AUSTRALIAN CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

ACRF Australian Centre of Excellence in Melanoma Imaging and Diagnosis

Dear ACEMID Participant,

Welcome to our ACEMID participant study newsletter for the Princess Alexandra Hospital site. You are receiving this newsletter because you are currently enrolled in the ACEMID research study. For previous versions of the newsletter, visit the ACEMID website here.

Recruiting Momentum

Queensland: All five 3D total-body imaging machines have now been installed in Queensland and have commenced the ACEMID Cohort Study. This includes the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Herston Imaging Research Facility, Cairns Hospital, Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Mt Isa Hospital. The Princess Alexandra Hospital and Herston Research Imaging Facility in Brisbane have reached capacity and are no longer enrolling participants.

New South Wales: Our metropolitan sites Melanoma Institute Australia has been recruiting since Aug 2021 but have now reached capacity and Westmead Hospital is currently reducing its recruitment numbers due to recent staff changes. Recently three 3D total-body imaging machines have been installed in New South Wales: Orange, Port Macquarie and Wagga Wagga. The machine in Orange is located at Pinnacle Dermatology and commenced recruitment in early March. Port Macquarie is expected to commence seeing participants later this month. The machine at Wagga Wagga was installed last month and currently finalising details before they start recruitment.

Victoria: Bendigo and Wonthaggi are regional research nodes included in the Victorian ACEMID program, together with metropolitan sites (Alfred Health, Peter Mac Callum Cancer Centre and Skin Health Institute). The 3D total-body imaging systems have now been installed at all 5 Victorian sites.

ACEMID in the news

View the most recent news updates about the ACEMID research study:

- Channel 9News Sydney - specialists detect skin cancer early, as they lobby the Federal Government for a national screening program
- North West Hospital Health Service - Melanoma detection program launches in Mount Isa (pictured)

Have you recently been diagnosed with melanoma in situ?

Researchers from the University of Queensland are looking for adults 18 years and older in Australia to participate in an interview about their recent experience with a melanoma in situ diagnosis.

If you have been diagnosed recently, please email the study coordinator lejie.zheng@uq.edu.au to express your interest.

Safe in the Sunshine

Researchers at the ACRF Australian Centre of Excellence in Melanoma Imaging & Diagnosis (ACEMID) have progressed their digital sun safe initiative – Safe in the Sunshine

Be sure to visit the website www.safeinthesunshine.org.au and follow @safeinthesunshine on Instagram and Facebook, for bite-sized facts on skin cancer prevention and early detection.

Please share it with anyone you think could be interested

Genetic research within the ACEMID study

Some ACEMID sites are asking participants to provide a saliva sample for genetic research as part of the study, and we thought it would be helpful to update you on the status of that part of the project. To date, research analyses have only commenced on saliva samples collected at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

We have recently started to analyse the DNA from saliva samples to look for common, low-risk genetic variations which contribute to melanoma risk. These include variations in the red hair colour gene, and variations in the genes which affect the number of moles we get etc. We combine the results from each of those genes to create a cumulative score, called a polygenic score (poly=many and genic=genes). Over the course of the next 12-18 months, we will be contacting people who have given saliva samples to invite them to receive their polygenic score for melanoma. Note, this result will not provide any information about familial melanoma genes, or other hereditary cancer genes.

More rarely, melanoma is caused by a single genetic variant which is inherited in families. Such families usually have three of more closely related individuals with melanoma, at least one person diagnosed before the age of 40 years, and usually have people who have been diagnosed with multiple melanomas. Sometimes, there will be cases of associated cancers (e.g. pancreatic cancer) in the family also.

Currently, our ACEMID research is NOT testing for variations in these genes but, if you think that your family may be eligible, please contact the genetic counsellor associated with our Familial Melanoma Clinic at the

Continue to see your doctor for skin checks

As a reminder please note that ACEMID is a research study and does not replace your usual medical care. Please continue to see your medical practitioner for a clinical skin examination if you notice any changes on your skin, and continue your usual schedule of follow-up visits if this has been recommended by your doctor.

Thank you

Yours Sincerely,

Professor H. Peter Soyer
Frazer Institute
Dermatology Research Centre
University of Queensland

For participant enquiries please email **acemid@uq.edu.au** or talk to our research staff at our study mobile 0458 164 420.

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