

Skin cancer trial results

World-first trial pioneers new standard of care for skin cancer

Good news for patients with advanced skin cancer, who can be spared from having to undergo chemotherapy in the future with results from a new TROG trial showing that surgery combined with radiotherapy is a more effective treatment.

Professor Sandro Porceddu who headed TROG's 'POST' study said the results showed that for patients with advanced squamous cell carcinoma (one of the most common forms of skin cancer) of the head and neck, surgery combined with

post-operative radiotherapy resulted in high cure rates, in excess of 85 per cent.

"This trial also showed that the addition of chemotherapy did not improve cure rates. This will save patients from the added negative side effects associated with chemotherapy," said Prof Porceddu.

More than 320 skin cancer patients from 23 hospitals and cancer centres from Australia and New Zealand volunteered to take part in the 10-year trial.

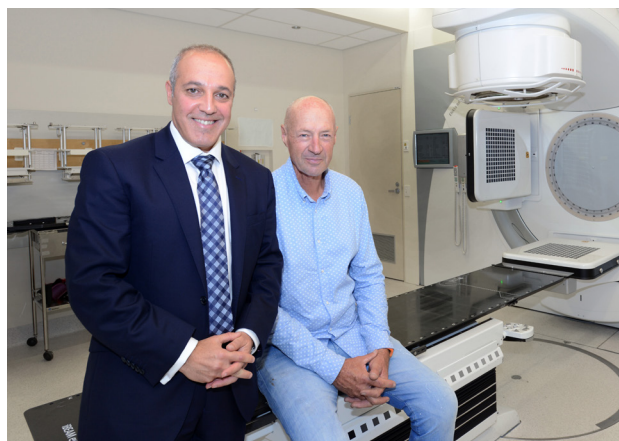


Photo: Professor Porceddu with 'POST' trial volunteer Robert Schampers.

New Ambassador

Broadcaster Julie McCrossin named as TROG's new ambassador

Julie McCrossin knows firsthand what it is like to experience cancer after being diagnosed with stage four throat cancer in 2013.

She was treated with radiation therapy and recovered her speech and ability to swallow, and is back to her usual busy life.

TROG Cancer Research CEO Joan Torony said that Julie was the perfect fit to work with TROG as our first ambassador as she has had experience with both cancer and radiotherapy.

"We are very much looking forward to working with Julie not only to promote the role of radiotherapy as an effective cancer treatment but also help let the community know about the important research that TROG undertakes."



"It will be a real pleasure to help get the message out that funding research and translating the results into clinical care as quickly as is safely possible are absolutely vital for people affected by cancer," said Julie.

"I was lucky to benefit from the research that had preceded my diagnosis. My treatment was highly targeted."

"Advances in cancer treatment are occurring all the time. I feel very honoured to help support research that improves the quality of life for cancer patients," said Julie.

For almost 30 years TROG has been helping to improve the way in which radiation treatment is delivered, improving outcomes and quality of life for cancer patients.

Half of all cancer patients can benefit from radiotherapy as part of their overall cancer treatment.

Working with more than 70 cancer treatment centres and hospitals from across Australia and New Zealand, TROG Cancer Research has conducted more than 100 clinical trials. More than 14,000 patients have volunteered to take part in a TROG clinical trial.

Community support

Dedicated supporter leaving his mark

Almost 14 years ago Alex Carmichael's life was changed forever after his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer.

From that day onwards Alex has dedicated himself to supporting clinical trials cancer research as well as helping to make sure patient voices are heard when trials are being developed.

"I was trained in science and I tend towards evidence-based medicine. Now that I'm retired I can try to do whatever I can to help develop better cancer treatments."



Alex donates to help fund TROG cancer clinical trials. He's also a passionate patient advocate, providing advice and feedback on trials in development and patient communication. And despite having just turned 80 he's showing now signs of slowing down - and for this we are truly thankful!

Patient voices heard

Did you know that all of TROG's trials have input from cancer patients? TROG's Consumer Advisory Panel (CAP) is made up of passionate people who give up their time to provide a patient's perspective.

The second ever TROG CAP workshop was held in Sydney recently. Participants were given an update from cancer researchers on the latest trials in development and results.



Furious fingers

TROG wishes to thank 'Knit and Knatter' group from the Tuggerong 55 Plus Club in the ACT for its generous donation. The group knitted beanies and winter warmers and sold them as a fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who has supported TROG.



Childhood friends trek Tassie for TROG

Margaret and Narelle have been friends since primary school. Now they are embarking on an adventure of a lifetime by taking part in a charity trek of Tasmania to raise funds for TROG Cancer Research.

"I want to give back to society and do something for a worthwhile cause," said Margaret.

"I'm well underway with my fundraising now. It was a bit daunting at first but I have a few activities underway."

Find out more about the trek: www.trog.com.au/TROG-Tassie-Trek



Make a difference!

Donate online today at: www.trog.com.au/donate

I would like to make a donation to support TROG Cancer Research.

Please return to TROG Cancer Research, PO Box 88, Waratah NSW 2298
Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



My details (for receipting purposes):

Title: _____ First name: _____

Surname: _____

Postal address: _____

Email: _____

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I would like to have the following commemorative message published on the TROG website: _____

I would like to make a donation:

☐ Once ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually ☐ Other

If other, please specify preferred timeline: _____

I would like to donate:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other

If other, please specify preferred amount: _____

Payment:

☐ Please find enclosed by cheque/money order.

Please debit my: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX

Card no:

Expiry date: ____ / ____ / ____ Card verification number: ____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Upcoming events

TROG HIGH TEA:

Sunday 8 Oct. at 2pm at the Mercure, Charlestown.

Cost: \$49 for high tea + glass of bubbles.

Tickets: www.stickytickets.com.au/56670.

TROG FUNDRAISING DINNER:

Wednes 8 Nov. at 6.15pm at Kurri Kurri TAFE. Enjoy fine dining at a budget cost! Gourmet meals are prepared by the 3rd year apprentice chefs.

Cost: \$45 for 3 courses + tea/coffee.

Tickets: www.trog.com.au/TROG-Fundraising-dinner.

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