

# ECU Melanoma Research

- **Australia has the highest incidence of melanoma in the world.**
- **Melanoma is a common cancer in the age group 15 – 45.**
- **Melanoma is the third most common cancer in men and women.**
- **Melanoma is the most fatal skin cancer.**



It is still unknown what triggers a primary lesion to spread to other areas of the body.

When this occurs, the highly aggressive metastatic tumours remain mostly undetected and difficult to cure.

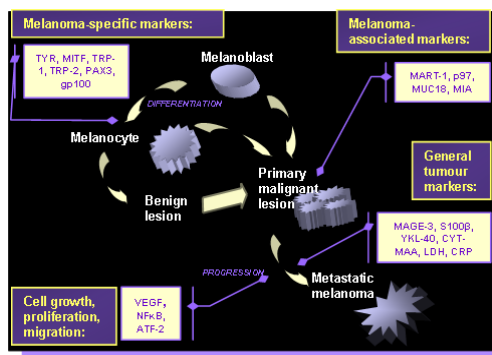
The benefits of early detection are therefore extremely important.

So our research is aimed at early detection of circulating melanoma cells from a blood sample.

### Our Core Research

We have tested and continue to test markers specific for highly metastatic cells thus offering hope to the many Australians who are affected by this disease.

We continue to hunt for new genes using state of the art biochemical and molecular tools to provide the potential for improved diagnosis and a better understanding of the mechanisms causing metastasis.



Collaborators include renowned clinicians: A. Prof. Robert Pearce (Plastic Surgeon), Dr Peter Heenan (Pathologist), Prof. Millward (Oncologist) and students: Ms Sandra Medic, Ms Rebecca Slattery

To find out more about the ECU Melanoma Research Foundation visit

<http://www.ecu.edu.au/alumni/projectsMelanomaResearch.htm>

Or to donate to the ECU Melanoma Research Foundation please fill in the form provided below:

## YES! I want to support the Melanoma Research

**Delivery Address:**  
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If you are interested in learning more about this innovative research project and/or contributing, please contact Dr Melanie Ziman on 6304 5171 or [m.ziman@ecu.edu.au](mailto:m.ziman@ecu.edu.au)

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