## A gift of hope to future generations



## Together, we can stop disease before it starts



### A gift in your Will is a gift for generations to come

Medical research is transforming the future of human health at an incredible rate. Who would have thought diagnostic tests that used to take days can now provide instant results? Or we would now have effective treatments for diseases that were thought to be incurable as recently as a decade ago?

Ground-breaking advancements such as these take years of expert work and do not happen without the underpinning of fundamental knowledge. We must first gain a better understanding of disease - the causes and effects, the intricacies and complexities, the threats and predictors - before we can develop a cure.

#### Only then can we deliver life-changing - and life-saving - results.

I am deeply honoured that so many thoughtful supporters have chosen to remember the Centenary Institute in their Will.

By leaving money, property or a percentage of your estate in your Will to the Centenary Institute, you will be joining this special group of supporters that play a crucial role in safeguarding our future capabilities ensuring that the important progress our scientists are making today can continue until a treatment or cure is found.

You will help change the lives of future generations.

We recommend consulting a solicitor for specific advice when preparing your Will, but if you are ready to draft it, our team will be delighted to help you with suggestions of convenient online options and appropriate wording.

We also would like to hear from you once you have left a gift in your Will to the Centenary Institute. Knowing about your gift will help us to plan more confidently for the future, and I would be very pleased to have the opportunity to thank you personally for your generous support.

Every gift, no matter the amount, makes a difference. Together, we can transform the health of future generations.

**Professor Marc Pellegrini Executive Director, Centenary Institute** 

### At Centenary, we are dedicated to accelerating life saving research that will create a healthier future for all

The Centenary Institute is a world-leading independent medical research organisation focused on three critical areas - cancer, inflammation and cardiovascular disease.



### Tackling cancer from many angles

Our researchers are working across a range of cancers and linked diseases with expertise that spans fundamental research to clinical trials to advance knowledge and transform outcomes for patients.

### Why inflammation is the key

We are working to understand the role of inflammation in the development and progression of many of the deadliest and most prominent diseases affecting humanity.



### Understanding cardiovascular disease

Our scientists are focused on the mechanisms that cause strokes, heart attacks and sudden cardiac death in young people to develop new drugs and clinical approaches that better serve the community.

Your gift to Centenary will not only help provide essential resources to our dedicated teams of scientists - it will also provide hope to those whose lives could be changed by the next medical breakthrough.

For more information on making a gift to Centenary in your Will please contact us on 1800 677 977 or giftsinwills@centenary.org.au





# Together, we can help everyone enjoy a longer and healthier life

In 2013, Rhys was told he had just months to live. He was dying from a disease he didn't even know he had.

At age 35, Rhys had a lot to live for. He was a loving husband, a father of three young children and had a successful career as an anaesthetist. One morning Rhys drove himself to the emergency department with abdominal pain. He discovered he had stage four melanoma that had metastasised to his brain, lungs and abdomen.

The diagnosis came as a shock because he had no noticeable symptoms and the skin cancer showed no visible primary site, making self-detection impossible.

Having been told the median survival rate for someone presenting with the same symptoms was between three to four months, Rhys endured many surgeries and a series of radiotherapy treatments to try to control the disease.

Rhys was fortunate to be accepted into a clinical trial being run by his treating clinician – also Head of the Centenary Institute's Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program. Remarkably, the tumours began to shrink after four weeks. Though Rhys has needed additional treatment, he has great faith in medical research and the future development of new drugs to prolong his life further.





# With your support, we can help create a brighter future for all

When Michael and Emily found out they were expecting their first child, they were overjoyed. The night before the first scan Michael went out to play volleyball.

Emily received a call from one of Michael's teammates to say he had collapsed. By the time she arrived at the hospital, a police officer was waiting for her with the devastating news that Michael had died on the court of a fatal cardiac arrest.

Researchers at our Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology were able to identify the genes responsible for Michael's death – information that can be immediately translated to determine if his twin girls are at risk.

This cutting-edge research will enable more accurate and earlier diagnosis of genetic heart disease, and for potentially lifesaving strategies to be initiated to prevent sudden death.





"I first became interested in understanding sudden cardiac death as a trainee in the 1990s. I sat down with a mum and dad who had just lost their 21 year old son. He'd been running along a beach, previously healthy, never had a symptom in his life. When they asked me why their son had died suddenly, I didn't know the answer.

There was very little knowledge on the topic at the time. I had no answers, and the world had no answers. I thought I should devote my life to finding some. My team's research at Centenary over the last 20 years has shown that sudden cardiac deaths in young people are often due to genetic or inherited defects. Philanthropic support plays a critical role in accelerating our research outcomes.

Thanks to the generosity of our donor community, we now know about hundreds of genes involved in heart problems that can lead to sudden death. While there is still much work to be done, we are confident that the highly targeted therapies under development are creating a brighter future for children and young adults who were born with defects in their hearts."

Professor Chris Semsarian AM Deputy Director, Centenary Institute Head, Agnes Ginges Centre for Molecular Cardiology

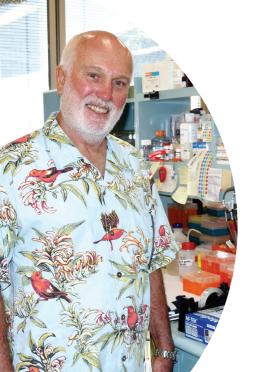
# Your legacy is a lasting gift to future generations

Many of us have the desire to make a difference in the world, to leave it better than we found it. That is exactly what Steve intends to do and encourages others to join him.

"I believe in giving back to the community and encourage others to contribute to the Centenary Institute, both now and in the form of a bequest. It's essential that Centenary's efforts are supported for the wellbeing of humans into the future. A bequest means, even after you are gone, you can still contribute to a better and healthier world."

If you are considering leaving a gift, Steve highly recommends visiting the Institute in person. "Centenary's work is at the cutting edge of medical research. I have really enjoyed the opportunities to meet with the scientists and to hear about their achievements and initiatives."

For more information on visiting the Institute, please contact us on 1800 677 977 or giftsinwills@centenary.org.au



"A bequest means that even after you are gone, you can still contribute to a better and healthier world" – Steve



What you do today can change the future forever

> Professor Jenny Gamble Head, Vascular Biology Program

### With your support, we can develop lifesaving treatments that will keep families together for longer

Marion enjoyed her time living on a large cattle property in Lilydale, Victoria with her only son, Geoff. When Geoff grew up, he pursued a career in academia and moved to London. There, he married and had two children of his own. Marion was proud of her son – he was a doting father who enjoyed spending time with his two sons, camping and teaching them to fish.

Everything changed the day that Geoff went to get a mole on his ankle checked by his doctor.

Marion was devastated to learn that Geoff had been diagnosed with melanoma which had spread to his lungs, brain and other areas of his body. As Geoff's condition worsened, Marion flew to London to be with him. He passed away eight days later.

Marion shared that she never thought she would outlive her son and that "no parent should ever have to survive their children."

After learning about Centenary's Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program, Marion chose to include Centenary in her Will in the hope that research would spare another family from a similar tragic loss.

> Marian's generosity has helped our researchers take the lead in developing a promising new class of drug that may prove to be highly effective for the treatment of certain cases of melanoma.

"When I first started treating melanoma patients in 1980 there were no effective treatments. It has been hugely rewarding to see this change over the eight years I've been with Centenary.

It would be fantastic if the present studies can lead to further improvement in treatment, particularly in patients not responding to current targeted and immunotherapy treatments."

Professor Peter Hersey Head, Melanoma Oncology and Immunology Program

Our scientists are dedicated to conducting groundbreaking research that will create a healthier future for all



### **Getting started**

When making a Will, the first priority is to talk to your loved ones about your intentions and let them know that leaving a gift to medical research is important to you. This can help to ensure that your personal legacy and wishes will be met.

Your bequest will depend on your personal and family circumstances and it is important to seek independent and professional advice. Following that, it's easy to make a bequest to the Centenary Institute. You can either include the bequest when you write or update your Will, or simply add one as a codicil to your existing Will.

There are a number of ways you can make a bequest to the Centenary Institute:

- A residual gift: the remainder of your estate after specific gifts have been disbursed to family and loved ones.
- A percentage: you can choose to leave a percentage of the residue of your estate, or a percentage of your entire estate. This allows for growth or depreciation in the value of your estate.
- A specified gift of cash: Also known as a pecuniary bequest or gift.
- An asset: this could be real estate, shares, stocks, bonds, artwork, jewellery or other personal property.

### Wording in your Will

Here is our suggested wording if you choose to update your Will to include a gift to the Centenary Institute. You can share this wording with your solicitor.

"I give and bequeath to the Centenary Institute Medical Research Foundation, ABN 85 778 244 012 free from all taxes and duties, for their general purposes:

- the residue of my estate (OR)
- \_\_\_\_% of my residuary estate (OR)
- the sum of \$\_\_\_\_ (OR)
- list of asset or assets

A receipt from the Executive Director or other authorised person shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for the executor."

### Our promise to you

We understand that this is a significant decision for you and your family, and one that we want you to feel happy with. That is why we make the following promises to our bequestors:

- We recognise and appreciate your Will is personal to you, and that your loved ones always come first.
- We will always respect your right to privacy.
- We will communicate openly and honestly, and answer your questions quickly.
- We will not put you under pressure; this is an important decision to be made in your own time.
- If you do choose to let us know that you have included a gift to Centenary in your Will, we will keep you informed on the impact your gift will have.
- With your permission, we will acknowledge and recognise your generosity.
- We will use your gift carefully and efficiently so that it makes the greatest impact possible on our research.
- You have the right to change your mind at any time.

We would welcome hearing from you. Our team are happy to answer questions you may have in a confidential discussion.

1800 677 977 giftsinwills@centenary.org.au

Centenary Institute Medical Research Foundation Locked Bag 6, Newtown NSW 2042

## A gift of hope to future generations

Please let us know if we can answer any questions or provide further information.

Please telephone 1800 677 977 (8am to 4pm) or send an email to giftsinwills@centenary.org.au



#### centenary.org.au



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