

# Clinical utility of genomics in non-Hodgkin lymphoma

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## Background

Melbourne Genomics' Clinical Flagships have been at the forefront of determining when genomic testing makes a demonstrable difference to the safety and quality of patient care.

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL) is one of 16 areas of health investigated by Melbourne Genomics. It is the most common form of blood cancer in Australia and the sixth most common cancer overall. About 90% of lymphoma is non-Hodgkin – the focus of this project.

Even with the best available treatment, up to half of patients with high-risk advanced NHL will die of the disease.

Advanced NHL is among the most diverse cancers: in terms of the number of different genomic variants present in one type of cancer and the number of contributory variants within an individual's cancer.

## Project description

The objective: to determine the feasibility of providing genomic testing to improve management of advanced NHL if and when a patient relapses.

The Advanced Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma Flagship was led by Professor Stephen Opat (Monash Health) and Professor Miles Prince (Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre), with Dr Gareth Gregory (Monash Health) providing key coordination. Thirty health professionals were directly involved.

## Activities, outcomes and lessons learnt

Findings from this project will be made available following publication of results.

## Impact

The Flagship enabled one of the hospital sites to implement and develop professional capacity in interpreting WES for lymphoma.

This project facilitated development of critical infrastructure and expertise through shared knowledge and experience.

## Clinical Flagship team

Name	Organisation	Role
Stephen Opat	Monash Health	Haematologist
Miles Prince	PeterMac	Haematologist
Gareth Gregory	Monash Health	Haematologist
Abhijit Kulkarni	Monash Health	Cytogeneticist
Alison Trainer	PeterMac	Clinical geneticist
Andrew Grigg	Austin Health	Haematologist
Asif Alam	Monash Health	Molecular scientist
Beena Kumar	Monash Health	Anatomical pathologist
Eliza Hawkes	Austin Health	Oncologist
Geoff Chong	Austin Health	Oncologist
George Grigoriadis	Monash Health	Haematologist
Georgina Ryland	PeterMac	Molecular scientist
Greg Corboy	Monash Health	Molecular haematopathologist
Jake Shortt	Monash Health	Haematologist
Joel Wight	RMH	Haematology fellow
Jonathan Wong	Monash Health	Haematology fellow
Josh Casan	Monash Health	Haematology fellow
Kay Weng Choy	Monash Health	Clinical biochemistry fellow
Kylie Mason	RMH	Haematologist
Matthew Hunter	Monash Health	Clinical geneticist
Matthew Regan	Monash Health	Clinical genetics fellow
Michael Dickinson	PeterMac	Haematologist
Niro Pathirage	Monash Health Translation Precinct	Molecular scientist
Paul Defazio	Monash Health	Variant curation scientist
Piers Blombery	PeterMac	Molecular haematopathologist
Ricky Johnstone	PeterMac	A/Director, Laboratory Research
Tania Cushion	Austin Health	Clinical nurse consultant
Trevor Wilson	Monash Health Translation Precinct	Molecular scientist
Vivien Vasic	Monash Health Translation Precinct	Platform & Medical Genomics Facility Manager
Wishva Herath	Monash Health	Clinical bioinformatician
Yael Praver	Monash Health	Genetic counsellor