop clinical and population datasets as part of a National Cancer Data Ecosystem strategy
- Implement clinical trials reforms to reduce ethics and governance administrative burden.

**STATE of
THE NATION**



4. **Reduce** variation in diagnosis and treatment

The actions to improve treatment and care outcomes include:

- Establish a Patient Navigation Service
- Require written treatment and care plans
- Maintain clinical guidelines for melanoma through a peak national body
- Develop a clinical care standard for melanoma
- Develop a formal process for evidence development to ensure access to clinically important therapies that lack market incentives.

5. **Establish** a model for melanoma supportive care and survivorship

The actions to improve survivorship include:

- Develop a model of care for melanoma survivors
- Mandate the provision of survivorship care plans to all patients
- Establish a National Melanoma Nurse Service
- Increase the supply of and access to trained professionals in skin checks, particularly focused on regional and remote and disadvantaged communities.

Australia's current melanoma scorecard

World leading research capability	✓✓✓✓✓
Prevention & awareness	✓✓✓✓✓
Early detection	✓✓✓
Diagnosis, treatment & care	✓✓✓
Supportive care & survivorship	✓✓

RIGHT: MIA CEO, Matthew Browne

LEFT TOP: Former Federal Health Minister, The Hon Greg Hunt

LEFT BOTTOM: Patient Anne Gately reciting her poem, Sunbaker

EDUCATION

Clinical Education

In the rapidly evolving field of melanoma, it is important for clinicians to stay across the latest developments. Through our Melanoma Education Portal melanomaeducation.org.au, more than 3,600 specialists, GPs and nurses regularly access our online educational content that keeps them up-to-date with our latest understanding of melanoma and complex skin cancer.

The educational content developed, including podcasts, video presentations and interactive learning modules, taps into MIA's multidisciplinary expertise.

We were pleased to see some face-to-face educational events begin to return in 2022 after a hiatus due to COVID impacts. This included our hybrid GP Education Evening. We also launched a new quarterly MIA Nurse Webinar Series to ensure vital education specifically for nurses continued throughout the year.

Patient Education

Improved education helps empower patients through their melanoma diagnosis and treatment. We continued to invest in developing new Patient Information Brochures for distribution within our clinics and available online for all patients to access.

We launched our new printed Melanoma Prevention and Early Detection guide. This important resource joins our suite of Early, Stage III and Stage IV Melanoma Patient Guides, of which more than 8,000 printed copies are sent to clinics and individuals around Australia.

We also produced an educational video for newly diagnosed patients, Early Stage Melanoma: Your Questions Answered. This explainer video was very well received by patients.



A/Prof Alex van Akkooi, A/Prof Alex Menzies and A/Prof Sydney Ch'ng on a panel discussion for the GP Education Evening.



Prof Georgina Long AO and Dr Thomas Pennington making the early stage melanoma video.



ABOVE: A podcast recording session featuring Prof John Thompson AO, Prof Fergal Moloney and Prof Richard Scolyer AO.

BELOW: Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Richard Scolyer AO on a podcast recording.

Community Education

Our SunSafe Student Ambassador Program, a dedicated peer-to-peer learning workshop for high school students, was scheduled to be held in September 2021. Unfortunately it was postponed for a second year due to COVID impacts. However, thanks to a new partnership with Cancer Council NSW, Sydney Local Health District and Northern Sydney Local Health District, the groundwork was developed for roll out of the program in late 2022.

Melanoma Patients Australia

Our long-standing collaboration with Melanoma Patients Australia (MPA) continued, highlighted by the launch of our jointly commissioned State of the Nation – A Report into Melanoma, A National Health Priority. MIA will work with MPA to deliver the National Network of Melanoma Nurses.

We also partnered with MPA to deliver a Melanoma Community Webinar Series, providing support for melanoma patients and their families and carers, regardless of where they live in Australia.



Shahn Coburn and Rebecca Biviano on a nurse webinar (organised by CNSA).



EQUIPMENT PARTNER

 Bristol Myers Squibb



Fellows

CURRENT (UNLESS END DATE SHOWN)

Melanoma Risk Tools

Over the last year, the Melanoma Risk Prediction Tools website continued to grow in scope, doubling the number of users.

There have been more than 179,000 sessions on melanomarisk.org.au since its launch in June 2020.

The site now includes a tool to more accurately determine the likelihood of an advanced melanoma patient benefiting from immunotherapy, prior to them starting treatment. Equally importantly, the tool also helps identify patients who are unlikely to benefit from approved immunotherapy drugs, enabling oncologists to consider alternative and novel treatments for these patients from the outset. This personalised medicine replaces the one-size-fits-all approach to treatment, which will improve outcomes and ultimately save lives. More online tools are currently under development and will be launched over the next year.



Dr Ahmad Suliman
Poche Surgical Fellow

Dr Caroline Asirvatham Gjorup
Poche Surgical Fellow

Dr David Coker
Poche Surgical Fellow (until April '22)

Dr Piyush Grover
Cameron Medical Oncology Fellow

Dr Rachel Woodford
Medical Oncology Fellow

Dr Jorja Braden
Medical Oncology Fellow

Dr Amelia Taylor
Medical Oncology Fellow (until March '22)

Dr Mike Russell
Breast & Surgical Oncology Fellow

Dr Nigel Maher
McMurtrie Cancer Pathology Fellow

Dr Alison Potter
McMurtrie Cancer Pathology Fellow (until March '22)

Dr Andrew Dettrick
Pathology Fellow

Dr Liz Paver
Jani Haenke Melanoma Pathology Fellow (until June '22)

Dr Bruna Gallo
Lady (Mary) Fairfax Charitable Trust Dermatology Fellow

Dr Rodrigo Schwartz
Goodridge Foundation Dermatology Fellow (until April '22)

Dr Thomas Mathew
Dermatology Fellow

REGISTRARS AND ADVANCED TRAINEES

MIA also provides significant short-term (usually 3-6 month duration) Registrar and Advanced Trainee support in the clinical specialties of Medical Oncology, Surgical, Pathology and Dermatology.

Medical Oncology Advanced Trainees:
Dr Nicholas Della Marta
Dr Wai-Hoon Chan
Dr Brendan Kirwin

Surgical Registrars:
Dr Rhys van der Rijt
Dr Elle Vandervord
Dr Ines Praisda

Pathology Registrars:
Dr Leili Moyaed Alaei
Dr Emily Heffernan
Dr Fiona Ray

Dermatology Registrars:
Dr Genevieve Ho
Dr Joshua Farrell

EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS

“ Like most Australians, we love our great outdoors and we love our sport. But what is not good for you, is over exposure to the sun's UV, which often comes hand in hand with sport. *State of the Nation* calls for all sporting organisations to increase sun safety protocols and standards – this needs to be for participants, officials, AND spectators. From grassroots, through to professionals.

Sun safety needs to have the same billing as other safety measures which are already mandated through sporting codes.

Sun safe strategies across sport can be as simple as swapping out a cap for a broadbrimmed hat, providing a long-sleeved UPF 50+ playing kit, and ensuring sunscreen is applied and re-applied.

Other simple strategies would protect officials and spectators too, like moving games to outside the middle of the day, changing training times to early morning or later in the day, and providing portable shade structures for the sidelines.

We're calling for the establishment of a Sun Safe Sport Initiative, as the key mechanism to elevate sun safety across all Australian sports at all levels, including professionals who are role models for the next generation.

And for a commitment from the Federal Government to kick off this initiative. ”

MIA Co-Medical Directors, Professor Georgina Long AO & Professor Richard Scolyer AO



MELANOMA MARCH

We returned to our much-loved physical events for Melanoma March 2022, with our passionate (and greatly appreciated) volunteer committees running events in 18 locations across the country. The campaign wasn't without its challenges, with flooding forcing the postponement of three events until May.

We welcomed several 'first-timer' committees, running inaugural marches in towns including Tamworth NSW and Denmark WA. Our new DIY 'March Your Way' option also proved a big hit, with participants coming up with creative ways of getting active and fundraising. MIA National Ambassadors Peter Overton and Cate Campbell generously threw their support behind the campaign, which raised more than \$700,000 to support the world-first Personalised Immunotherapy Platform clinical trial. Planning is well underway for our 2023 campaign, which looks set to be our biggest yet!

Thank you to our Melanoma March committees and all participants.



Our thanks to MIA National Ambassador Peter Overton for interviewing Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Richard Scolyer AO about Melanoma March raising funds for the Personalised Immunotherapy Clinical Trial.



MARCH YOUR WAY



DARWIN



PERTH



BUNBURY



DENMARK



ADELAIDE



Our thanks to the team at Ricky Richards for once again providing a generous donation to Melanoma March.



TAMWORTH



TOWNSVILLE



SUNSHINE COAST



WAGGA WAGGA



DUBBO



COOLANGATTA



BRISBANE



WESTERN SYDNEY



MANLY



CANBERRA



MELBOURNE



HOBART

OPPOSITE: Melanoma March Co-founder, James Economides (centre) with Game On Mole Ambassador, Oceana Strachan and Conor Heghi.

RIGHT: Melanoma Institute Australia Principal Benefactors, Greg Poche AO and Kay Van Norton Poche AO at our Manly March event.





Our Community

With COVID lockdowns largely behind us, our local community fundraisers returned with gusto. We thank each and every one of them for their passion and their support which continued to fuel our ongoing research efforts. Over 50 community fundraisers were held this financial year, and over \$386,000 raised. Amazing!

NSW

ERIK MATHER SWIM

The annual Erik Mather 2-4-6 km Swim hosted by the Balmoral Beach Club raised \$41,000 for MIA's Erik Mather PhD Scholarship for melanoma research. It was an early start for participants, including MIA's CEO Matthew Browne, Co-Medical Directors Prof Georgina Long AO and Prof Richard Scolyer AO, and Prof Anne Cust. Thanks particularly to Erik's sister Monika for another wonderful event.

RIDE FOR STEWART

Eric Legge completed the 2021 Bowral Classic, raising \$2,700 in honour of his son Stewart, who he lost to melanoma in 2019.

REVFIT 24HR MELANOMA MARATHON

It was an action-packed 24-hrs at the annual REVFIT 24hr Melanoma Marathon in Tamworth which raised \$1,650. The aim of the marathon, started by Stage IV melanoma survivor Adam Brook, was to keep the gym equipment moving for a total of 24hrs. We're tired just thinking about it!

MUIRFIELD GOLF DAY

The 3rd Muirfield Golf Club Ladies Charity Day involved a day of golf, raffles & a cake stall in support of members and their families affected by skin cancer. \$5,000 was raised.

AMIE ST CLAIR BALL

After a two year COVID-delay, close to 300 people enjoyed a fun-filled 10th anniversary celebration at the MIA Amie St Clair Ball in Wagga Wagga. This was the first Ball since the merger of the Amie St Clair Melanoma Trust with MIA in 2020. Guest speaker, via video, was MIA ambassador Olivia Vivian who shared her heartbreak at losing her father to melanoma. A huge thank you to Amanda 'Moo' Hubbard and the Ball organising committee for an amazing evening, particularly Annette (pictured on-stage with the band) and Peter St Clair.



RIVERINA MELANOMA RIDE

What a massive effort from Matt Kean and his fellow cyclists who completed the 8-day, 1000km Riverina Melanoma Ride 2022! In addition to many hours of cycling, they also visited local schools to raise awareness about sun safety. Thanks to all involved in the ride which raised close to \$70,000.

WAGGA WAGGA

Our supportive Wagga community was busy – with popular community fundraisers including the Wagga Golf Day (raised approx \$25,000), and the Wagga Gun Club Raffle and NRL Lunch which raised \$2,125.

CUMQUAT MARMALADE SALE

Jenny Chandler raised an incredible \$3,880 with her annual cumquat marmalade sale.

ALEX HAYES X FISHBOWL

Influencer and surfer Alex Hayes launched his own Fishbowl for the popular franchise in Manly, and donated a portion of the proceeds to MIA.



"I WONDER IF AMIE WOULD STILL BE ALIVE IF WE'D HAD ACCESS TO GROUND-BREAKING CLINICAL TRIALS"

TAX APPEAL

Thank you to all our generous donors who contributed to our Tax Appeal to help expand our clinical trial program. The appeal focused on Annette St Clair who selflessly shared her personal story about losing her 23-year-old daughter Amie to melanoma, at a time when access to clinical trials was difficult. Other melanoma patients and their families joined the campaign by explaining what clinical trials meant to them.

The appeal was our most successful yet.

We are grateful for the support of high profile Australians who publicly shared their personal stories about melanoma and skin cancer to help MIA raise awareness and funds for research.

RIGHT: Prof Long with Deborah Hutton

BELOW: 2GB's Ray Hadley with Profs Scolyer and Long, and A/Prof Stretch



WA



ROTTNEST CHANNEL SWIM

Two Perth teams swam in the Rottne Channel Swim in honour of Tom Leishman, a popular teen who lost his 3-year fight with melanoma in 2017, aged 18 years. Tom's sister Alannah created Team Swim4Skin, and four of Tom's friends swam as Team Leishman. Together they raised \$15,535.

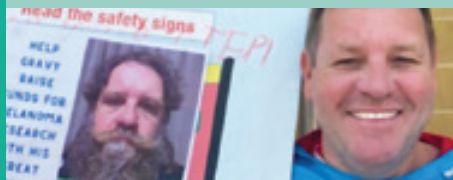


DAFFODIL CHEF DINNER

The 4th annual Daffodil Chef Dinner was held in memory of Steve Scriven, a chef who had a love of good food, good wine, and good company. Hosted by his wife, Maryce, the night was a wonderful way to remember her husband and raised over \$7,000 for MIA's support services in WA.

BEARD SHAVE

Graham Shackles and the Secret Harbour Surf Life Saving Club (WA) gathered their young surfing community together at the end of Nippers Season for the Graham Shackles Beard Shave. Graham, a melanoma survivor who also lost his mother to the disease, shaved off his long beard in support of melanoma research. The event raised \$2,843 and importantly, also promoted sun safety amongst the young community.



JAY JAY'S HEAD SHAVE

Jay Jay shaved his head, raising \$2,425, in memory of his mother-in-law Karen Knuckey who passed away in December 2020. During her treatments, Karen would lose her hair. Jay Jay had never shaved his head before and was up for the challenge.



2021 MELANOMA BIKE BASH

Over two fun, yet challenging days an intrepid group of 22 riders and 10 hardworking volunteer crew successfully completed the sixth annual 160km Melanoma Bike Bash along the picturesque Kep Track of WA. Thank you to all riders, crew and supporters who raised an incredible \$62,543!



SPLASH, PEDAL, DASH

Andrew, Martin and Mark competed in the 2021 Busselton Ironman, collectively raising \$2,483.

QLD

CANCER CHARITY GOLF DAY

The Wantima Country Club held their Ladies Annual Cancer Charity Day, which attracted 126 golfers for the 18 hole competition followed by lunch, fundraising activities and raffles. Over \$3,000 was raised. Here's a pic of the winners – we're impressed by their sun protective sleeves!



LOBSTER LUNCH

Big thanks to Ryan and Claudia from Reef Seafood + Sushi Gasworks, and everyone who dug deep to help raise over \$10,000 at the Lobster Lunch in Brisbane.

'MEMORIES OF A LIFE WELL LIVED' BOOK LAUNCH

During COVID, historian Valerie Donovan wrote and published her memoirs entitled 'Memories of a Life Well Lived'. Her book launch took place almost 5 years to the day since she lost her husband John to melanoma. Valerie donated all book-sale proceeds to MIA in John's honour, totalling \$5,355.



MELANOMA LONG LUNCH

It was an emotive day at the Melanoma Long Lunch in Brisbane, held in memory of husband, father and friend Peter Rink who passed away from melanoma. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, attendees, and companies and individuals who donated auction items, the event raised \$248,000 for MIA's ground-breaking research. Our particular thanks to Tour de Cure and event organiser Cathy Richards for their ongoing support.

THE SIX HOUR PROJECT

Congratulations to the awe-inspiring Gina Savage and The Six Hour Project team, who hosted the incredible 'A Night for Melanoma' event at the Mercedes-Benz Brisbane to fundraise for melanoma research, including supporting MIA's Personalised Immunotherapy Platform (PIP) Clinical Trial. \$40,000 was donated to MIA - a big thank you to all the wonderful people who attended and supported!



VIC



NIKE MELBOURNE MARATHON FESTIVAL

Nic Nazaretian completed the 2021 Nike Melbourne Marathon in honour of her brother-in-law Neil Evans and raised \$5,000 for the Neil Evans Melanoma Foundation.

RUN TO BEAT MELANOMA

Dan Terrill ran his first ever marathon in honour of his wife Sarah, who loved running. Sarah passed away in August 2021 after a 4- year battle with melanoma. She was only 47. Dan was joined by friends Alex, Kevin and Ross and their team 'Run to Beat Melanoma', raised an impressive \$14,378.



LAUREN'S ROUND

This melanoma fundraiser was held at Newstead Football/Netball Club in honour of club member Lauren who died from melanoma in 2021. It raised \$1,200.

TAS

RUN FROM THE SUN 2022

Run From The Sun is aimed at Year 7-12 students and provides information around sun safety, UV radiation and melanoma. The program has most impact when a volunteer shares their story with the students. This year the team covered nearly 3,000 kms in three weeks, speaking to 2,000 students and 100 staff members, and visiting 21 Skin Cancer Clinics/Oncology Units. Our thanks to Jacksons Motor Company which supplied a VW Tiguan for the event, and to Ego SunSense which supplied students with sunscreen.



Run From The Sun also featured two fundraising rides. Bikes and Riders Tasmania arranged a fundraising "Roll The Dice Ride" which saw 60 riders and four cars travel through spectacular parts of the NW coast of Tasmania. \$1,600 was raised. "The Southern Ride" saw 45 bikes and three cars travel from Kingston in southern Tasmania to the iconic Longley International Hotel, with a Dutch Auction along the way. \$1,300 was raised.



BRENDAN BROWNING MEMORIAL MATCH

This was the 2nd year the Brighton Football Club and New Norfolk Football Club played for the Brendan Browning Shield in honour of Brendan who passed away from melanoma in December 2020. Brendan's wife Sally and daughter Chelsea presented the Player of the Day award to Ryan Bailey, followed by a luncheon attended by 160 people which raised over \$20,000. A big thank you to Darren Clark, President of the Brighton Robins Football Club, Tyrone Barwick of Barwick's Landscaping and Sally Browning for all of their organisation on the day, and to all sponsors.



ACT

ERIN'S BIG CHOP

Erin chopped 20cm off her waist length hair and donated it to a wig maker for children who have lost their hair as a result of cancer treatment. She fundraised for MIA at the same time, in support of her Dad.

GET STUFFED MELANOMA FUNDRAISER

Rob Tranter raised an impressive \$32,000. He works part time as a leadership coach through Jeff Whalan Learning Group, which donates all his fees to melanoma research and care.

EGO SENSE \$1 CAMPAIGN

Our thanks to Ego SunSense for its ongoing support and its \$1 pharmacy campaign. What an amazing initiative to raise awareness about sun safety and also vital funds for MIA research.



IN MEMORY

We would like to thank all the friends and families who collectively raised \$65,300 via fundraising pages for loved ones lost - In memory of Brett, In Memory of Marian Dickinson, Remembering JC (John Callaghan), In Loving Memory of Lionel McGuire, In Memory of Mikayla Louise Green, Remembering Simon Haralambopoulos, In Loving Memory of Joanna Katherine Simmonds, Remembering Anna Velebir, Remembering Emma Stedman, In Memory of Fran Liddle, Remembering Paul Cooney, Remembering James Gordon Muir, Remembering Kerri Ann Hilton and In Memory of Michael Conlan. We're so grateful you chose to support MIA in this way. It's a beautiful gesture to honour the legacy of loved ones and lessen the impact of melanoma on others.

SPEAKERS' HUB

COVID restrictions saw a combination of zoom and in-person presentations by our passionate volunteer speakers.

We appreciated their willingness to share their personal stories to help raise awareness about the impacts of melanoma.

Volunteer speaker, Jen Benfield (centre) at a Speakers' Hub engagement.



neil evans
MELANOMA FOUNDATION

Our thanks to the Neil Evans Melanoma Foundation for supporting patients in accessing treatment.

AMBASSADORS

We were delighted to welcome three new Ambassadors, all high profile Australians with their own melanoma stories and scars.

Ch 9's Peter Overton AM joined as National Ambassador after going public with his own melanoma battle. Peter is a familiar face to thousands across the country, and used his interviewing prowess on our own Co-Medical Directors to help us promote Melanoma March. Also joining us was model Oceana Strachan who, at 25, had a melanoma removed from her leg and fronted our Game On Mole campaign. And most recently, 19-year-old Commonwealth Games champion Sam Short became our youngest Ambassador. Sam had surgery to remove a melanoma from his back only weeks before swimming for gold in the 1500m in Birmingham. Sam's willingness to share his story helped us reach impressionable young Australians with vital sun safety messages.

We also welcomed dual international and Parramatta legend Ray Price and his wife Sandy as Ambassadors. Both have advanced melanoma and shared their story to help raise awareness.

All our Ambassadors have been personally impacted by melanoma and donate their time freely and frequently to help us raise awareness and funds – from Olympic champion Cate Campbell delivering the keynote address at the launch of State of the Nation and speaking so passionately at the National Press Club (with fellow Ambassadors Oceana Strachan, Ray & Sandy Price and Sam Short also in attendance), to Ninja legend Olivia Vivian's emotional tribute to her Dad at our Amie St Clair Ball in Wagga and to Sonia Lewis for being the face of our Regular Giving campaign.

The generosity of all our Ambassadors continues to inspire us and change lives, and we thank them all.

Peter Overton

Cate Campbell

Sam Short

Ray & Sandy Price

Olivia Vivian

John Eales

Shannan Ponton

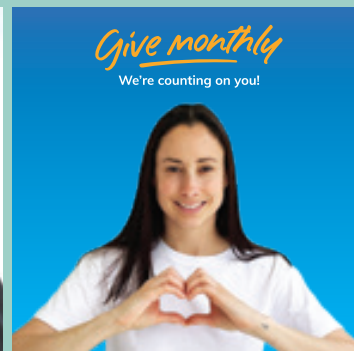
Oceana Strachan

Sonia & Luke Lewis

Brad McEwan



Peter Overton



Sonia Lewis



Sam Short

PHOTO COURTESY
OF WADES PHOTO



Ray & Sandy Price

Did you know?

Cate Campbell donated a swim training session and Olivia Vivian donated a kids' Ninja training camp for auction at community events. Bidding was intense!

GAME ON MOLE

With COVID lockdowns resulting in a sharp drop in patients being referred to MIA for treatment, we brought forward the launch of our annual Game On Mole campaign in a bid to get skin awareness messages top of mind. 25-year-old model and melanoma survivor Oceana Strachan fronted the campaign, sharing her personal story as a reminder of the need to be sun safe and check your skin for changes. The campaign featured a collaboration with t-shirt designer Everything's Good, with a cheeky 'mole' character on slogan tees sparking life-saving conversations. Once again, thousands of Australians, and numerous celebrities, wore the tees with pride, including athletics champions Dr Jana Pittman and Melinda Gainsford-Taylor who joined forces in support of their coach Jackie Byrnes OAM.



Kylie Gillies



Olivia Vivian



Oceana Strachan
& Conor Heghi



Melinda Gainsford-Taylor and Dr Jana Pittman

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR GENEROUS DONORS

MIA major donors at time of printing

PRINCIPAL BENEFACTOR

Greg Poche AO and
Kay Van Norton Poche AO

LIFE GOVERNORS

Bill Phillips and Family
The Kinghorn Foundation
Cameron Family Foundation
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Sally Richardson
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a giving fund in APS Foundation
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ESTATES

The Estate of the Late Zara Splayford
The Estate of the Late Ann Margaret Campbell
The Estate of the Late Sydney Donald Smith
The Estate of the Late Brett Arthur Gardiner
The Estate of the Late Sandra Margaret Taylor
The Estate of the Late John Lethe
The Estate of the Late Mary Elizabeth Brodie
The Estate of the Late Peter Hammond
The Estate of the Late Helen McKinnon
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The Estate of the Late Catherine Dwan
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The Estate of the Late Nigel John Parkin
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The Estate of the Late Peter Mitchell
The Estate of the Late Gary Perret
The Estate of the Late Mark James McLellan
The Estate of the Late Anthony Van De Putte
The Estate of the Late Rogan Weeple
The Estate of the Late Ann Gray
The Estate of the Late Michael John Curley

PARTNERS

Collaboration is at the heart of everything we do.



coolcabanas
OFFICIAL SHADE PARTNER



HALL CHADWICK

CLAYTON UTZ

CPII



greenline



EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS

“ There is a whole generation of young Australians who we fear might have slipped through the sun safety net.

Our most successful sun safety awareness campaign – SLIP SLOP SLAP – was in fact launched last century. There is no doubting the impact of the SLIP SLOP SLAP TV campaign on the generation of children and teens who are now middle-aged.

But...influencers have clouded the sun safety message. Social media feeds are filled with tanned bodies, the deeper the tan, the better. Their collective voices are loud. And we have sat on the sidelines, in virtual silence.

It is critical that we act now, and modernise the melanoma prevention campaign and make it relevant to a new generation.

To this end, we call on the federal government to commit now to a long-term, modernised sun safety prevention campaign, to reach children and teens, who will be tomorrow's young adults.

When it comes to melanoma and its prevention, and change in sun safe behaviours, we must think in generations and not months or years.



Our loyal donors large and small, our passionate community fundraisers, our generous corporate sponsors, our committed volunteer speakers and our enthusiastic event participants all play a critical role in helping us reach our mission of zero deaths from melanoma.

We thank each and every one of our partners for your continued support.

Melanoma Institute Australia
Statement of Comprehensive Income
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

► MIA's significant achievements and growth throughout the year are reflected in our Audited Financial Statements, reporting revenue of \$21.5 million during the financial year. This was our most successful year to date. We particularly wish to acknowledge our many donors for their wonderful philanthropic support, which increased by an amazing 33% from the previous year.

Our world class researchers continued to secure significant funding to underpin MIA's mission of achieving zero deaths from melanoma, reflecting our researchers' high standing within the scientific community both nationally and internationally. This enabled MIA to open new clinical trials and research projects, and increase activities in each of our mission pillars of research, education and clinical care.

MIA's personnel costs of \$12.5 million related mainly to staff employed directly on research, education, clinical care and supportive care activities. We maintained minimal administration, fundraising and communications teams to support these mission-based projects.

REVENUE

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Research Income	12,393,811	8,362,367
Donations	7,896,298	5,952,219
Poche Centre income	722,350	832,977
Education & patient advocacy	556,115	501,504
Investment income	546,833	377,988
Other income	121,807	94,833
Change in Fair Value Through Profit & Loss (FVTPL) on financial assets	(738,734)	1,112,452
Government Support - COVID-19	-	1,676,750
Total Revenue	21,498,480	18,911,090

EXPENSES

Personnel costs	(12,459,186)	(10,582,286)
Research expense	(3,937,937)	(2,997,156)
Depreciation expense	(890,117)	(885,726)
Administration costs	(837,580)	(779,170)
Education & patient advocacy	(449,678)	(563,600)
IT support	(348,138)	(204,555)
Fundraising	(304,018)	(143,642)
Building operations	(241,105)	(242,083)
Utilities	(169,255)	(190,213)
Cleaning	(90,330)	(102,388)
Bank & investment fees	(31,780)	(54,263)
Audit	(15,000)	(15,000)
Conference/functions	(9,415)	(10,504)
Total Expenses	(19,783,539)	(16,770,586)
Profit/(Loss) for the year	1,714,941	2,140,504
Total comprehensive income/(loss)	1,714,941	2,140,504

Melanoma Institute Australia Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Total Current Assets	26,765,042	24,919,146
Total Non-Current Assets	2,339,131	2,255,255
TOTAL ASSETS	29,104,173	27,174,401
Total Current Liabilities	11,313,330	11,142,801
Total Non-Current Liabilities	791,257	746,955
TOTAL LIABILITIES	12,104,587	11,889,756
NET ASSETS	16,999,586	15,284,645

- MIA's net assets increased to \$17 million. This provides financial capability and capacity to drive our research projects, education, clinical care and supportive care towards achieving our mission.
- In addition to the liabilities shown, MIA quarantined a further \$4.8 million for research projects, as per specific donors' wishes.
- All funds on investment are held in secure diversified funds managed by Macquarie Private Bank, having transitioned from Equity Trustees Limited in May 2022.

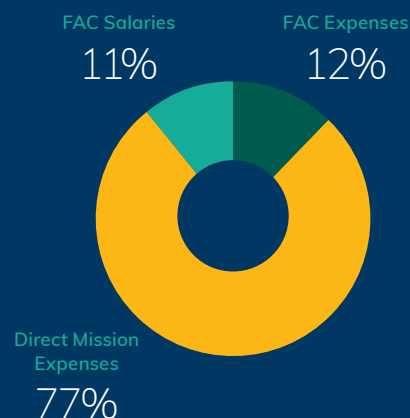


MACQUARIE



Equity Trustees

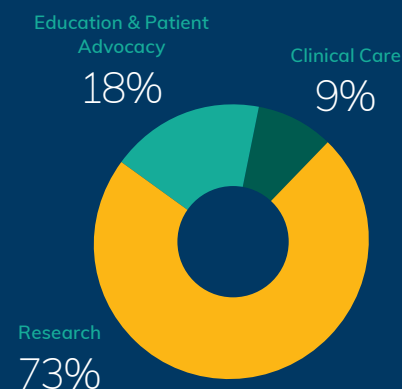
MISSION FUNDING



MIA increased its percentage of expenditure against mission to 77%, and achieved a record expenditure on its missions pillars of over \$15 million.

FAC: Fundraising, administration and communications

EXPENDITURE PER MISSION PILLAR



EXTRACT FROM NATIONAL PRESS CLUB ADDRESS



Media, social media influencers and advertisers - starting today, we need you to step up and use your influence for good, by helping change the national narrative around sunburn and tanning.

Casual references to sunburn and the glamourisation of tanning are everywhere – normalising behaviour which we know kills. You don't see people smoking or driving without seatbelts in television ads. And for good reason. So why do we see people sunburnt?

Our failure to afford sunburn and tanning public health importance in media, advertising, and via influencers, is a national problem. In this insta-famous world where influencers set the cultural agenda, a tan is seen as aspirational; a sign of beauty, health and success.

So please, we ask media, advertisers, and social media influencers to view the world through a sun safe lens. You have massive influence, and we ask that you work with us to change the cultural narrative around sunburn and tanning.



MIA Co-Medical Directors, Professor Georgina Long AO & Professor Richard Scolyer AO



GOVERNANCE

MIA is a company limited by guarantee with deductible gift recipient status. MIA is governed by a Board of Directors and advised by Faculty, led by the Co-Medical Directors. Faculty is advised on clinical, research and education matters by Committees.

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Ex-officio

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Professor Richard Scolyer AO
Matthew Browne

Emeritus Faculty

Professor Rick Kefford AM
Professor Graham Mann

Other Poche Centre Clinicians

(who regularly attend MIA's MDT meetings)

Dr Bruna Gouveia
Dr Edward Hsiao
Dr Rony Kapoor

Chief Executive Officer
Matthew Browne

Susan Elder was MIA's Company Secretary during the financial year

Please see melanoma.org.au for full bios.

Membership at time of printing

COOLCABANAS - Official Shade Partner of Melanoma Institute Australia

“ We are excited and honoured to be chosen as the exclusive sun shade partner of Melanoma Institute Australia. As an iconic Australian brand we welcome the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing research and education around melanoma and its impact on our lives.

While a *CoolCabana* will protect from overhead sun, we need to educate around the use of all forms of sun protection and melanoma prevention. Our sponsorship will enable MIA to further this research and *CoolCaban*as looks forward to a long and positive partnership ”

CoolCaban

In a partnership fostered to promote sun safety and save lives from melanoma, leading Australian company CoolCaban

The multi-year partnership will see joint branding and sun safe messaging on packaging for CoolCaban

CEO of Melanoma Institute Australia, Matthew Browne, said he was delighted to have CoolCaban

‘Shade is one of the key sun safe rules for preventing melanoma which is the most common cancer impacting 20 to 39-year-old Australians,’ Mr Browne said.

‘CoolCaban

In addition to every CoolCabana sold including messaging about the 5-sunsa

Melanoma Institute Australia recognises the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work, and is proud to include traditional country names in all our site addresses.

Cammeraygal Land – The Poche Centre, Sydney

Gadigal Country – The University of Sydney

Wiradjuri Land – Wagga Wagga

Nyoongar Boodjar – Perth, Western Australia

Nipaluna – Hobart, Tasmania

We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which Melanoma Institute Australia works, and their Elders both past and present, and acknowledge the deep, continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the land, waters, and sky.



Melanoma Institute Australia

The Poche Centre, Cammeraygal Land, 40 Rocklands Road Wollstonecraft NSW 2065

P: 1300 882 353 E: info@melanoma.org.au W: melanoma.org.au

ABN: 35 123 321 148 CFN: 20341