

## CLINICAL TRIALS BRINGING NEW HOPE

Thanks to your support, several SA clinical trials are exploring new ways to treat brain tumours.



### OLD DRUG, NEW TRICKS

Prof Cedric Bardy is co-leading a trial along with a national team of neurosurgeons and oncologists, testing whether the medication trifluoperazine can slow the growth of recurrent glioblastoma – one of the deadliest brain cancers.

*“This trial has the potential to transform GBM treatment by repurposing a clinically approved compound, providing a pathway to late-phase trials for GBM subtypes that currently lack effective therapy.”*

### ADVANCING CAR-T IMMUNOTHERAPY

Dr Adam Wells, Prof Michael Brown and the Translational Oncology Lab team are leading the next phase of the RAH KARPOS clinical trial, using GD2-CAR-T cell therapy to treat recurrent glioblastoma. Administration by intracerebroventricular injection will be trialled to bypass the blood-brain-barrier and more efficiently deliver the therapy to brain tumours. At the same time treatment with additional compounds shown to increase the anti-tumour effects of CAR-T therapy will also be introduced for the next round of patients. New GatheRex equipment funded by the NRF will also enable safer, more streamlined manufacturing of the CAR-T cell therapy right here in Adelaide, supporting the extension of this Phase 2 clinical trial, as well as the LEVI’S CATCH trial for paediatric DMG at Sydney’s Childrens Hospital.



### GET SMART - OPTIMISING RADIATION THERAPY

The SMART clinical trial, led by A/Prof Hien Le is investigating new approaches to preoperative stereotactic radiosurgery, to improve outcomes for patients with brain metastases.

*“This trial will compare a single preoperative SRS dose versus three smaller doses before surgery, evaluating cancer control, side effects, and quality of life to optimise patient outcomes.”*

*“Our blood tests suggest CAR-T-induced injury of brain tumour cells leads to an accumulation in the tumour of bone marrow-derived white cells called macrophages that work against CAR-T cells. We will test how well three commonly used compounds combat macrophages and help CAR-T cells work better in our future KARPOS trial patients.”*



## Running for Research

Friday 15 May

*One lap every hour till only one remains.*

A/Prof Guillermo ‘GG’ Gomez is taking on the No Time to Die Frontyard Ultra to raise funds for GBM research and clinical trials.

Show your support and donate today



# NRF LAB TOUR

Brain Tumour Research in Action - Impact Update

Join us for a rare and exclusive opportunity to go behind the scenes with leading researchers driving breakthroughs in brain tumour science.

- ✓ Morning tea and lunch provided
- ✓ FREE public event - registration essential

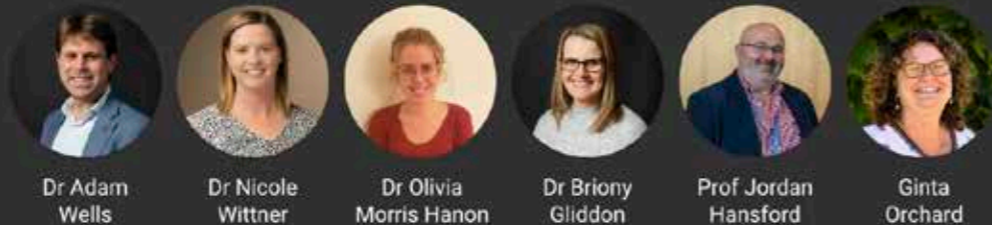
23  
MAY  
2026

10AM - 1PM

## What's On the Day:

- Latest research insights & future treatments
- Behind-the-scenes lab tours
- Interactive Q&A sessions
- Updates on patient support services

## Featured Speakers:



Location: Centre for Cancer Biology, North Terrace



RSVP

Spaces are limited - Don't miss your chance to be part of this inspiring event.



Brain Cancer Beanies \$35

Grey Ribbon Badge \$10

Brain Socks \$20

Online Auction & Raffle

## THANK YOU

Thank You to Our Grey May Sponsors

JonesRadiology

ICON  
CANCER CENTRE

\$10 from every brain tumour scan donated throughout May!

SERVIER  
moved by you

Calvary  
Adelaide  
Hospital

Hosting information stands on brain tumour support services

## GO GREY YOUR WAY

FOR BRAIN TUMOUR AWARENESS

Every May, South Australians come together to turn awareness into action for brain tumour research. Here are just a few ways you can join the movement and Go Grey this May!

Star of Hope



Fundraise



## GREY MAY REACHES MORE COMMUNITIES



We are thrilled to announce that this year Adelaide's Finest Frewville and Pasadena Foodland will join Munno Para Foodland to Go Grey this May.

All throughout May, supporters will be able to purchase a Grey May token at the checkout and place it on the in-store token wall to support brain tumour research in South Australia.

On select days, volunteers from the NRF will host information stands where visitors can learn about the

NRF, brain tumour research and brain tumour support services in SA. Why not come say hi and pick up some Grey May merch to show your support and get a Foodland raffle ticket.

ADELAIDE'S FINEST  
FREWVILLE | PASADENA | FOODLAND

munno para  
FOODLAND

## A VICTORY FOR SA'S PAEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOUR BANK

The establishment of SA's first paediatric tumour biobank has been vital in underpinning paediatric brain tumour research. This includes the rollout of two new national paediatric clinical trials to the Women's and Children's Hospital.

### PAEDNEO-VAX

A world-first clinical trial testing personalised cancer vaccines designed specifically for children with aggressive and treatment-resistant brain tumours.

### VICTORY

A multicentre, international clinical trial assessing the effectiveness of a novel combination therapy in relapsed/refractory paediatric low-grade glioma patients – rare cancers that frequently cause chronically debilitating health conditions.

These trials are just two of the many projects supported by the paediatric biobank, enabling national and international collaborations that accelerate high-quality research.

We are deeply grateful to the patients and families who donate to SA's Paediatric Brain Tumour Bank and the SA Neurological Tumour Bank – without them, this research would not be possible



## NRF JOINS NATIONAL CHILDHOOD BRAIN CANCER DATA PROJECT

The most effective way to accelerate research and support clinicians in making more accurate diagnoses and treatment decisions is through access to high-quality patient data. Paediatric brain cancer remains a relatively rare disease, meaning individual case numbers are low – making the national pooling of Australian data essential to improving outcomes. NRF supports the SA component of

the RCD Foundation data project initiative which aims to create a secure platform that links de-identified patient data from hospitals across Australia, including medical imaging, pathology results, treatments and clinical outcomes. By bringing this information together in a single system, clinicians and researchers can better understand childhood brain tumours and treatment responses.

NRF  
NeuroSurgical  
Research Foundation

ANZCHOG  
Australian & New Zealand  
Children's Haematology/  
Oncology Group

ROBERT CONNOR GAME  
RCD  
Foundations

## NEED SUPPORT?

JOIN THE ADELAIDE BRAIN TUMOUR SUPPORT GROUP

A private welcoming Facebook Group with optional monthly face-to-face catch ups around Adelaide.



## THANK YOU

Thank You to Our Grey May Sponsors



The Memorial Hospital

by ACHA Health

Hosting information stands on brain tumour support services

radiology SA

\$10 from every brain tumour scan donated throughout May!

# OLLY'S LEGACY FUELS RESEARCH

When Cat and Matt ran the City-Bay Fun Run in 2025, they were running for Cat's dad, Olly. "Dad was diagnosed with multifocal glioblastoma IDH wild type, in December 2024," Cat says. "He had four tumors in his right frontal lobe, which meant surgery wasn't possible. What was most shocking is Dad had no symptoms until it was too late."

Determined to honour him, the family joined NRF Team Neuro and raised an incredible \$16,000 for brain tumour research. Sadly, Olly passed away on 25 October 2025.

Recently Cat, Matt, Cat's mum Judy and two year old grandson Ollie, visited the laboratories to see the impact of their fundraising. Their efforts helped purchase a Thermo Fisher NanoDrop™ Ultra. Dr Melinda Tea provided a demonstration of the

device, which allows researchers to test precious tumour samples using just a tiny drop. In minutes the machine can determine whether samples are suitable for research, avoiding failed experiments and saving valuable time.



# ADVANCING RESEARCH IN MEMORY OF MARK WEBER

After Surfacing Contractors Australia (SCA) Director Mark Weber was diagnosed with brain cancer, his son Nathan lead the SCA team, family and friends to join NRF Team Neuro at the City-Bay Fun Run.

Following Mark's passing in December 2024, his son Nathan rallied the team once more, returning in 2025 as team sponsors, raising an incredible \$4,575 for brain tumour research.

During a recent lab visit they met Dr Nicole Wittwer, and saw the advanced CAR-T therapy research their support is helping advance. The research team are developing a new type of CAR-T cell therapy that can target 2 receptors simultaneously, attacking both brain tumour cells and the blood vessels that help them grow to overcome treatment barriers and improve outcomes.



# JOIN NRF TEAM NEURO 2026

Join us at the City-Bay Fun Run on **Sunday 20 September** and fundraise for vital research

