Auckland Medical Research Foundation
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SUPPORTING MEDICAL RESEARCH FOR OVER *60 years*

One dose saved hundreds of lives

The work of one scientist, supported by donors like you, changed hundreds of lives for the better...

Kaye Ibbertson, doctor, scientist and Emeritus Professor, was a New Zealander who saved lives around the world.

Donors to the AMRF saw the importance of medical research like Kaye's and funded his work to understand the role of the thyroid gland in human health beginning in the 1960s.

In 1966, at the invitation of the Himalayan Trust (established by Sir Edmund Hillary and supporters), Kaye traveled to Khumbu in the Nepalese Himalayas to tackle the huge problem of iodine deficiency. Goitres and stunted growth and development, then called 'cretinism', were caused by lack of iodine in early development and childhood.

> With a single dose of slow release iodine, Kaye gave generations of people relief from preventable growth disorders.

People in New Zealand and around the world continue to benefit from Kaye's research, including his work on osteoporosis prevention drugs that were supported by donors like you from the 1980s to today.

Kaye passed away on 12 July, 2018 and he will be remembered as a humble, brilliant researcher who befriended everyone he met and who was a great family man.

Because of YOU, medical research in New Zealand is leading the world in using new technology to understand cancer. Read more inside...

Prof Kaye Ibbertson (white sweater) with patients and staff of the Kunde Hospital in Khumbu, Nepal (above) and (below) with Sir Edmund Hillary (far right) at the site of the hospital.

Your impact so far in 2018

16 Travel Awards

8 Research Awards

2 Fellowships

"The memory of our brother" inspires better cancer treatments from new research and technology

Around 50% of patients with Merkel cell carcinoma do not respond to new immunotherapy treatments like Keytruda.

New Zealand has one of the highest rates in the world of Merkel cell carcinomas (MCC), mostly caused by ultraviolet sunlight exposure.

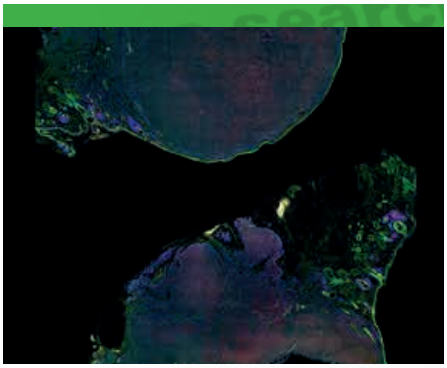
Researchers like Dr Cherie Blenkiron and Dr Kate Parker, from the University of Auckland NETwork! Research group, are doing important new work in this field. Their skin cancer research will test new technology called Digital Spatial Profiling. This has been supported by the family behind the JI Sutherland Fund for Melanoma Research, who have chosen AMRF to ensure their gift is used to support the most worthwhile research. This technology will be able to scan tumours to show if their proteins are the type which respond to available, funded or alternative therapies. Researchers and clinicians can then make more informed recommendations for their patients.

MCC is a devastating cancer, which is often diagnosed only when it's already metastasized and invaded other tissues.

If successful, this approach could be transferred to study of other cancers as well as significantly benefitting MCC patients.

Above: Dr Kate Parker (left) with Dr Cherie Blenkiron (right).

Metastasizing melanoma in human skin.



A carcinoma biopsy from the study. The fluorescent colours show: cytokeratin, a structural protein, in green; tumour marker molecule CD56 in red; immune cells in pink; and DNA nuclei in each cell shown in blue.

Your family trust or estate can support a named scholarship or project. Ask us how!

Thank you for your part in these successes

My family has been very aware of and thankful for advances in medicine through research with my father having a quadruple coronary artery bypass operation 41 years ago (in the pioneering days of such operations).

He was told at the time that "if he was lucky, he would get 10 years". In fact, he lived another 31 years with another double bypass operation 20 years after the first.

My mother, now 85, has successfully survived a subarachnoid haemorrhage, an aortic porcine valve replacement and septicaemia through wonderful medical treatment, advances and care.

Without medical research, both parents would have died 30 or more years ago and not met, let alone had a significant influence on the lives of their eleven grandchildren.

Medical research is allowing people to live longer and the challenge now is to allow them to do so with quality of life.

AMRF is performing a significant role and with more support can do even more to retain quality researchers in New Zealand and attract them back.

"Thank you for your commitment to health and medical research. We couldn't do it without generous people like you."

Richard Taylor, Board President

How to create a legacy of medical research through your will

Talk to your legal or financial advisor about your giving options

Giving in your lifetime is a wonderful way to create a legacy to medical research and receive tax benefits, while allowing you the reward of seeing the impact you've made.

You can also choose to leave your gift, of cash or assets, in your will for a specific area of research or for general purposes.

Would you like to talk with us?

Our Executive Director, Sue Brewster, can call you personally to discuss your wishes and options. Ring our office on 09-923-1701 to discuss your plans.

The AMRF is able to apply 100% of your gift to research, never to our operating expenses or overheads.

After you've provided for your family and friends, please consider giving to medical research.

"One of my clients recently started giving to the AMRF in his lifetime. He has a Bequest planned, but this gives him the opportunity to see it in action and view the outcomes of the specific research projects he is supporting."

- Geoff Baxter
Partner at McVeagh Fleming

Here's a sample clause you can review with your advisor to add to your will:

I give to the Auckland Medical Research Foundation (Charity Registration Number CC22674) [item/specific gift or value/fraction of estate residue] for its general purposes and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

Rosemary's life-long love of scientific research

In her final year at Glenfield College, Rosemary Erson decided to pursue a career in medical research and, after leaving school at the end of 1977, commenced work as a junior lab technician in the Biochemistry Department at Auckland University.

Very sadly, Rosemary's journey was ended shortly after it began.

In June 1978, similar to any other day in the routine of a lab technician, Rosemary set-off to collect specimens from Greenlane Hospital but as she crossed Symonds Street to catch the bus, she was struck by an on-coming car. This tragic accident left Rosemary with severe brain damage and other injuries that saw her spend the next several months of her life in Auckland Hospital.

Despite losing the use of her right arm and dealing with the immense challenges of her brain injury, Rosemary was determined to recover and live her life as best she could, with the help of her doctors and rehabilitation specialists and the love and support of her family.

In early 2018, our Foundation was very privileged to receive notification that Rosemary had left a bequest in her will to us. Rosemary selected AMRF, not only due to her early passion for medical research but, also because of the many treatments and procedures received from medical professionals, which would not have been possible without formative medical research.

This story ends with a heart-felt thank you to Rosemary for leaving a legacy that will continue to advance medicine and provide a hopeful future for others like her. Thank you to Rosemary's family for sharing her very moving story with us.

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