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For further information on genetic heart disease:

Ms Laura Yeates
Cardiovascular Genetics Coordinator
(02) 9565 6187
l.yeates@centenary.org.au

For further information on Centenary's cardiovascular research:

Professor Chris Semsarian
Head of the Molecular Cardiology Program
c.semsarian@centenary.org.au

To sign up with the Australian Genetic Heart Disease Registry:

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Understanding the genetic basis of inherited heart disease

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Professor Chris Semsarian AM

Director Molecular Cardiology Program, Centenary Institute, Cardiologist, RPA Hospital, Professor of Medicine, University of Sydney

Research at Centenary's Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology increases our understanding of genetic heart diseases, to inform new treatment strategies and prevent sudden death.

You can help our research by making a gift today.

Pictured: Assoc Prof Jodie Ingles, Prof Chis Semsarian and Dr Richard Bagnall.

Genes and heart disease

Our research focuses on understanding the molecular and genetic basis of heart disease. Specifically, how do changes in genes lead to heart disorders and how do factors such as diet and exercise influence the severity of the disease? Our expertise spans many inherited heart diseases including cardiomyopathies, valve disease and rhythm disorders of the heart such as long QT syndrome.

We are working out why some young people die suddenly, and what are the key risk factors.

Sudden death and genetic heart diseases

A particular priority is understanding the genetic basis for sudden cardiac death in the young.

Identifying the genetic causes of sudden death will allow earlier diagnosis in family members, and enable life-saving prevention strategies to be initiated.

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (abnormal thickening of the heart muscle) is the most common genetic heart disorder affecting at least 1 in 200 people. The disease is inherited as an autosomal dominant condition, meaning that children of an affected person have a 50% chance of inheriting the disease.

Our goals are to understand and identify which genes cause inherited heart disease, develop the best approach to treatment and prevent it from affecting future generations.