



Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials

Limited



2020-21 Annual Report

Contents

Who We Are	1
Our Services	1
Our Vision	1
Message from Our Chair	2
Message from Our CEO	3
Our History	4
2020/21 Snapshot	5
Year at a Glance	6
Bruno's Story	7
Special Interest Research Groups	9
Board of Directors	11
Patient Advocacy & Staff	12
Our Projects	13
Melissa's Story	15
Trial Spotlight: 03.18 I-MAT	16
Trial Spotlight: 02.19 IMAGE	17
Trial Spotlight: 10.17 GoTHAM	18
Trial Spotlight: MASC 02.18 MelMarT-II Trial	19
Financial Statement	20
Acknowledgments	21
How to support MASC Trials	22

MASC Trials acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters, and communities. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

Who We Are

Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials (MASC Trials) is Australia and New Zealand's collaborative trials group specialising in investigator-initiated melanoma and skin cancer research, supported by the Australian Government via Cancer Australia.

Our collaborative approach sits at the heart of everything we do and drives outcomes that have the potential to improve disease prevention and patient care on a global scale.

Working with a powerful network of almost 2,000 multidisciplinary medical and research professionals around the globe, MASC Trials conducts clinical trials and related research to improve the prevention of and treatments for melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers.

MASC Trials manages a diverse and growing portfolio of research in the prevention, early detection and treatment of melanoma and skin cancer, including early to late phase clinical trials.

We also work closely with consumer advocates to ensure their experience and unique perspectives are considered in clinical trial prioritisation and development.

Previously known as the Australia and New Zealand Melanoma Trials Group, MASC Trials is a registered not-for-profit research organisation incorporated in 2018 as a company limited by guarantee with tax deductible gift recipient status. MASC Trials has an academic affiliation with Monash University that operates under a formal Research Agreement and within a dedicated Centre supporting its research activities, the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Research Centre, within the School of Public Health and Preventative Medicine.

Our Services

The MASC Trials team offers expertise and support across all facets and stages of clinical trials, including:

- New research proposal and protocol development
- Research and clinical trial budget preparation
- Peer review via the MASC Trials Scientific Advisory Committee and Discipline-Specific Advisories
- Feasibility evaluation across the MASC Trials membership
- Biostatistics and statistical modelling
- Health economics modelling
- Quality of Life and patient report outcome modelling
- Consumer and patient advocacy engagement
- Grant writing through to application submission
- Endorsement of research studies and clinical trials
- Access to local and international networks to facilitate trial recruitment
- Research and clinical trial education, and mentoring opportunities
- Clinical trial and research project management

Whilst MASC Trials does not directly fund research, we support researchers in seeking funding. Endorsement of research projects and clinical trial protocols by MASC Trials provides a prestigious badge of quality and has been a key factor in our past successes.

Our Vision

Clinical trials are vital to improving the prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment of melanoma and skin cancer.

Our vision is to improve the lives of melanoma and skin cancer patients, and of their families, through delivery of high-quality clinical trials that seek to improve outcomes and reduce the burden of these diseases in our community.



Message from Our Chair

2020-21 was a dynamic and eventful year for MASC Trials as we continue to settle into our new governance structure and home within the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Monash University. Our trial activity has never been greater, and we remain focused on availing the tremendous opportunities for collaborative co-operative group research in the modern and exciting era of melanoma and skin cancer prevention and treatment.

I'd first like to acknowledge three recently retired MASC Board Directors: Professor Gerald Fogarty (February '14 – April '21), Dr Donna Milne (February '14 – December '20) and Professor Michael Millward (December '18 – January '21). On behalf of our group, I thank them each for their years of service and commitment to the MASC Trials Board, and their contribution to improving the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma and skin cancer.

In 2020, we also farewelled Libby Paton, Chief Executive, and Narelle Williams, National Research Manager. Over her 12 years with MASC Trials, Libby worked tirelessly to grow the organisation into one of Australia's most respected clinical trial groups. I'd like to thank both Libby and Narelle for their contributions to our national group, which directly enabled impactful and influential clinical trials that otherwise may not have been possible. I'd also like to acknowledge Aileen Boyd-Squires, (Chief Executive September '20 - April '21), for her outstanding contribution to our group in her time with MASC Trials, initiating and installing many key operational and structural improvements.

The MASC Trials Board and Monash University appointed Cheryl-Ann Hawkins as Chief Executive in April. Cheryl-Ann brings decades of experience in management and clinical trial operations, with a proven track record of developing and managing successful and productive teams within the field. Other staffing additions are planned as we continue to build MASC Trials in the excellent and supportive environment at Monash University.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Shackleton', written over a horizontal line.

Professor Mark Shackleton MBBS PhD FRACP
Chair, Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited
Director of Oncology, Alfred Health
Professor of Oncology, Monash University
Clinical Research Fellow, Victorian Cancer Agency



Message from Our CEO

This year has been particularly noteworthy for MASC Trials, with the organisation recording several significant achievements and entering a new chapter of its history. In my inaugural message as CEO, I want to reflect on some of those milestones and what they mean for the group and our mission.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my predecessors, Libby Paton and Aileen Boyd-Squires. It's thanks to their individual visions and shared determination that our organisation has been able to undergo its evolution, and I commenced the position of Chief Executive well positioned to continue our work and realise our vision.

As of 30 June 2021, MASC Trials had nine trials open to recruitment and 13 active trials representing 90 trial sites across 11 countries. We recruited 432 participants this financial year, bringing our total number of trial participants since the group formed to 4707.

Collaboration and people sit at the heart of what we do, and to that end I'm pleased to report that we grew our membership to almost 2,000; an increase of over 250. That this occurred during a pandemic is testament to the strength and reputation of our organisation, as well as the adaptability and hard work of our team, who successfully transitioned our key events to virtual formats.

We also grew the MASC Trials team this year, welcoming new staff members and creating new roles that will better enable us to develop and deliver trials that have a tangible effect on improving the lives of melanoma and skin cancer patients and their families. I would thus like to welcome them to their new roles or to our team:

- Gabrielle Byars, Research Manager (formerly Clinical Research Associate)
- Sandra Vargas, Senior Clinical Data Manager
- Marina Skiba, Research Consultant
- Tiiu Sildva, Senior Clinical Research Associate
- Katja Loewe, Clinical Research Associate
- Simon Cumming, Clinical Data Manager
- Ayeshini Sella Hewage, Administrative Assistant

All five bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to their new positions and will help drive our portfolio of trials. We have also created a Marketing and Communications Manager role and enlisted the support of a communications agency, who are working to raise awareness of MASC Trials and increase participation in our trials.

Being appointed Chief Executive is a true honour and I look forward to driving a successful next period of our organisation. If 2020-21 was a time of significant organisational development and growth, the coming years should see that reflected in our trials and – inexorably – in improved outcomes for people affected by melanoma and skin cancer.

Cheryl-Ann Hawkins BAppSc PGDip GradCert RN MHA
Chief Executive Officer, Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited

Our History

1999	2000	2002	2008	2009
ANZMTG Founded	First ANZMTG trial developed with TROG	ANZMTG Executive Committee formed, based at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney	Cancer Australia core funding secured via University of Sydney First Annual Scientific Meeting	First national clinical trial grant secured
2010	2011	2014	2015	2016
ANZMTG transitions with MIA to the Poche Centre, Sydney	First international partnership 500 members reached	First project management of a medical oncology clinical trial	Recipient of National Excellence Award	1000 members reached
2017	2018	2019	2020	
First NHMRC clinical trial grant secured Formation of the Australasian Merkel Cell Carcinoma Interest Group (AMIGOs) and the Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA)	Discipline Specific Advisories launched to support trial development First MRFF clinical trial grant secured ANZMTG incorporates as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited (MASC Trials)	Research agreement formed with Monash University MASC Trials transitions to Monash University, based in Melbourne	New MASC Trials website launched 1957 members reached	

2020/21 Snapshot



432

Patients Enrolled in Trials



13

Trials



90

Trials Sites



11

Trials Countries



271

New Members



1957

Total Members



36

Countries with Members



11

Staff



15

Competitive Grants Submitted



48

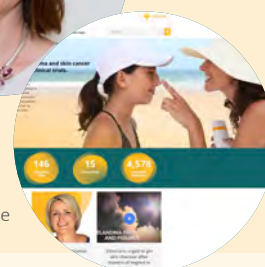
Publications

Year at a Glance

Date	Events
August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Allied Health and Nursing DSA, Dermatology DSA and Medical Oncology DSA host meetings
September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOMA and AMIGOs host their six monthly Advisory Group Meetings MASC Trials presents at MelNet's Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting New CEO, Aileen Boyd-Squires, commences
October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First participant recruited to the I-MAT clinical trial First site for the GoTHAM trial opens at Peter Mac Cancer Centre MASC Trials co-hosts patient-focused webinar, Making Sense of Merkel Cell Carcinoma, with NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia Radiation Oncology DSA meeting
November 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new MASC Trials' website launches AOMA presents at the 9th Annual Eyes on a Cure Symposium
December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASC Trials hosts its virtual Annual Scientific Meeting 'Summer Highlights' Farewell and thank you to our departing CEO, Libby Paton
January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The I-MAT clinical trial opens at Melanoma Institute Australia MASC Trials' Chair, Prof. Mark Shackleton, speaks to 9News about the importance of skin checks in the summer months The 100th participant is recruited to the MelMarT-II trial
February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IMAGE clinical trial opens its first two sites
March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I-MAT's first teletrial site opens at Cairns Hospital
April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheryl-Ann Hawkins is appointed as MASC Trials' new CEO The first Australian site for the global Uveal Melanoma Registry opens GoTHAM recruits its first participant MelMarT-II recruits its 150th participant
May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MelMarT-II receives funding to operate independently in the UK The results from our Supporting People with Cancer study are presented at the Australasian Skin Cancer College Congress
June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 100 delegates attend the 2nd AOMA Summit, held virtually



Aileen Boyd-Squires



MASC Trials Website



ASM: Summer Highlights'



Libby Paton



Cheryl-Ann Hawkins

Bruno's Story

As a young father and fitness enthusiast, Bruno didn't think he was at high risk for melanoma. So, when he first noticed that a mole on his back had started to bleed, he made an appointment to see a doctor but didn't think too much of it.

"The doctor wasn't particularly concerned about it either and froze it off. I went back a couple more times for the same treatment. There was certainly no sense of urgency or worry about it," Bruno said.

"After the third time I had the mole frozen off, it looked particularly grotesque. My son caught a glimpse of it and became quite worried. On his insistence, I visited my GP again who agreed that it looked bad and booked me in for a biopsy."

Bruno still wasn't concerned. He was training for his first half Ironman (70.3 miles) and even postponed the biopsy because of the race.

While receiving the results of the biopsy, Bruno made a passing comment about a lump under his armpit.

"I thought it was just my body reacting to my intense training regime, but as soon as I mentioned the lump, the doctor's face turned as white as a sheet."

Bruno was diagnosed with stage 3-D melanoma: the lump was a tumour that had spread from his back, and he needed surgery to remove it immediately.

Bruno recovered well from the surgery and was offered the opportunity to receive cutting-edge treatment that had been recently shown through a clinical trial to reduce his risk of recurrence and improve his chances of cure.

"Accepting this treatment was one of the easiest decisions I've ever made, and it turned out to be one of the best. It was made even easier by the fact that the clinical trial had shown how much the treatment would help me."

Much to the relief of his family, Bruno responded well to the treatment and was soon pounding the pavement as he returned to his old training routine.



"It felt fantastic – both physically and mentally – to be back out there, getting active again. Just 7 months into my treatment I even competed in my second half Ironman, which was a huge personal achievement for me."

In July 2020, Bruno finished his treatment and was able to return to his normal life.

"It's always a nervous time whenever I go in for a PET scan, but we celebrate every little milestone, as we just don't know what the future will hold."

"I've even started training for my first full-length Ironman (140.6 miles) which is coming up in December 2021. It's going to be tough, but with my family and support team around me, I know I can achieve anything."

"Clinical trials have given me another shot at life, and I don't intend on wasting it."



“It felt fantastic – both physically and mentally – to be back out there, getting active again. Just 7 months into my treatment I even competed in my second half Ironman, which was a huge personal achievement for me.”

Special Interest Research Groups

MASC Trials oversees two special interest research groups:

- Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA)
- Australasian Merkel Cell Carcinoma Interest Group (AMIGOs)

Both groups were formed in 2017 by national experts in response to growing interest in both the field of ocular melanoma and Merkel cell carcinoma.



AMIGOs Update

amigos.org.au

Australasian Merkel Cell Carcinoma Interest Group (AMIGOs) is a network of specialists across the globe focused on enabling access to high quality care for all patients with Merkel cell carcinoma.

Merkel cell carcinoma (MCC) is a rare but highly aggressive neuroendocrine skin cancer that arises from uncontrolled growth of cells in the skin that share some characteristics with normal Merkel cells of the skin.

AMIGOs was established with the aim of bringing together clinicians and researchers from across different specialities – including Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Pathology, Genetics, Imaging and Laboratory-based research – who are interested in enhancing care for patients with MCC.

“2020-21 was a big year for AMIGOs. There was further knowledge dissemination that avelumab was available on the PBS. An international webinar between USA, Europe, and Australia on MCC was dominated by Australian presentations. The **I-MAT** trial, a MASC Trials randomised trial comparing adjuvant avelumab to observation after treatment completion of early-stage disease was opened and began accruing. The **GoTHAM** trial, a MASC Trials trial for metastatic disease also opened and accrued a participant. Both trials were funded by the Medical Research Future Fund and industry. A webinar was planned on the impact of COVID in MCC that included patient representation. Thank you to all involved for their efforts and contributions to AMIGOs over the last 12 months.”



Professor Gerald Fogarty, AMIGOs Chair

AOMA Update

aoma.org.au

Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA) is a group of medical, para-medical, nursing and consumer representatives that aim to further care and treatment of patients with ocular melanoma across Australia and the world.

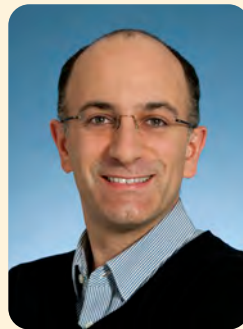
Uveal Melanoma Registry

Uveal melanoma is a rare and aggressive form of ocular melanoma for which there is currently no accepted management or treatment. The Uveal Melanoma Registry aims to change that by gathering patient data from sites throughout Australia, Europe, and the US. The registry is a crucial platform to identify predictive clinical features, document the natural history of uveal melanoma and collect real world data regarding its clinical management. In April, MASC Trials opened the first Australian site of the global patient registry, bolstering the research effort into Uveal melanoma.

2nd AOMA Summit

The AOMA Summit is Australasia's premier ocular melanoma cross-disciplinary meeting. The 2nd AOMA Summit was held virtually on the 18th and 19th June 2021, with both a scientific session (12 speakers) and patient session (4 speakers). More than 130 delegates attended this virtual event to hear from an expert panel of Australian, New Zealand and international speakers, including Dr Brian Marr and Dr Richard Carvajal, Columbia University Irving Medical Center.

"Given the limitations of 2020, AOMA has had a very successful year. The highlight was the 2nd AOMA Summit, which was extraordinarily well attended by both patients and health professionals from across the country and the globe. Convenor, Professor Bill Glasson, and the whole team are to be applauded for pulling the event together in difficult circumstances. We also had the chance to participate in the global 9th Annual Eyes on a Cure Symposium, organised by the Melanoma Research Foundation, in collaboration with AOMA, Ocumel Canada, OcuMel UK, and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre. Links with international partners are continuing to expand with the global Uveal Melanoma Registry now up and running in Perth and Adelaide with Sydney and Melbourne to follow soon. Whilst we were unsuccessful with our MRFF grant, we have initiated and are near opening a world-first neoadjuvant/adjuvant clinical trial with a PKC inhibitor in collaboration with Ideaya. The positive trial of tebentafusp was clearly a benchmark in the area both for immunotherapy and ocular melanoma, and we are actively working to ensure that all Australian patients can have access to the drug as needed. Hopefully, 2021/22 will see even more advances."



Associate Professor Anthony Joshua, AOMA Chair

Board of Directors

MASC Trials is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, comprising representatives of specialist disciplines from leading melanoma and skin cancer institutions across Australia and New Zealand, as well as members from the wider community.



Prof. Mark Shackleton
MBBS PhD FRACP
Chair, Medical Oncologist



Prof. Andrew Spillane
MD FRACS BMBS BMedSci GAICD
Deputy Chair, Surgical Oncologist



A/Prof. Victoria Mar
MBBS PhD FACD
Dermatologist



Mr Richard Martin
MBChB FRACS ChM(SurgOnc)
Surgical Oncologist



Prof. H. Peter Soyer
MD FACD FAAHMS
Dermatologist



Mr Paul White
FCA FGIA CIA GAICD
Company Secretary, Patient Advocate

Patient Advocacy & Staff

Patient Advocacy

MASC Trials values independent patient advocate and community feedback to ensure appropriate development of relevant research which meets the needs and objectives of the people most affected by these cancers. Thank you to our advocates for their important contribution to the work that we undertake.

Mr Paul White

Patient Advocate
MASC Trials Limited,
Company Secretary

Prof. Jonathan Pincus

Chair, Patient Advocacy
Group
Australasian Merkel Cell
Carcinoma Interest Group
(AMIGOs)

Mr Wayne Lieberman

Australasian Merkel Cell
Carcinoma Interest Group
(AMIGOs)

Ms Alison Button-Sloan

Chair, Australian Melanoma
Consumer Alliance Board,
Director, Melanoma Patients
Australia, Patient Advocate/
Representative – MASC Trials,
COSA Clinical Trials Consumer
Network, Cancer Council
VIC and Walter and Eliza Hall
Institute of Medical Research

Ms Susan Vine

Founder, Ocular Melanoma
Australia and New Zealand)
Facebook Group, Australian
Ocular Melanoma Alliance
Patient Advocacy Group

Australian Melanoma Consumer Alliance

AMCA consists of
representatives including
MASC Trials, Melanoma
Patients Australia, Melanoma
Institute Australia, Australian
Melanoma Research
Foundation, Melanoma
Research Victoria, Melanoma
WA and Melanoma TAS

Melissa Sheldon

Patient Advocate

MASC Trials Team at 30 June 2021

Cheryl-Ann Hawkins	BAppSc PGDip GradCert RN MHA	Chief Executive Officer
Gabrielle Byars	BSc(Biochem) MBioMedSci	Research Manager
May Lin Yap	BBiomedSc BSc(Hon) MRes(MedImagingSci) PhD	Research Project Manager/Senior Clinical Research Associate
Marina Skiba	BEd(Sec)Sci PhD	Research Consultant
Sandra Vargas	BSc(Hons) MS MPH PhD	Senior Clinical Data Manager
Tiiu Sildva	RN MPH	Senior Clinical Research Associate
Elizabeth Sadowy	CertIVBusAdmin DipAcc	Executive Officer / Senior Office Administrator
Laura Beckett	BComm	Marketing and Communications Consultant
Simon Cumming	BSc GradDip (Computing Studies)	Clinical Data Manager
Katja Loewe	MSc(Human Biology)	Clinical Research Associate
Ayeshini Sella Hewage	BSc(Physiotherapy)	Administrative Assistant

Our Projects

During the reporting period Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Ltd was responsible for management of the research and clinical activities presented in the table below. These studies are funded by competitive government grants or industry funding administered by universities and are therefore not reported in the financial statements of Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Ltd (please note, a portion of trial management funds for the following trials were transferred to MASC Trials Ltd: 01.09 RTN2, 01.12 EAGLE FM, 02.12 RADICAL, 02.14 COMBI-RT Trial).

Status	Protocol No.	Protocol Name	Details	Principal Investigator	Lead Site	Sponsor	Funding
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	02.14	Combi RT	A single-arm, phase II, multicentre study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of dabrafenib, trametinib and palliative RT in patients with stage IIIc and IV BRAF V600E/K melanoma	Dr Tim Wang	Westmead Hospital, NSW	MASC Trials	GlaxoSmithKline
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	01.12	EAGLE FM	Evaluation of groin lymphadenectomy extent for metastatic melanoma – A randomised phase III trial to evaluate survival, morbidity, and quality of life	Prof. Andrew Spillane	Royal North Shore Hospital, NSW	MASC Trials	Cancer Council NSW Friends of Mater Foundation
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	03.12	MelMarT (Pilot)	A Phase III, multi-centre, multi-national randomised control trial investigating 1cm vs 2cm excision margins for primary cutaneous melanoma	Prof. Michael Henderson Prof. Andrew Spillane	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	MASC Trials	Cancer Council NSW and Friends of Mater
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	01.09	RTN2	A randomised trial of postoperative radiation therapy following wide excision of neurotropic melanoma of the head and neck	A/Prof. Matthew Foote	Princess Alexandra Hospital, QLD	MASC Trials	Cancer Australia Priority-driven Collaborative Research Scheme Project Grant
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	01.07	WBRTMel	Whole Brain Radiotherapy following local treatment of intracranial metastases of melanoma – A randomised Phase III trial	Prof. Gerald Fogarty	St Vincent's Hospital, NSW	MASC Trials	Cancer Australia Priority-driven Collaborative Research Scheme Project Grant
Active (Recruiting)	01.15	CHARLI	A Phase Ib/II Trial of IpilimumabNivolumab-Denosumab and Nivolumab-Denosumab in Patients with Unresectable Stage III and IV Melanoma	A/Prof. Shahneen Sandhu	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	BMS and Amgen

Status	Protocol No.	Protocol Name	Details	Principal Investigator	Lead Site	Sponsor	Funding
Active (Recruiting)	10.17	GoTHAM	A Phase Ib/II study of combination avelumab with peptide receptor radionuclide therapy or conventional fractionated radiotherapy in patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma	A/Prof. Shahneen Sandhu	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	MASC Trials	Medical Research Future Fund – LSCD and Merck Healthcare
Active (Recruiting)	03.18	I-MAT	A randomised, placebo-controlled, Phase II trial of adjuvant Avelumab in patients with stage I-III Merkel cell carcinoma	Dr Wen Xu	Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, QLD	MASC Trials	Medical Research Future Fund – RCRDUN and Merck Healthcare
Active (Recruiting)	02.19	IMAGE	Melanoma Surveillance Photography to improve early detection of melanoma in very high risk (or high risk) patients	Prof. Victoria Mar	Alfred Hospital, VIC	Monash University	Medical Research Future Fund - Targeted Health System and Community Organisation Research Grant Opportunity
Active (Recruiting)	02.18	MelMarT-II	A Phase III, multicentre, multinational randomised control trial investigating 1cm v 2cm wide excision margins for primary cutaneous melanoma	Prof. Michael Henderson and Prof. Marc Moncrieff	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, VIC	MASC Trials	NHMRC
Active (Recruiting - On Hold)	02.12	RADICAL	A randomised controlled multicentre trial of imiquimod versus radiotherapy for lentigo maligna when staged surgical excision with 5mm margins is not possible, is refused, or fails	Prof. Pascale Guitera	Melanoma Institute Australia, NSW	MASC Trials	Cancer Australia
Active (Closed for Recruitment)	04.17	SMARTI	A Pilot Study of an Artificial Intelligence System as a Diagnostic Aide for Better Skin Cancer Management	A/Prof. Victoria Mar	Alfred Hospital, VIC	Monash University	Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund
Active (Recruiting)	07.17	Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA)	Uveal Melanoma Registry (A Prospective Natural History Study in Uveal Melanoma)	Prof. Anthony Joshua	The Kinghorn Cancer Centre, St Vincent's Hospital, NSW	MASC Trials	Pulse Inframe and BMS
Research Study	05.19	Supporting People With Cancer	Improving Melanoma and Skin Cancer awareness in regional and rural Australia	A/Prof. Victoria Mar	Alfred Hospital, VIC	MASC Trials	Cancer Australia

Melissa's Story

Melissa first noticed the lump protruding from her belly button 12 years ago, but thought it was caused by her suit pants.

It wasn't until she visited a doctor that Melissa was hit with the harsh reality: not only was the lump a melanoma, but it was also in danger of spreading to her major organs.

"From that moment everything happened very quickly: I went from not knowing what a melanoma was to having a large and aggressive one cut out of me."

With her melanoma removed, the 29-year-old went back to her beloved job as a hotel manager and gradually her life returned to normal.

Unfortunately, two years later she got a call that changed her life forever.

"My doctor told me that I needed to come and see him. I'd had a sinking sense that something was wrong for a while, so I asked him if I should bring my mum along for support. When he said that would be a good idea, it told me all I needed to know."

The melanoma had metastasised, spreading to her lungs.

Melissa was given the option of traditional treatment options or taking part in an innovative clinical trial using targeted therapy – she chose the latter.

"I was told this trial may buy me time, there are cutting-edge trials on the horizon; in essence I can ride the wave of new treatments."

After initially responding well to the targeted therapy, Melissa was delivered another blow. Her melanoma had now spread to her brain. Without emergency brain surgery, she was given mere weeks to live.

Melissa knew that she'd do anything to give herself a bit more time with her family, so she decided to go ahead with the surgery.



The surgery was a success, but Melissa's prognosis remained dire. With the support of her family and friends, Melissa gained access to an immunotherapy drug, Ipilimumab. She responded well to the new treatment, which was then only available through a clinical trial, and gradually regained her mobility and speech.

Since then, Melissa has faced several setbacks including further brain metastasis, another round of brain surgery and radiotherapy. She has responded well to Keytruda, a treatment once on the horizon.

And yet, she has continued to defy the odds. It's this resilience that has led to Melissa's doctors affectionately naming her the miracle patient.

"I'm here thanks to the amazing power of research, incredible teams of health professionals, and, critically, the opportunity to access new melanoma treatments through clinical trials. Without those treatments, I have no doubt I wouldn't have made it 2 years – let alone 12."

"I was told this trial may buy me time, there are cutting-edge trials on the horizon; in essence I can ride the wave of new treatments."

Trial Spotlight: 03.18 I-MAT



“I-MAT is an adjuvant immunotherapy trial for stage I-III Merkel cell carcinoma. It aims to investigate the role of and provide access to immunotherapy for earlier stages of disease in this rare but deadly skin cancer, to hopefully improve cure rates. In 2020/21 we have successfully opened the trial in 11 sites across 4 states, to date. Enrolment is progressing well in this rare cancer despite pandemic conditions, with 25 participants enrolled in the study as of end of June 2021. We very much appreciate your kind ongoing support of this important trial, which will address a key question in the field.”

– Dr Wen Xu, Study Chair

Participants Recruited	Total Participants Recruited /Target Recruitment	Sites Activated	Funding Awarded
16	16 / 132	10 primary sites; 1 satellite site	\$3,405,167.75

Chair:	Dr Wen Xu
Lead Group:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Sponsor:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Collaborative Groups / Partners:	Trans-Tasman Radiation Oncology Group
Lead Human Ethics Research Committee:	Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee
Lead Academic Administering Institution:	University of Queensland
Funding Agencies:	Australian Government, Department of Health, Medical Research Future Fund, Rare Cancers initiative and Merck Healthcare

Site	Principal Investigator	Location
Princess Alexandra Hospital	A/Prof. Victoria Atkinson	QLD
Alfred Hospital	Prof. Mark Shackleton	VIC
Townsville Hospital • Cairns Hospital (teletrial site)	Dr Madhavi Chilkuri Dr Megan Lyle	QLD
Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	Dr Melissa Eastgate	QLD
Melanoma Institute Australia	Prof. Georgina Long	NSW
Chris O’Brien Lifehouse	Dr Jenny Lee	NSW
Westmead Hospital	Prof. Michael Veness	NSW
Calvary Mater Hospital	Dr Ina Nordman	NSW
Royal North Shore Hospital	A/Prof. Alexander Guminski	NSW
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	A/Prof. Shahneen Sandhu	VIC
Royal Adelaide Hospital	Prof. Michael Brown	SA

Trial Spotlight: 02.19 IMAGE



“The IMAGE trial will provide the high-quality data required to decide if Melanoma Surveillance Photography (MSP) should be covered by Medicare, to allow high-risk Australians to undergo MSP surveillance to alleviate their anxiety and, hopefully, reduce unnecessary ‘just in case’ biopsies. Recruitment is going strong - 49 participants have joined the trial across two sites between March and June this year. The IMAGE sub-study 1, which assesses the benefit of MSP in high-risk patients prior to their melanoma diagnosis, has recruited 18 participants. Further sites in Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales will be activated soon to enable more participants to contribute to this exciting research project.”

– A/Prof. Victoria Mar, Study Chair

Participants Recruited	Total Participants Recruited /Target Recruitment	Sites Activated	Funding Awarded
Main Study 49	49 / 680	2	\$2,416,998
Sub-study 18	18 / 120		

Chair:	A/Prof. Victoria Mar
Lead Group:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Sponsor:	Monash University
Collaborative Groups / Partners:	The University of Sydney, The University of Queensland
Lead Human Ethics Research Committee:	Alfred Hospital Ethics Committee
Lead Academic Administering Institution:	Monash University
Funding Agencies:	Australian Government – Department of Health: Medical Research Future Fund – Targeted Health System and Community Organisation Research competitive grant

Site	Principal Investigator	Location
Diamantina Institute – University of Queensland	Prof. H. Peter Soyer	QLD
Victorian Melanoma Service, The Alfred Hospital	A/Prof. Victoria Mar	VIC

Trial Spotlight: 10.17 GoTHAM



“The GoTHAM Trial is a Stage Ib/II study aimed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of radiation therapy (177Lu-DOTATATE or EBRT) in combination with avelumab for patients with metastatic Merkel cell carcinoma. The trial is currently recruiting across 6 sites nationally and 3 participants have been enrolled to date. We look forward to opening 2 additional sites and teletrial sites across Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales in the coming year to encourage recruitment of participants across metropolitan and regional sites across Australia.”

– A/Prof. Shahneen Sandhu, Study Chair

Participants Recruited	Total Participants Recruited /Target Recruitment	Sites Activated	Funding Awarded
3	3 / 65	6	\$2,410,993.00

Chair:	A/Prof. Shahneen Sandhu
Lead Group:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Sponsor:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Lead Human Ethics Research Committee:	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre Human Research Ethics Committee
Lead Academic Administering Institution:	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
Funding Agencies:	Australian Government, Department of Health, Medical Research Futures Fund, Rare Cancers initiative and Merck Healthcare

Site	Principal Investigator	Location
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	Dr Lavinia Spain	VIC
Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	A/Prof. David Wyld	QLD
Princess Alexandra Hospital	Dr Wen Xu	QLD
Royal North Shore Hospital	A/Prof. Alexander Guminski	NSW
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Dr Tarek Meniawy	WA
Royal Adelaide Hospital	Prof. Michael Brown	SA

Trial Spotlight: MASC 02.18 MelMarT-II Trial



“The MelMarT-II trial is a large international randomised study investigating margins of excision for higher risk melanomas. This study is an Australian led project cooperating with national groups in the United Kingdom, Canada, USA, Sweden, the Netherlands, Slovenia, and Ireland. In fact, there is relatively little information to guide the management of these patients and the results from this study will provide definitive information that is likely to set the standard of ongoing care for these patients. To date, over 400 of the 3,000 participants required in this study have been accrued.”

– Prof. Michael Henderson & Prof. Marc Moncrieff, Study Chairs

Participants Recruited	Total Participants Recruited /Target Recruitment	Sites Activated	Funding Awarded
201	217 / 2,998	21	\$2,766,610.70

Chair:	Prof. Michael Henderson and Prof. Marc Moncrieff
Lead Group:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Sponsor:	Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials
Lead Human Ethics Research Committee:	Sydney Local Health District (RPAH Zone)
Lead Academic Administering Institution:	University of Melbourne
Funding Agencies:	Australian National Health and Medical Research Council, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, National Institute for Health Research Health Technology Assessment and National Cancer Institute

Site	Principal Investigator	Location
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	Prof. Michael Henderson / A/Prof David Gyorki	VIC
Melanoma Institute Australia, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	Prof. Andrew Spillane / A/Prof Robyn Saw	NSW
The Alfred Hospital	Mr Frank Raiola / A/Prof Victoria Mar	VIC
Calvary Bruce Hospital	Dr Rebecca Read	ACT
North Shore Hospital, Waitematā	Mr Richard Martin	NZ

*Australian and New Zealand sites only

Financial Statement

Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2021

	2021 \$
Revenue	88,007
Total Revenue	88,007
Administration	2,695
Consultants	2,600
Information technology	9,939
Meetings	1,525
Printing	1,672
Registration and capitation fees	1,600
Total Expenses	20,031
Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021	
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	286,822
Accounts receivable	14,800
Prepaid expenses	4,400
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	306,022
TOTAL ASSETS	306,022
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITES	
Total liabilities	-
EQUITY	
Retained earnings	306,022
TOTAL EQUITY	306,022

The full Annual Financial Report and Directors Report, for the year ending 30 June 2021, audited by Charterpoint, are available at www.acnc.gov.au/charity

Acknowledgments

MASC Trials recognises and thanks our many supporters, their support has ensured our research makes a real difference to the treatment and outcomes of people affected by melanoma and skin cancers.

Academic Affiliate



Australian Funding Agencies and Institutions



Australian Government
Cancer Australia



Victorian Medical
Research Acceleration
Fund



molemap™
By Dermatologists



The Royal Australian
and New Zealand
College of Radiologists*



Industry Partners

AMGEN

BAUSCH+LOMB
See better. Live better.

BMS



inservio



MERCK



Pro Bono Suppliers

charterpoint.

Jenny Dawes, Lawyer

KING & WOOD
MALLESONS
金杜律师事务所



How To Support MASC Trials



Become a Member

We invite researchers, health professionals and consumers from Australia and around the world to become MASC Trials members. All members will benefit from:

- Access to a professional network for melanoma research, including clinicians, nursing staff, industry affiliates and patient/consumer representatives
- Support for the development of investigator-initiated studies
- Access to grant opportunities



Become a Partner

Sponsor our Annual Scientific Meeting, support a clinical trial as an industry partner or assist our core business by providing a pro bono service – there are many ways to get involved with MASC Trials and improve outcomes for melanoma and skin cancer patients.



Make a Tax-Deductible Donation

Donate to MASC Trials today and support our most promising researchers to find cures for melanoma and skin cancers and help survivors live long and healthy lives.



Participate in a Clinical Trial

Clinical trials are important for discovering new treatments for diseases, as well as new ways to detect, diagnose, and reduce the chance of developing the disease. Join a MASC Trials clinical trial and help us find better treatments for melanoma and skin cancer patients.

For more information, visit masc.org.au

Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials

ABN: 70 626 908 512

553 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004
Australia
Ph: +61 3 9903 9022
E: hello@masc.org.au
W: www.masc.org.au

Stay in touch

Sign up to our eNewsletter: www.masc.org.au/e-news/

Follow us on social media



[/melanoma-and-skin-cancer-trials](https://www.linkedin.com/company/melanoma-and-skin-cancer-trials)



[@MASC_Trials](https://twitter.com/MASC_Trials)



[@AOMA_MASC](https://twitter.com/AOMA_MASC)



[@AMIGOs_MASC](https://twitter.com/AMIGOs_MASC)



MASC Trials is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).