

New lung cancer trial results

New radiotherapy technique produces greater survival rates

Results from a TROG Cancer Research trial have shown that a new radiotherapy technique can produce greater survival rates for patients with early stage inoperable lung cancer, compared to conventional treatment.

The TROG 09.02 CHISEL trial investigated if stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) was more effective than standard radiotherapy for patients with early stage lung cancer.

Professor David Ball from the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre headed up the study.

“Our trial found that SABR radiotherapy was more effective in controlling cancer growth, resulted in longer life expectancy and is just as safe as traditional radiotherapy.”

“For many years we’ve been giving conventional radiotherapy, which is less precise and therefore normal tissue can be damaged in the treatment process.”

“The safest way of giving those doses was in small amounts over six or seven weeks.”

“With the SABR radiotherapy technique we can give the treatment over three or four treatments over a two-week period, with a much higher dose,” said Professor Ball.

“As SABR is much more precise, only the cancer is treated and the surrounding healthy tissue is unaffected.”

The study, which began in 2010 involved 101 patients from across Australia and New Zealand.



Photo: Professor David Ball recently presented the CHISEL results at the World Conference on Lung Cancer in Japan.

CORE trial launches

A new international cancer trial, which will examine whether the addition of a new type of targeted radiation treatment is more effective for patients with advanced lung, breast or prostate cancer, is now up and running in Australia.

TROG Cancer Research will lead the trial in Australia collaborating with researchers in the United Kingdom.

The TROG 16.03 CORE trial will examine if adding a new type of cancer treatment called stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy (SABR) to standard treatment is more effective for patients with early metastatic spread or cancer that has spread from its initial site to less than four other areas of the body.



Associate Professor David Pryor from the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane is the Australian co-chair of the trial. He said doctors are looking for better ways to help patients with advanced cancer.

“We now recognise that some cancers may only have a very limited extent of

spread that we can target with radiotherapy at the first sign of recurrence.”

“Treating the visible metastatic tumours with SABR radiotherapy may reduce the risk of the cancer coming back and may allow our current drug treatments to work better for longer.”

“The CORE trial will use a much higher dose of targeted stereotactic radiotherapy with the aim of eradicating early metastatic deposits when they first emerge,” said A/Prof Pryor.

In Australia the trial will involve 50 patients and be run at nine hospitals and cancer centres across the country.

The trial will run for three years.

TROG Cancer Research News

Community Support

TROG High Tea

More than 65 people enjoyed a decadent afternoon tea in October attending TROG Cancer Research's inaugural High Tea fundraising event. The event was held in Newcastle, where TROG Cancer Research has its headquarters.

Guests also took part in a silent auction and raffle featuring lots of fantastic prizes.

More than \$2,000 was raised from the event - all of which will go directly to TROG's cancer clinical trials research. Thank you to everyone who attended.



New to Board



TROG is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr John Cleary to its Board. John is currently the CEO of the Benhome aged care facility in Maitland.

He previously worked for more than 10 years for the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle.

CEO Joan Torony said John was a perfect fit for TROG's Board as he has more than 20 years' experience at a senior management and executive level.

Trek Fundraiser

Fabulous food was the highlight of the recent TROG Trek Fundraising Dinner, with apprentice chefs from the Kurri Kurri TAFE cooking up a feast.

The event was a fundraiser for two trek participants, Narelle Hagger and Tanya Carlyle, who are raising \$2,000 each as part of the charity challenge.

The trek will be held over five days in March 2018, with the team hiking 50km in the beautiful Bay of Fires region.

Find out more at: www.trog.com.au/TROG-Tassie-Trek.



Are you a wine lover?

Well-known and respected Hunter wine producer Tamburlaine Organic Wines is offering its Wine Lovers' range of wines at a special discount rate, with \$50 from every dozen going directly to support TROG Cancer Research.

Visit www.trog.com.au/Buy-Tamburlaine-Organic-Wines to see the wine list.

To order your dozen, email cfraczek@mywinery.com or call 1800 659 956 today.

A great gift idea!



Myall Coast Golfers show their support

Around 140 golfers from the Hawks Nest/Myall Coast region showed their support for cancer clinical trials research by taking part in a special charity golf day. More than \$4,000 was donated to TROG Cancer Research with proceeds coming from donations from members and the fundraising day.

President of the Myall Coast Veteran Golfers, Mr Don Henderson said the event is an annual event on the group's golfing calendar.

"A number of our member have suffered from many different types of cancer at one time or another and we like to do our bit to help support cancer research."

TROG Cancer Research CEO Joan Torony thanked the group for its generosity.

"We are so thankful for the long association we have had with the golfers from the Myall Coast region."



Make a difference!

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