

We save lives. You can too.



Leaving a gift in your Will to
The Westmead Institute for Medical
Research will save lives and deliver
hope for generations to come.



**The
Westmead
Institute**
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH



Your legacy will live on through our life-changing research

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Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to support medical research conducted at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR).

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

The impact that medical research has on human health is extraordinary, identifying better ways to prevent, diagnose, treat and cure serious illnesses.

Yet, research is time-consuming and expensive. WIMR relies on philanthropic support, including gifts in Wills from people like you, to deliver its innovative research.

We invite you to become a Discovery Partner by pledging support for ground-

breaking medical research with global impact through a gift in your Will. Your proud legacy and vision for a healthier future will live on through our work.

At WIMR, our promise to you is that we will honour your legacy by investing in the best and brightest research talent. We will ensure that our work remains visionary and ground-breaking and will improve health outcomes for people throughout Australia and the world.

Again, we sincerely thank you for considering making a gift in your Will to WIMR.

Professor Philip O'Connell
Executive Director, WIMR



You will make a difference to the health of future generations

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Many of our researchers are also practising clinicians, engaging with patients daily. We call this approach ‘bedside to bench to bedside’.

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We know that the good health and well-being of your loved ones and friends is of vital importance to you.

Poor health has the potential to change our life course, creating pain, sadness, loss and grief, not just for ourselves, but for the people close to us. Research is our best hope for creating a future with better health outcomes for family, friends and people throughout the world.

Here at WIMR, our researchers are world leaders, investigating some of the most serious illnesses affecting our community. Healthcare is being revolutionised by the development of personalised medicine

and treatments tailored to an individual’s unique genetic profile to bring about better health outcomes. WIMR’s researchers are at the forefront of these developments. We are committed to making a difference, so we are making substantial investments both in our people and facilities.

WIMR’s vision is to turn medical research into discoveries that save lives and deliver hope.

Your gift will support the inspiring work being undertaken at WIMR well beyond your lifetime. Thank you for joining us to make a real difference to the health of future generations.

Dr Dinny Graham

Breast cancer is not one disease but a wide mix that can be classified into clinically different sub-groups on the basis of a range of different characteristics. Accurately predicting tumour aggressiveness and treatment response is critical, allowing doctors to select the treatments that are likely to be the most effective to maximise the chance of a long-term cure. "At WIMR, I am proud that our team is responsible for spearheading the development of a low-cost test that will soon be widely available to help identify the most effective treatment option for each person diagnosed with breast cancer."

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Our research needs to be dynamic and adapt to the unpredictable nature of this alarmingly common malignancy. Support through charitable bequests has allowed us to respond rapidly to the changing landscape of breast cancer treatment and research.

We work closely with our clinical colleagues to respond to the problems that they face in the everyday care of their patients. The breast cancer research team feels profoundly fortunate in having been supported by a generous bequest that enabled us to continue important research that we hope to see through to improvements in clinical care for this devastating disease.

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Unlocking breakthroughs across all areas of health

At WIMR, we tackle many different diseases, with multi-disciplinary teams working together to solve complex problems.

With a wide range of research projects underway, our teams can uncover links between diseases, collaborate across fields, and accelerate the development of better treatments and potential cures.

WIMR's research is informed by the serious health issues that our researchers and clinicians see every day in their care

of patients. It means that, not only is the research addressing real and current health needs, the results of WIMR's research can also be more rapidly applied to improve patient outcomes.

We call this approach 'bedside to bench to bedside'. In this way, WIMR's research discoveries are translated into better medical care for patients, transforming the future of health in our local communities and worldwide.



Infection & immunity

COVID-19, HIV, herpes viruses, influenza, life-threatening fungal infections, antibiotic resistance, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, type 1 diabetes, kidney diseases.



Liver & metabolic

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



Cancer

Melanoma, blood cancers including leukaemia, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, liver cancer.



Cardio-respiratory

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



Neuroscience & vision

Mental illnesses, eye diseases, traumatic stress, neuro-developmental disorders.



Alzheimer's disease

Neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease.



Discovery Partner Maree

My involvement with Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR) gives me a great deal of pleasure and hope, and I feel very welcomed when I attend Discovery Partner events.

It is exciting to hear about the advancements in medical science firsthand and witness the researcher's dedication and enthusiasm for their work.

My first association with WIMR was in 2016, when I was searching for "maybe something better" for my late husband, who had been diagnosed with heart failure.

The wonderful and caring cardiologist at Westmead Hospital, who treated him, was also a researcher at WIMR – pioneering

new possibilities using stem cells as an advancement to routine pacemaker/defibrillator therapy.

Now, that vision continues to evolve. Radical new research is underway using specially cultivated stem cells to grow new heart muscle – offering hope to repair damaged and failing hearts.

How wonderful is this!

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After discussing with my children and grandchildren, I have chosen to leave a gift in my Will to ensure the incredible work continues, for future generations to come!

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For more information about becoming a **Discovery Partner**
Call: 02 9843 9000 **Email:** giftsinwills@wimr.org.au



Discovery Partner

Liz

Three members of my family lost their lives to cancer, and for a long time, I assumed that would be my path too. But in 2012, after nearly 20 years of unexplained and steadily declining health, I was finally diagnosed with severe Pulmonary Hypertension and heart failure. That moment shifted everything.

For me, important decisions have always come easily – almost as if the thinking has already been done, and all that remains is to act. So when I recently updated my Will, I knew exactly where my bequest should go. The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR) was a natural and logical choice – a reputable institute doing critical work across a range of health and medical research areas.

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WIMR – a reputable institute carrying out important health and medical research.

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I've been very lucky – my condition has remained stable. But Pulmonary Hypertension is typically a progressive and debilitating illness. We urgently need more research to uncover its causes and develop better treatments for those who live with it.

My life has been one of lifelong learning. My hope is that my bequest will, in some way, help others by advancing the kind of research that leads to understanding, treatment, and hope – whether that's in Pulmonary Hypertension or wherever the need is greatest.

We save lives. **You can too.**

Visit: wimr.org.au/make-a-gift-in-your-will

Professor Anna De Fazio

Following diagnosis, only 49% of people with ovarian cancer in Australia can expect to survive at least 5-years. Despite these poor outcomes, little has changed in the way we diagnose and treat ovarian cancer.

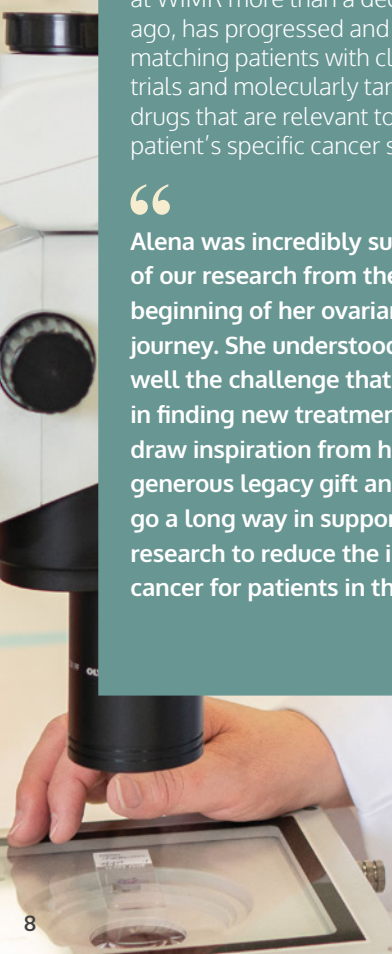
WIMR's ovarian cancer research aims to understand the clinical and genetic factors that influence response and resistance to chemotherapy in ovarian cancer.

A project called INOVate, established at WIMR more than a decade ago, has progressed and is now matching patients with clinical trials and molecularly targeted drugs that are relevant to the patient's specific cancer subtype.

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Alena was incredibly supportive of our research from the very beginning of her ovarian cancer journey. She understood only too well the challenge that we have in finding new treatments. We draw inspiration from her very generous legacy gift and it will go a long way in supporting our research to reduce the impact of cancer for patients in the future.

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In Loving Memory of Alena

Alena was born in Scotland and immigrated to Australia with her parents and brother. From a young age, her compassion and determination were clear. She pursued her dream of becoming a veterinarian and later earned a Master's in Public Health. Her life was guided by a deep commitment to current affairs, social justice, and the rights of both animals and humans.

Alena was extraordinarily multi-talented. She had a gift for the arts, a beautiful singing voice, and natural athleticism – especially in long-distance cycling and hiking. Her brilliance behind the camera took her across the world, capturing breathtaking images that reflected her unique perspective on life and nature.

One day, while boxing – a sport she enjoyed – Alena found herself out of breath. Concerned, she visited the hospital, where she received the devastating diagnosis of stage four ovarian cancer, which had already spread to her lungs. At the time, she had been physically and emotionally exhausted from caring for her elderly parents and preparing their home, unknowingly overlooking the signs of her illness.

With immense courage, Alena began intensive treatment. Her cancer, caused by a rare genetic mutation, offered limited options, but her strength and perseverance never wavered. She faced each challenge with a determination that inspired everyone around her.

The emotional weight of this journey was profound, especially during the isolating months of the COVID-19 lockdowns. Yet, Alena was never truly alone. Extraordinary friends and neighbours surrounded her life, many of whom were doctors, veterinarians, and mental health professionals. They formed a close-knit circle that cared for her with unwavering love and dedication.



True to her nature, Alena remained in control throughout. Her intelligence, resilience, and deep sense of grace were present every step of the way. Even in illness, she uplifted others, giving so much of herself despite her own suffering.

After a two-year battle, Alena passed away peacefully at her beloved home. Her radiant smile, infectious laugh, and beautiful spirit left an enduring mark on everyone who knew her.

Her legacy lives on not only in the hearts of those who loved her, but also through her generous gift to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research. Her contribution toward ovarian cancer research is deeply appreciated and will help ensure that others benefit from advances in the understanding and treatment of this disease.

Alena's generosity, her courage, and her love for others will always continue.



Honouring the Legacy of Habibe Yavuz: A life of love, hard work, and generosity

The late Habibe Yavuz was a remarkable woman whose life story is one of resilience, dedication, and generosity.

Migrating to Australia with her husband in 1970 from Turkey, she embraced her new home with warmth and determination. Settling in Auburn, she worked tirelessly to build a life for her family while contributing to her community in countless ways.

Habibe was more than just a devoted wife and mother; she was an upstanding member of the community, known for her compassion, understanding, and unwavering support for those around her. Whether offering a helping hand to a neighbour in need or sharing words of wisdom with younger generations, she left a lasting impression on everyone who had the privilege of meeting her.

Her legacy is carried on by her three children, nine grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren, all of whom continue to honour her values of kindness, respect, and generosity.

Beyond her immediate family, Habibe's impact extends even further through the thoughtful gift she left for the **Cardiac Gene Therapy research group at WIMR**.

Her generosity is fuelling vital medical research that will save lives and bring hope to future generations.

Habibe Yavuz's life was one of purpose, love, and selflessness. She will always be remembered as a woman who gave her heart to her family, her community, and the world. Her story serves as an inspiration, reminding us of the profound impact one person can have when they lead with kindness and determination.

Professor Eddy Kizana

Sudden Cardiac Death accounts for 4 to 5 million deaths annually, including around 20,000 in Australia. WIMR's Cardiac Gene Therapy research group has identified two genes that increase the risk of Sudden Cardiac Death. Following a cardiac event (eg a heart attack), these genes no longer function as they should.

The WIMR team is working on gene therapy options that will restore their original function in a way that current treatment options do not.

The benefit of this gene therapy approach to Sudden Cardiac Death is that it targets the molecular cause, meaning Sudden Cardiac Death can be prevented before it occurs. The next goal for this research is to establish a first-stage clinical trial.

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This incredible gift will contribute toward the development of novel therapies designed to prevent Sudden Cardiac Death in patients at risk of this condition.

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Celebrate your life and your loved ones

A gift in your Will is a meaningful way to honour both your legacy and your family, past and present. We encourage you to discuss your intentions with loved ones, so they understand how important supporting vital medical research at WIMR is to you. You may also choose to dedicate your gift in memory of someone special, making it an even more personal tribute.

Talk to us about ways to involve and inspire your family

We take pride in staying connected with the friends and families of our Discovery Partners and warmly welcome them to visit WIMR to see how the gift made in honour of someone they cherish is helping advance life-changing research.

How to include WIMR in your Will

Naturally, you will want to take care of your family and loved ones first. We always recommend that you ask your solicitor about the best way to do this. It is an opportunity to ensure that the results of your lifetime of hard work are directed to the people and organisations that matter most to you. This doesn't affect your right to alter or update your Will if your circumstances or wishes change at any time.

If you don't currently have a Will, a solicitor can help you to draft one or add a Codicil (an addition or modification) to your present Will to ensure that your wishes can be honoured.

If you don't have a solicitor, we can refer you to one of WIMR's honorary solicitors who can provide a first consultation about making a gift in your Will to WIMR and other help, free of charge.

We are also a member of Gathered Here, a free online service for writing Gifts in Wills. www.gatheredhere.com.au/c/wimr

Confidence that your gift will be used wisely

We are grateful that you are considering leaving a gift in your Will to support WIMR's ground-breaking research. We look forward to honouring your wishes and using your gift wisely, with care and respect, so it will have the greatest possible impact in improving healthcare in our community and around the world.

We would love to hear from you

If you have included a gift in your Will to WIMR, you are not obliged to let us know, however, we hope that you do because you will join other like-minded people and become a WIMR Discovery Partner. As a member you will be invited to special events on a regular basis and kept informed of our work so that we can thank you and understand how you would like us to keep in touch with you in the future.

It helps us to be aware of your support and direct it to an area of research that is most important, or of interest to you. This also helps us to plan our research into the future and to ensure that your wishes are honoured.



We save lives. You can too.

Visit: wimr.org.au/make-a-gift-in-your-will

How to include a gift to WIMR in your Will

A residual gift

This gift may be the whole or part of your residuary estate. Your residuary estate is what is left over after all liabilities and expenses associated with the estate have been paid, and any other gifts (specific or general) have been satisfied.

A pecuniary gift

This is a gift of a fixed sum of money, or a percentage of your overall estate, that you specify you would like to be given to WIMR. It is important to review this type of gift regularly, particularly in the event of a change in your circumstances.

A specific gift

This type of gift enables you to leave a particular asset such as real estate, shares, artwork, jewellery, or collections to WIMR. It is recommended that you review this type of gift regularly, because if you dispose of the specific item, the gift will fail.

Contingency gift

This type of gift is fulfilled only after certain conditions are met. This gift may be appropriate in circumstances where you want to leave a gift to WIMR but you first want to ensure that your friends or family are provided for during their lifetime; for example by way of giving them a right to live in your home, or by providing them with a guaranteed income stream from your estate. This type of gift allows you to look after your loved ones, and to benefit WIMR in the future, usually after the death of the relevant beneficiary.

A substitute gift

You may name WIMR as a substitute beneficiary in the event any of the other gifts to your named beneficiaries fail.

We always recommend you discuss what may be the best option for you and your loved ones with your solicitor before deciding on the best way to support WIMR in your Will.

Suggested wording for your Will

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

"I give to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation (ABN 90 141 847 634) (**'WIMR Foundation'**) of 176 Hawkesbury Road Westmead NSW 2145

(Insert whichever is appropriate)

- The whole of my estate; OR
- A percentage [____ %] of the rest and residue of my estate; OR
- The sum of \$[____]; OR
- My property known as [address], [Folio Identifier]; OR
- (If bequeathing specific assets)
My [insert description of an asset, for example: shares in a company, art work, jewellery, etc]*

for the general purposes of research to be conducted by The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (**'WIMR'**) OR for the purposes of [specify the research area of your choice] conducted at WIMR, and I declare that the receipt from an authorised representative of the WIMR Foundation to my executor shall be considered acknowledgement for the payment of such benefit."

*If bequeathing a specific asset, please be as descriptive as possible, to ensure the asset is easily and correctly identified.



Information for Solicitors, Trustee Companies and Executors

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation, established to raise funds to support medical research at The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (WIMR).

Deductible Gift Recipient Status

There are two ways you can leave a Gift in Will to WIMR:

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research (ABN 54 145 482 051) is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR). **It is covered by Item 1, Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (ss 30-15) and is fully tax exempt.**

As the fundraising arm of WIMR, **The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation (ABN 90 141 847 634)** is also endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR).

It is a public ancillary fund covered by Item 2, Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (s 30-15) and is fully tax exempt.

Registered Address:

176 Hawkesbury Road
Westmead NSW 2145

Capital Gains Tax on estate assets

It can be highly tax effective for your client to gift a Capital Gains Tax asset such as real estate or a share portfolio to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation, which is fully tax exempt, rather than have the estate sell the asset and donate the cash. Please contact us if you wish to discuss this option for your client.

If you have any questions please contact The Foundation for a confidential discussion on 02 9843 9000 or email giftsinwills@wimr.org.au





If you have any questions or you are interested in making a gift in your Will for The Westmead Institute for Medical Research Foundation, please contact The Foundation for a confidential conversation.

Call 02 9843 9000

Email giftsinwills@wimr.org.au



Visit our website to learn more.
Simply hover your phone over the QR code or visit wimr.org.au/make-a-gift-in-your-will

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research
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ABN: 90 141 847 634

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