Research Grants

- 2017
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- 2014
- 2013
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- 2010
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- 2008
- 2007
- 2006
- 2005/4
- 2003
- 2002
- 2001

2017 RESEARCH GRANTS

The Margaret Pratt Foundation has donated a final amount of \$180,000 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service in 2017. You can read more about the future of The Foundation in our latest Newsletter.

The Margaret Pratt Foundation has also been instrumental in coordinating an additional \$60,000 per annum over the next 4 years towards a matched funding project - Defeating Lung Transplant Rejection: antibodies and strategies to control them. Further information is available via the Lungitude Foundation from 1 July 2017.

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\$60,000 towards the salary of lung transplant research nurse Yvonne Cristiano over the next two years whose projects including focusing on reducing late Cytomegalovirus (CMV) reactivation in lung transplant

patients, and a monitoring study using QuantiFERON to measure 'net' immunosuppression post lung transplantation. In addition, a CLAD-ASSIST study - Phase 2 randomised, placebo controlled trial of bone-marrow dervied mesenchymal stomal cell (MSC) infustion as treatment for new on-set chronic lung allograft dysfunction (CLAD).

GRANT NO.47

\$60,000 towards the salary of research assistant Tracy Phan over the next two years whose project identifies non-invasive biomarkers of acute and chronic lung allograft dysfunction following lung transplantation.

GRANT NO.46

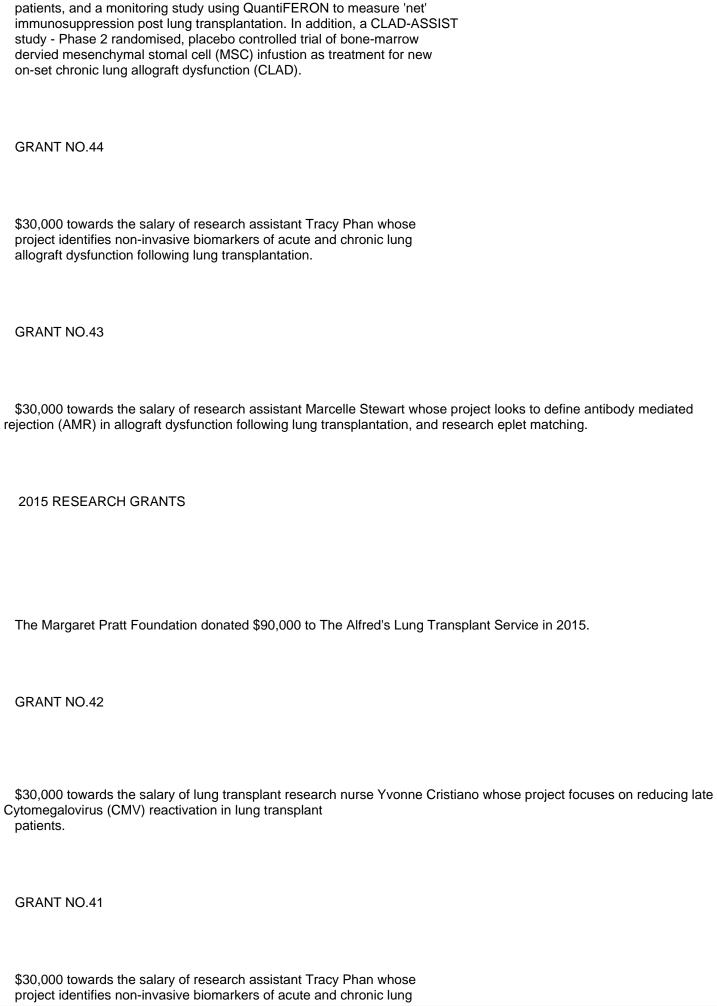
\$60,000 towards the salary of research assistant Marcelle Stewart over the next two years whose project looks to define antibody mediated rejection (AMR) in allograft dysfunction following lung transplantation, and research eplet matching.

2016 RESEARCH GRANTS

The Margaret Pratt Foundation donated \$90,000 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service in 2016.

GRANT NO.45

\$30,000 towards the salary of lung transplant research nurse Yvonne Cristiano whose projects including focusing on reducing late Cytomegalovirus (CMV) reactivation in lung transplant



allograft dysfunction following lung transplantation.
GRANT NO.40
\$30,000 towards the salary of research assistant Monika Loskot whose project looks to define the role of donor-specific antibodies in allograft dysfunction following lung transplantation.
2014 RESEARCH GRANTS
The Margaret Pratt Foundation donated \$90,000 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service in 2014.
GRANT NO.39
\$35,000 supported the work of Yvonne Cristiano whose project focused on reducing late Cytomegalovirus (CMV) reactivation in lung transplant patients.
GRANT NO.38
\$35,000 towards the salary of research assistant Tracy Phan whose project identified non-invasive biomarkers of acute and chronic lung allograft dysfunction following lung transplantation.
GRANT NO.37
\$20,000 towards the salary of grade 1 year 5 scientist Kris Nielson whose project looked at novel lung function measurement techniques in the early detection of Bronchiolitis onliterans syndrome (BOS).
2013 RESEARCH GRANTS

The Margaret Pratt Foundation donated \$90,000 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service in 2013.

GRANT NO.36

\$40,000 was granted to lung transplant clinical research fellow Nicholas Chin. He was focusing on the role of antibody mediated rejection in lung transplantation.

The development of new measurement techniques for the measurement of antibody against human tissue markers (HLA) may provide key information as to why some recipients thrive and others don't. Unfortunately it is unclear as to what level of antibody causes problems and also how broad can the antibody effects can be. Data will be accessed from the Red Cross as to the antibody status of patients over the last one to two years to study the broader effects (cross-reactivity) across tissue groups. Secondly researchers are grappling with high levels of antibodies directed against the transplant (donor specific antibodies). These are high at the time of transplanted lung injury but researchers don't know if they cause the lung injury or are the effect of the lung injury.

GRANT NO.35

\$32,000 supported the work of Yvonne Cristiano whose primary focus was to oversee the development and start-up of a large multicentre study that aims to reduce CMV infection following lung transplantation.

GRANT NO.34

\$4,000 topped up the salary of PhD student Aislin Meehan who completed her PhD at the end of 2013. \$5,000 part funded her laboratory

costs. Aislin continued to investigate the function of Natural Killer (NK) cells during immune responses after lung transplantation.

GRANT NO.33

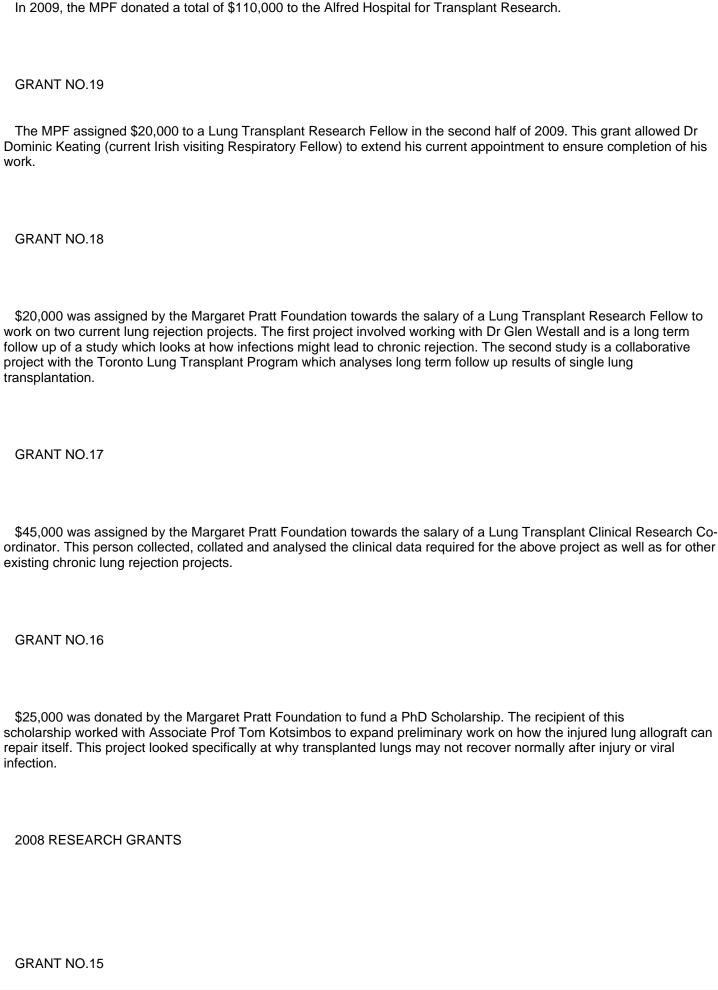
\$4,000 topped up the salary of PhD student Louise Rowntree. \$5,000 part funded her laboratory costs. Louise continued to investigate how the combination of common viruses and cross-reactive T cells influence clinical outcomes in lung transplantation.

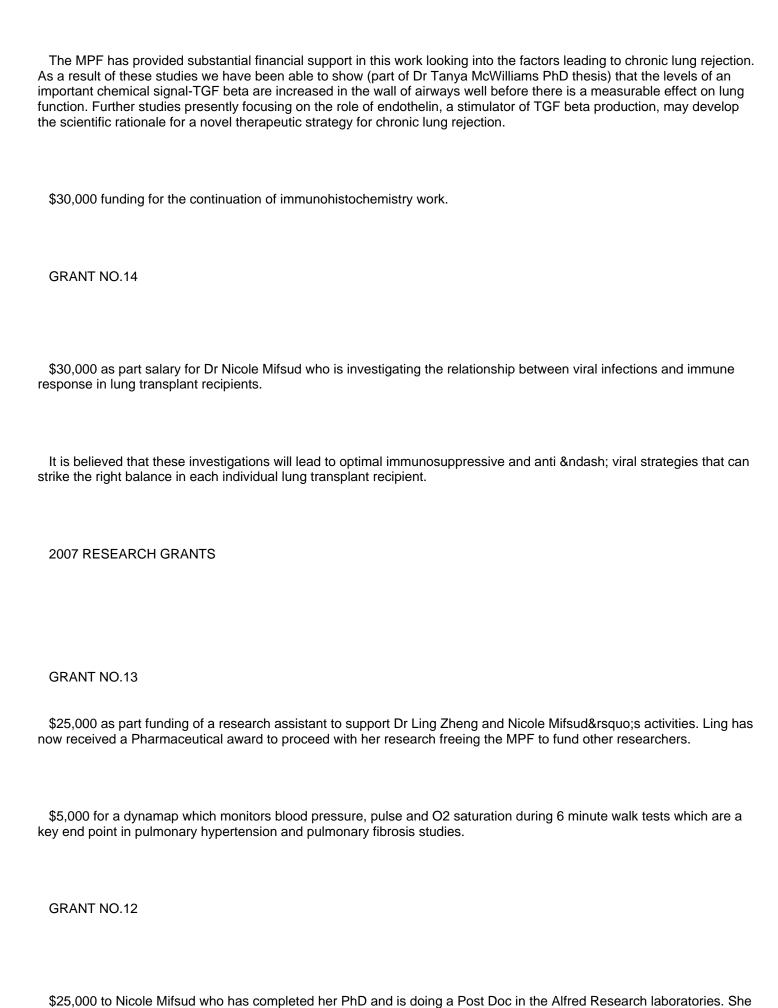
	2012 RESEARCH GRANTS
	In 2012, The Margaret Pratt Foundation donated \$90,000 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service.
	GRANT NO.32
	\$30,000 was granted to Dr Nicole Mifsud as part salary to support her in an ongoing project which examined blood samples taken at the time of transplant operation in order to detect patterns of inflammation which may impact on the short term function of the lungs. It is believed that these early signals also set up the lungs immunological environment in such a way as to explain long term function and dysfunction.
	GRANT NO.31
la	\$32,000 to support the work of Yvonne Cristiano whose primary focus was to oversee the development and start-up of arge multicentre study that aims to reduce CMV infection following lung transplantation.
	GRANT NO.30
	\$4,000 to top up the salary of PhD student Aislin Meehan. \$5,000 to part fund her laboratory costs.
	GRANT NO.29
	\$4,000 to top up the salary of PhD student Louise Rowntree. \$5,000 to part fund her laboratory costs.
	2011 RESEARCH GRANTS

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In 2011, The Margaret Pratt Foundation donated \$107,500 to The Alfred's Lung Transplant Service.
GRANT NO.28
\$45,000 to support A/Prof Bronwyn Levvey in her role of Lung Transplant Clinical Research Co-ordinator.
GRANT NO.27
\$7,500 to support the work of second year PhD scholar Aislin Meehan in the area of the effects of different immune suppressing drugs on sub-types of inflammatory cells (N K cells) which are linked to the development of chronic lung rejection. Aislin was awarded a NHMCR schloarship support grant as a result of the interesting results she reported in the first year of her study.
GRANT NO.26
\$25,000 to support final year PhD scholar Tara Bell in her work in examining the role of reduced Clara cell function as a risk factor for chronic lung rejection.
GRANT NO.25
\$30,000 was granted to Dr Nicole Mifsud as part salary to support her in a new project which will examine blood samples taken at the time of transplant operation in order to detect patterns of inflammation which may impact on the short term function of the lungs. It is believed that these early signals also set up the lungs immunological environment in such a way as to explain long term function and dysfunction.
2010 RESEARCH GRANTS

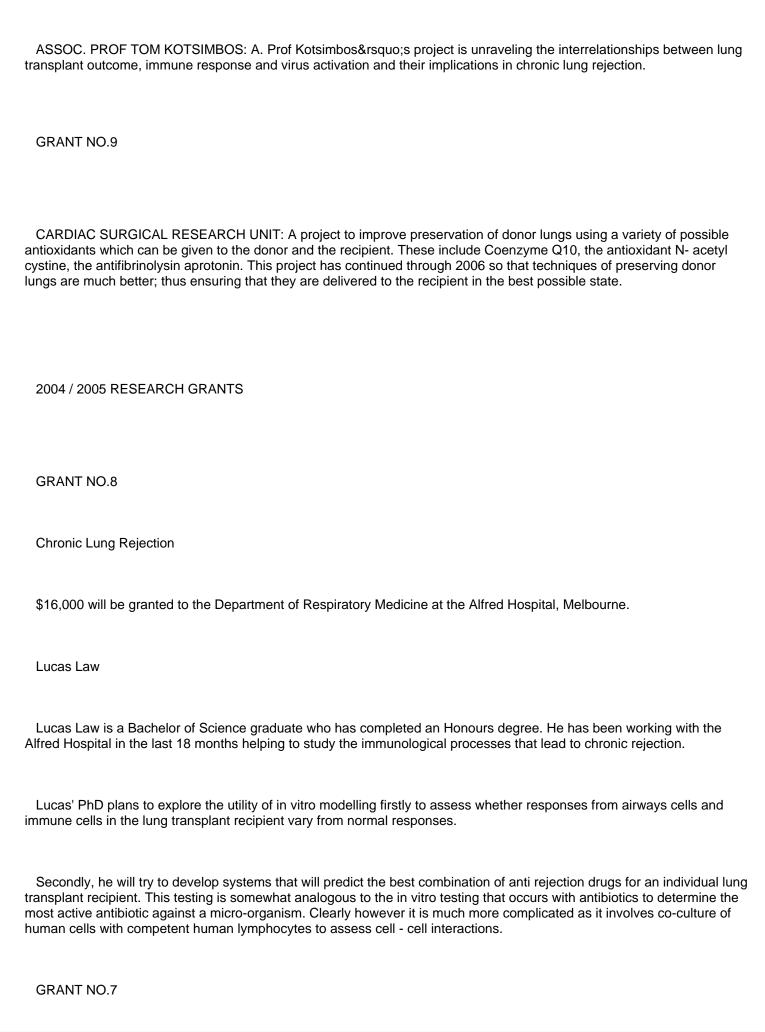
In 2010, the MPF donated \$114,000 to the Alfred Hospital's Lung Transplant Service.
GRANT NO.24
\$45,000 part funded the salary of A/Prof Bronwyn Levvey to support her in her role as Clinical Research Co-ordinator. Bronwyn presented an analysis of one of the research projects co-ordinated by her at the International Society of Heart Lung Transplant's meeting in April 2010. She continued to maintain the data bases that underpin the research of Dr Tom Kotsimbos' group as well as the applied clinical research of Dr Glen Westall.
GRANT NO.23
\$25,000 was granted to continue to fund the research of PhD scholar Dr Tara Bull into the role of Clara cell function in relation to the development of bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome.
GRANT NO.22
\$12,500 was granted to first year PhD scholar Aislin Meehan to part fund her research in the area of immune system responses.
GRANT NO.21
\$15,000 was granted to Dr Dominic Keating to enable him to continue to analyse data collected during his Fellowship at the Alfred.
GRANT NO.20
\$15,000 was donated to continue to support the work of Dr Tom Kotsimbos and Dr Nicole Mifsud in the area of gene analysis as part of the Clara cell project.
2009 RESEARCH GRANTS



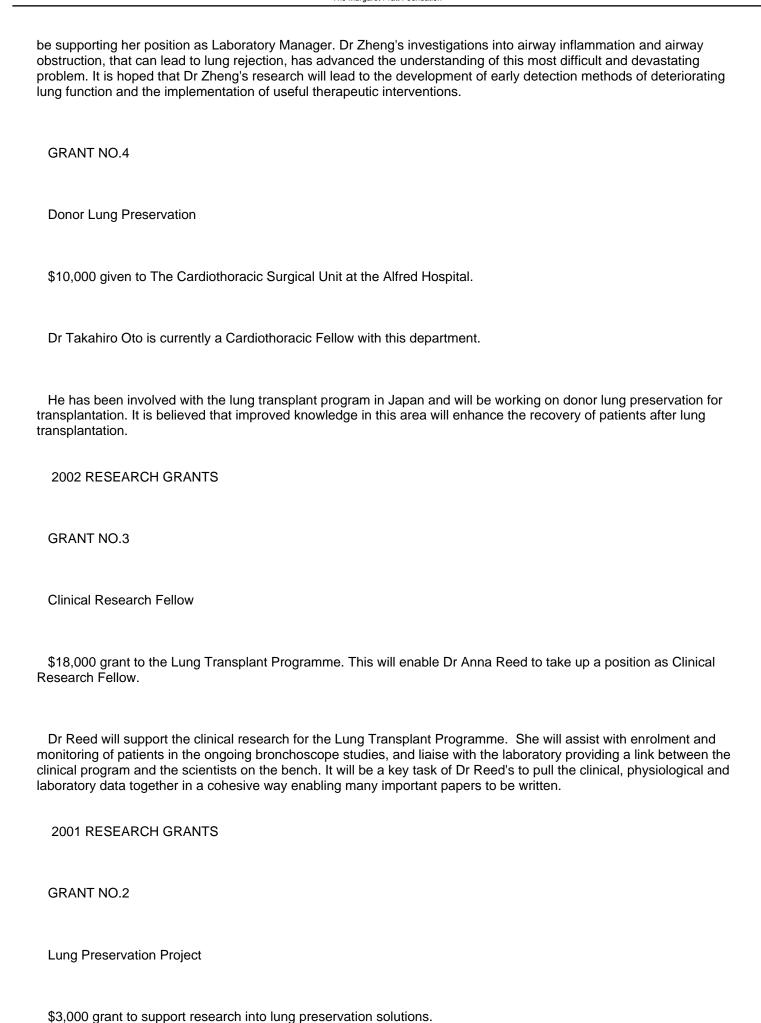


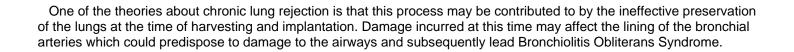


GRANT NO.10



Chronic Lung Rejection
\$17,350 will be granted to the Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.
Specimen Freezer
This freezer will be used to store/archive research specimens and reagents for ongoing studies. Over the years the transplant unit has collected a lot of respiratory specimens kindly provided by transplant patients and control subjects. These specimens survive well in a low temperature freezer, such that studies can be performed even years after collection. The specimens actually now provide a tremendous 'library' to study new concepts and techniques.
The current studies are aimed at exploring the pathway and mechanisms of chronic lung rejection and its potential treatment/prevention with Rapamycin.
GRANT NO.6
Chronic Lung Rejection
\$65,000 will be granted to the Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.
Dr Ling Zheng
Dr Ling Zheng is pivotal to the research efforts of the lung transplant research unit and the Margaret Pratt Foundation will be supporting her position as Laboratory Manager. Dr Zheng's investigations into airway inflammation and airway obstruction, that can lead to lung rejection, has advanced the understanding of this most difficult and devastating problem. It is hoped that Dr Zheng's research will lead to the development of early detection methods of deteriorating lung function and the implementation of useful therapeutic interventions.
2003 RESEARCH GRANTS
GRANT NO.5
Chronic Lung Rejection
\$65,000 granted to the Department of Respiratory Medicine at the Alfred Hospital.
Dr Ling Zheng is pivotal to the research efforts of the lung transplant research unit and the Margaret Pratt Foundation will





GRANT NO.1

Chronic Lung Rejection

The recipient of the 2001 Research grant is Dr Tanya McWilliams.

She is researching the immunopathology of Chronic Lung Rejection.

Tanya's project is to carry on the research already underway into airway changes in Lung Transplant Recipients. This project looks further into airway remodeling and its role in the development of chronic rejection, by looking at changes in collagen in patients who remain stable and those who develop chronic rejection.