AUSTRALIAN MELANOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Thank you for sharing our vision and supporting research that will make the future brighter for patients with melanoma.

We know melanoma research is saving lives.

Ten years ago, patients with advanced melanoma had less than 1% survival rate. Today it is over 50%. Our hope for the future, is that this figure continues to improve.

You are helping achieve this.

Congratulations
2024 AMRF Grant Recipients

We are delighted to announce the AMRF grant recipients for 2024.

Melanoma incidence is set to rise over the next 10 years. More than 200,000 Australians are expected to be diagnosed with melanoma before 2030.

The survival rate from advanced melanoma has improved from 10% to 50% over the last decade, largely due to improvements in detection and treatment. It is only through the support of our partners and donors that this support is available. Thank you for making a difference. Our Research Committee, which includes three external experts, has selected five young Australian researchers for grants in the 2024 round.

Dr Jessamy Tiffen
The University of Sydney, NSW
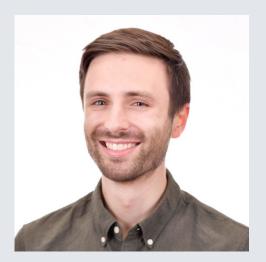**Postgraduate Scholar Research Grant recipient for 2024**

Nigel Maher
The University of Sydney, NSW
Postgraduate Scholar Research Grant recipient for 2024

Project: We have identified a new gene that allows melanoma to 'shapeshift' in order to better resist treatment. Using gene-editing studies we will comprehensively define the role of this new drug target in melanoma.

Project: My research project is training an artificial intelligence-based classifier to distinguish melanomas from moles on pathology slides used in routine practice, to develop a new quality assurance tool.

"We are extremely delighted to receive this research grant from AMRF. Despite enormous advances in melanoma treatments, the development of treatment resistance remains a major challenge that plagues long-term outcomes. This project offers hope for melanoma patients in improving long-term responses."

"I'm very grateful to receive this grant, as it will help me gain critical experience in this new field of computational pathology, and allow me to translate my knowledge as a pathologist to train a robust AI classifier for distinguishing melanomas and moles. "

Lewis Newland
The University of Melbourne, VIC
Postgraduate Scholar Grant recipient for 2024

Dr Carly Whyte
The University South Australia, SA
Early Career Researcher Grant recipient for 2024

Vivian Chua
Edith Cowan University, Perth, WA
Early Career Researcher Grant recipient for 2024

Project: Lymph nodes are typically the first site of metastasis in melanoma, and CD8+ T cell responses in this context are particularly poorly understood. This project will help improve our understanding of how CD8+ T cells can control melanoma metastases, which could inform future therapeutic strategies

Project: Harnessing our immune system to fight melanoma has revolutionised the lives of many patients. However, not all patients respond to these immunotherapies. We are researching a type of immune cell called an eosinophil, which has been associated with better outcomes for melanoma patients.

Project: Fimepinostat is a targeted therapy that is being tested in clinical trials for other cancer types but not in uveal melanoma. My research project will study effects of the Fimepinostat drug in uveal melanoma.

"I am very grateful to be awarded this grant by the AMRF. This funding will allow me to further our research into understanding immune control of melanoma metastases."

"I'm extremely grateful to the Australian Melanoma Research Foundation for their support of this project. With their help, we can improve our understanding of the immune response to melanoma, which will guide improved treatments and quality of life for people with melanoma."

"This award will allow me to generate research data that may be evidence for testing of a novel treatment strategy in patients and that will also be part of future grant applications to continue supporting my career and my research towards improving melanoma patient survival."

Please check our website for more research articles and news from our previous Research Grant recipients. These items are intended to provide a better understanding of the research being supported by the AMRF to improve treatment and to change outcomes for those with melanoma.

melanomaresearch.com.au/2023updates

Thank you for being part of the life-changing work we do.

AUSTRALIAN MELANOMA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Survival rates of advanced melanoma

2011
Less than 1%

2021
Over 50%

Research is saving lives.