

HUMANS OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Understanding DISEASE...Finding a CURE



DR PHILIP TONG



Dr Philip Tong is one of Australia's aspiring and unique young talents: he acts as the interface between research and patient outcomes, working as a fundamental researcher at the Centenary Institute, as well as a dermatologist in training at the Royal Prince Alfred (RPA) Hospital.

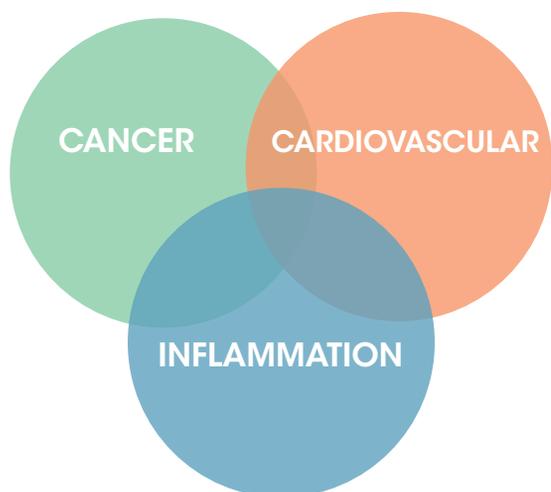
When he wears his "scientist hat", he works alongside some of the best in the field of skin diseases, to better understand the disease mechanisms of skin conditions such as eczema and psoriasis, which affect a significant percentage of Australia's population - approximately 20 per cent. Along with his fellow researchers, Philip's main goal is to "rethink the causes of common skin conditions in order to develop new drug options

for patients and also allowing clinicians to work alongside scientists to tackle challenging diagnostic dilemmas."

When wearing his "clinical hat", Philip holds the valuable position of working at Sydney's Premier Teaching Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. It is the first-hand experience and interaction with patients that drives Philip's passion for vital research, working towards better understanding diseases in order to find more effective therapeutics and cures. "It is a privilege to be a part of the journey of my patients who are living with chronic conditions - developing and maintaining a good therapeutic relationship with the people whose lives I can improve is a part of the role which brings such great satisfaction." He is not just treating the disease, he is treating the person and improving their quality of life; it is always Philip's mission to try to uncover what more he can do for them.

When he is not working hard, researching in the laboratory or seeing patients in hospital, Philip finds ways to relax. Science is often an invisible career, which he says can seem far from glamorous, but he takes pride in all that he does and that includes his personal presentation, so much that Philip confesses he has developed an expensive hobby of late night online shopping! As a result of this, his patients can expect to be greeted by a very sharp-looking doctor in a well-tailored suit, every visit, because Philip takes his job very seriously and he likes to dress the part!

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?



CANCER

Cancer is a disease of the cells, which are the body's basic building blocks.

1 in 3 women and 1 in 2 men will be diagnosed with cancer by the age of 85.

INFLAMMATION

Inflammation is the body's natural response to protect itself against harm. There are two types: acute and chronic.

1 in 9 Australians have asthma, around 2.5 million people.

CARDIOVASCULAR

Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) is a collective term for diseases of the heart and blood vessels.

Almost 1 in 3 deaths in Australia in 2015 were due to cardiovascular disease.

Together we are the solution...together we can save lives.



Ask Philip a question here <https://www.centenary.org.au/meet-dr-philip-tong/>