

# Impact

REPORT 2020



Your support  
**in action**





Do you recognise this face? Turn to page 8 to find out her happy news.

# Impact

REPORT 2020

*Your decision to support our research is helping to build a future where no child dies from cancer. You are helping to save the lives of children today and children in generations to come. Every dollar and every day takes us closer to our goal – a goal that can only be achieved if we all work together.*

*I hope you enjoy reading about the impact your support is having and how your generosity is giving children a chance to enjoy their childhood, free from cancer.*

*Thank you for standing with us. We achieved so much last year, none of which would have been possible without your support.*

*Thank you*



Front cover: Huey (right) enjoying time with his brother, Leo

Professor Michelle Haber AM  
Executive Director





## Happy Huey



Three-year-old Huey is doing really well. For a child who was diagnosed with a 5cm neuroblastoma tumour at just 10 weeks old, this is wonderful news. Now Huey loves to pretend he is mowing the lawn and uses his toy whipper snipper to do the edges. He is at his happiest in the mower aisle in the hardware store.

*"We can't thank people like you enough for contributing to the research that helps save children like Huey."*

*- Jill and Lindsay, Huey's parents*



## The **impact of your support** leads to life-changing discoveries



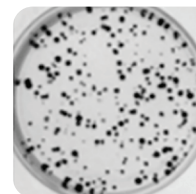
Prof Murray Norris AM was one of the first researchers appointed at the Institute in 1984. He has been dedicated to finding cures for childhood cancer for 35 years

One of the deadliest childhood cancers is also one of the most common. Neuroblastoma kills around half the children it affects – which makes finding a cure one of our biggest priorities.

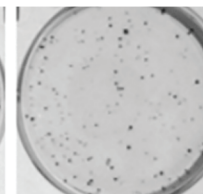
Thanks to people like you though, there is hope.

We have identified a combination of two drugs – DFMO and AMXT 1501 – that can starve neuroblastoma cells of essential nutrients called polyamines and stop them from growing. Together, they make an effective therapy.

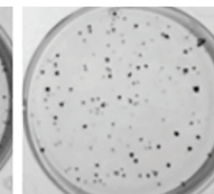
Excitingly, because of your support, this work is moving from the lab to the bedside. The US Children's Oncology Group, the biggest children's cancer study group in the world, has recently opened a clinical trial based on our earlier research on polyamine inhibition therapy. A further international trial involving the USA, UK and Australia is currently being planned to assess the efficacy of our DFMO/AMXT1501 combination. It is our great hope that this trial will prove effective against neuroblastoma, and also aggressive brain tumours.



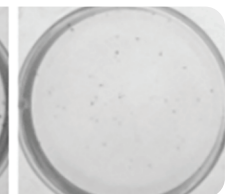
Untreated neuroblastoma cells



DFMO treated cells



AMXT 1501 treated cells



Combination DFMO + AMXT 1501

*"Every child's life is precious, and we won't stop until every life can be saved. **With your help we can and will cure every child.**"* – Professor Murray Norris AM

# You are helping to find cures for **all** childhood cancers



You are helping the search for more effective, less toxic therapies for children like Kane and Brydee with hard-to-treat blood cancers.

- Cancer and Stem Cell Biology
- Leukaemia Biology
- Molecular Diagnostics
- Functional Genomics of Leukaemia



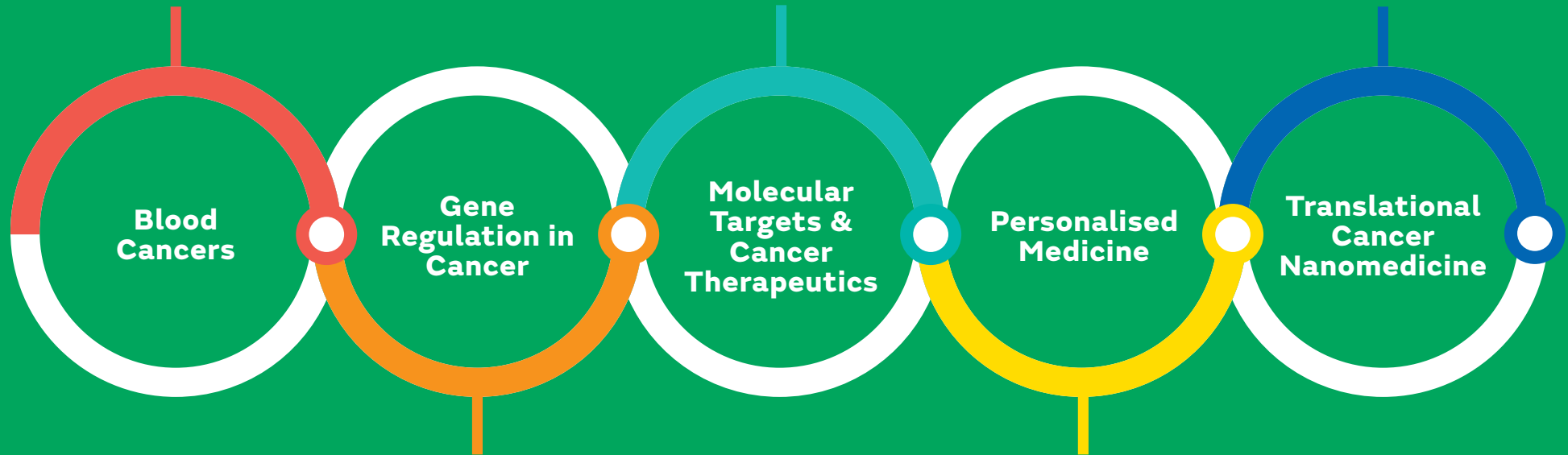
Your dedication is helping to spearhead projects exploring molecular targeted approaches to treat the most aggressive forms of childhood brain cancer, leukaemia and neuroblastoma to help children like Huey.

- Experimental Therapeutics • Drug Discovery Centre • Molecular Oncology • Brain Tumours
- Metal-Targeted Therapy + Immunology



You are helping to harness nanomedicine to deliver drugs directly to cancer cells, to improve treatments and reduce side-effects.

- Tumour Biology and Targeting
- Gene Therapeutics and Drug Delivery



Your support is helping to uncover the genetic mechanisms underpinning childhood cancer to help us understand how to develop new treatments and prevention strategies.

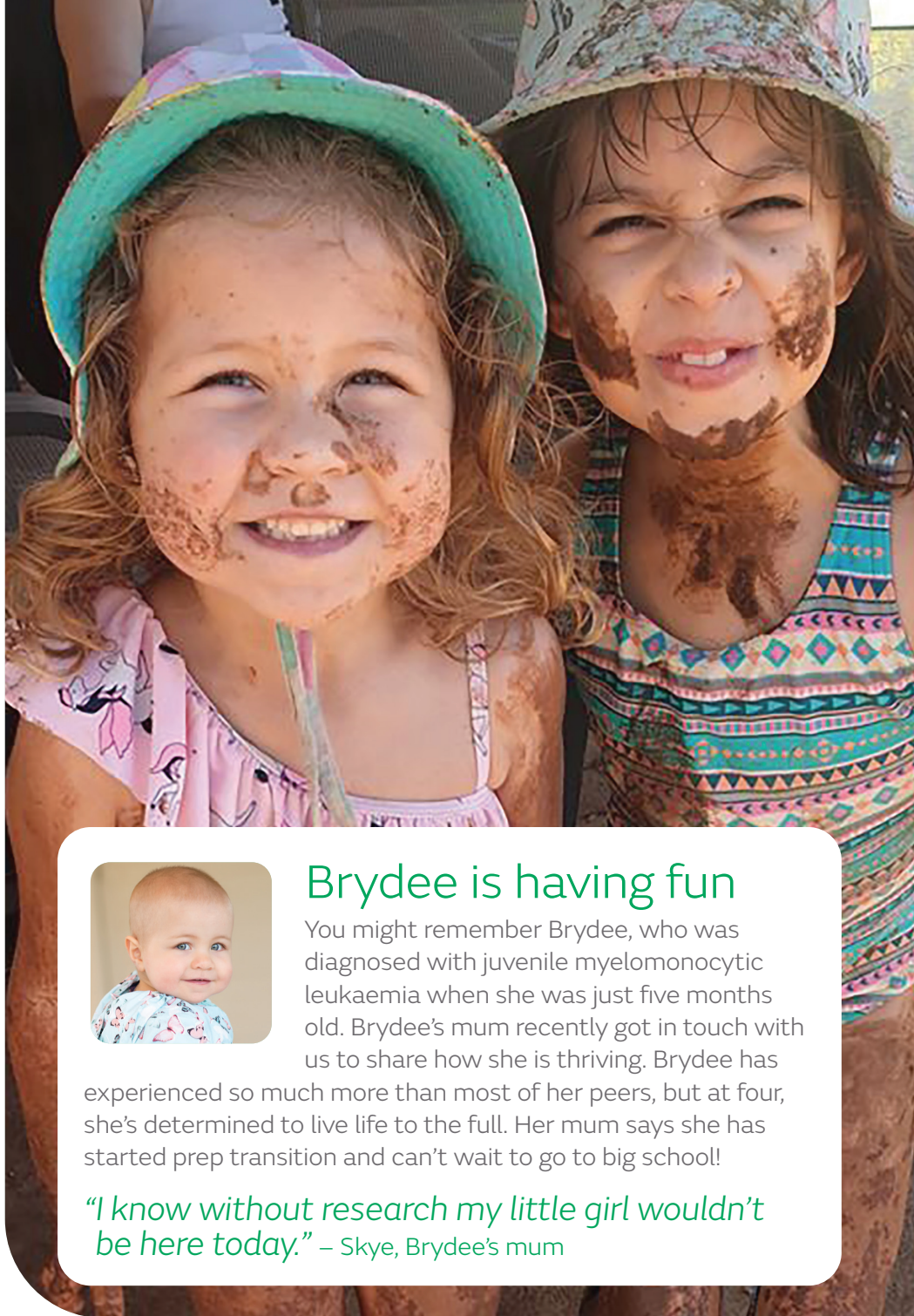
- Gene Dysregulation
- Embryonal Cancer Therapy and Prevention



You are helping to identify important genomic changes in a child's cancer and tailor their treatment in real time.

- Zero Childhood Cancer • Bioinformatics
- Computational Biology • Translational Tumour Biology and Immunotherapy • Cancer Epigenetic Biology and Therapeutics

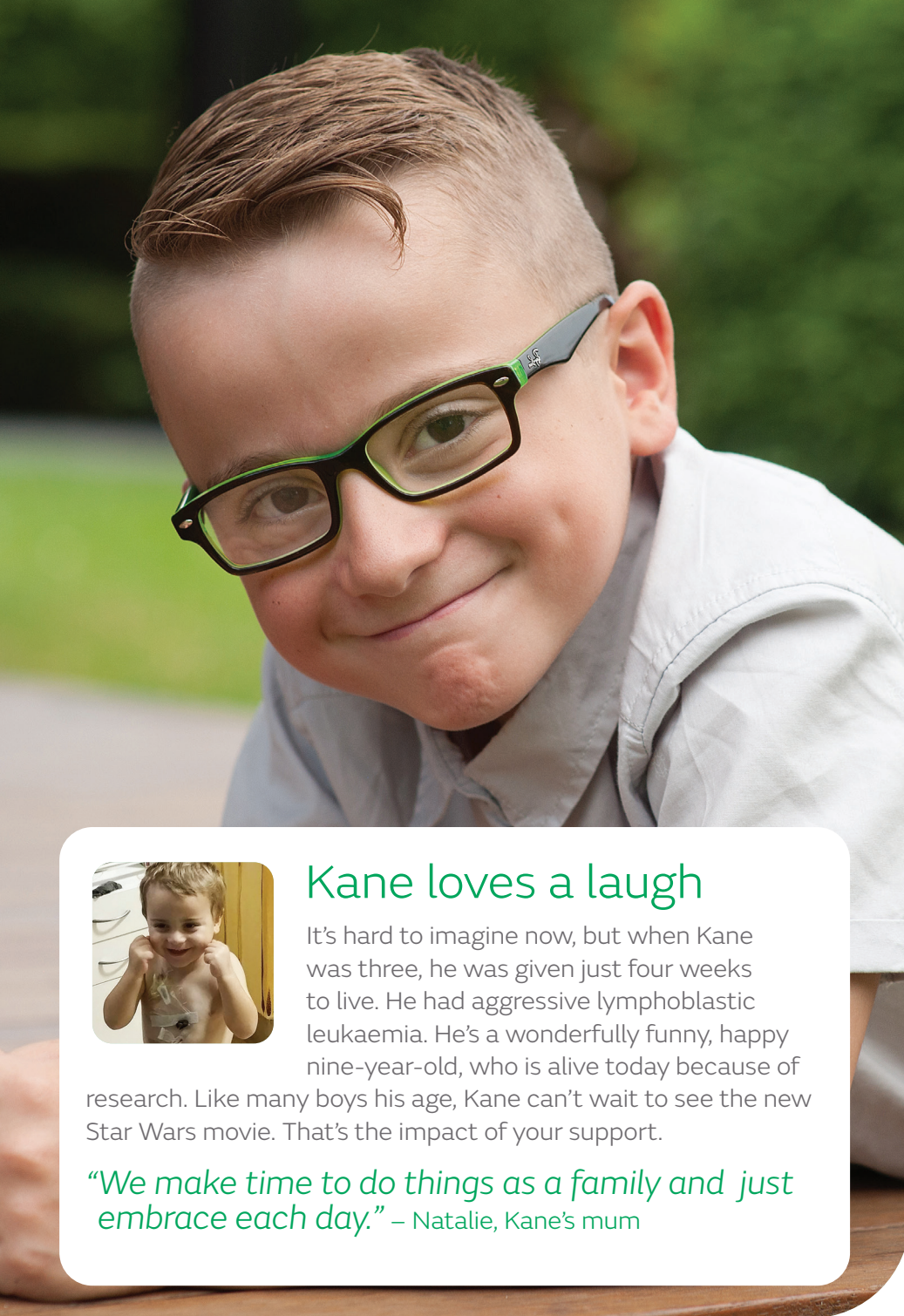




## Brydee is having fun

You might remember Brydee, who was diagnosed with juvenile myelomonocytic leukaemia when she was just five months old. Brydee's mum recently got in touch with us to share how she is thriving. Brydee has experienced so much more than most of her peers, but at four, she's determined to live life to the full. Her mum says she has started prep transition and can't wait to go to big school!

*"I know without research my little girl wouldn't be here today."* – Skye, Brydee's mum



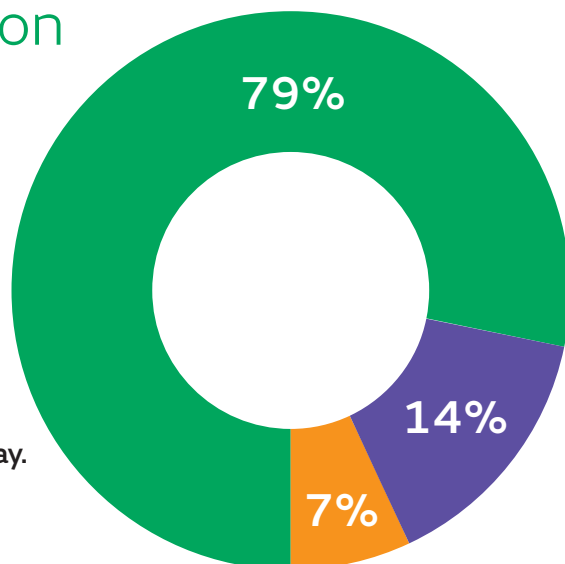
## Kane loves a laugh

It's hard to imagine now, but when Kane was three, he was given just four weeks to live. He had aggressive lymphoblastic leukaemia. He's a wonderfully funny, happy nine-year-old, who is alive today because of research. Like many boys his age, Kane can't wait to see the new Star Wars movie. That's the impact of your support.

*"We make time to do things as a family and just embrace each day."* – Natalie, Kane's mum

## Your money has a profound impact on every part of our organisation

Each and every dollar you contribute is used with a single goal in mind – to further our search for a cure for childhood cancer. We work hard to ensure your hard-earned money is used in the most effective way.



For every dollar donated:

**79%** **79 cents** is directed to research to find more effective and safer treatments for children.

**14%** **14 cents** is invested in fundraising efforts to ensure we can keep funding our research

**7%** **7 cents** is spent on making sure we have the best teams supporting our researchers, looking after your data and being available to talk to you when you need us.

In 2018, **79 cents of every dollar** spent within the Institute was spent towards dedicated research to help cure childhood cancer.

## Your impact is felt in so many ways

It takes all kinds of support to keep our research going



### Regular giving

Regular, monthly giving is one of the most powerful ways to donate. Reliable income streams allow us to plan ahead and ensure that we can keep our labs running and our researchers working towards a cure.



### One-off donations

Every dollar brings us one step closer to finding a cure. Our loyal one-off donors reach out when they can, with whatever they can. We are so grateful for those of you who read about our research and respond to the stories of children who need your support.



### Community events

An empowering way to support life-saving research. Whether you run, swim, cycle or bake, many of our supporters challenge themselves and their community by turning their interests into fundraising activities.



### A gift in your Will

Many of our donors tell us leaving a gift in their Will has brought an incredible sense of joy knowing they are giving children a chance to enjoy their childhood free from cancer. For more information please email Gayle via [ghannan@ccia.org.au](mailto:ghannan@ccia.org.au) or phone 02 9385 0444.

To find out more about any of the ways you can help visit us at: [ccia.org.au](https://ccia.org.au) or call **1800 685 686**





We share a belief – that medical research will one day end childhood cancer and the long-term impacts of treatment. Together, we've made great progress. But we won't stop until the job is done. **With your help, we can cure childhood cancer.**

**1800 685 686 | [info@ccia.org.au](mailto:info@ccia.org.au) | [ccia.org.au](https://ccia.org.au)**