A devil of a disease

By Dr. Alex Kreiss

The Tasmanian Devil is a remarkable animal, and the Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) is a remarkable disease. DFTD is a contagious cancer that has devastated the population of this iconic and globally threatened species. It is caused by a novel myxoma virus, and it is highly contagious. DFTD is transmitted via direct contact, and it can be spread by both healthy and diseased devils.

Devil populations have been dramatically reduced by DFTD, and the disease continues to spread. The spread of DFTD has led to the extinction of the species in the wild, and it is currently only found in a small number of isolated populations in Tasmania. The disease is also spreading to other species, such as the common wallaby and numbat.

DFTD is a serious threat to the conservation of the devil, and it is a clear example of the impact of disease on wildlife. It highlights the need for continued research into the disease, and the development of effective management strategies to protect the devil.

In conclusion, DFTD is a devil of a disease that poses a significant threat to the devil and other species. It is a reminder of the importance of disease management and the need for continued research into the disease to develop effective management strategies.
World's largest respiratory health study launches next phase

The Department of Health and the Tasmanian Government are partnering to launch the Tasmanian Community Health Register (TCHR), a study that will provide information on the health status of Tasmanians and information about people with chronic conditions (2013) to inform future health policy and service planning.

The launch of the TCHR was invited to gather information that will enhance public health data in: causes, prevention, effective treatment and intervention strategies.

For people currently living with COPD or asthma, the register aims to provide an ongoing opportunity to participate.

The register will enable the establishment of the register as a population health resource for research and health services in the future.

The register is a significant undertaking in the context of the prevalence of COPD. As many as 20% of people older than 65 years are affected by COPD and 10% of Australians are affected. The register will enable the identification of important issues of aging and effective treatment options.

In addition, the register will enable the development of important national COPD surveillance data by providing data that can be used to model the burden of COPD in the state. The register will also enable the development of important COPD surveillance data by providing data that can be used to model the burden of COPD in the state.

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The register is a valuable tool for health service providers and researchers to understand the needs of people with COPD and asthma.

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The Tasmanian Asthma Health Study (TAHS) has launched a new research phase focusing on the 21,000 siblings of the original 8,500 children which will allow us to strengthen our understanding of asthma development and risk factors.

In this next phase of the study we are partnering with Cerebral Palsy Tasmania this opportunity, said Ms O’Neill. “This is a fantastic outcome for people with Cerebral Palsy Tasmania’s CEO Lindy Weitnauer has been reproduced as Australian Christmas cards for the past 10 years. Now the organisation is offering Christmas cards which feature original paintings by Tasmanian artists Joan Oates, Georgina Pajak and Michael Weitnauer. The cards are available from Cerebral Palsy Tasmania’s office and shops, and businesses and individuals also have the option of ordering personalised cards with their logo and greeting of choice.

The spirit of Christmas is coming to Hobart, with a special range of Christmas cards being launched by RHHRF, the Royal Hobart Hospital Foundation. The range features original paintings by local artists Joan Oates, Georgina Pajak and Michael Weitnauer, reproduced as Australian Christmas cards for the past 10 years. Now, the organisation is offering Christmas cards which feature original paintings by Tasmanian artists Joan Oates, Georgina Pajak and Michael Weitnauer. The cards are available from Cerebral Palsy Tasmania’s office and shops, and businesses and individuals also have the option of ordering personalised cards with their logo and greeting of choice.

A CP register for Tasmania

The Menzies Research Institute in Tasmania has launched an initiative to study sibling pairs. The project, called the Tasmanian Asthma Health Study (TAHS), started in 1968 by surveying 8,500 children from 500 families. The study has contributed to a number of significant community and family studies and is the longest running research study on childhood asthma in the world. The TAHS is a collaboration between the Health and Medical Research Council of Tasmania and the University of Melbourne and has been funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

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The Tasmanian Longitudinal Health Study (TAHS) was launched in 1968 to survey the health of all 8,500 children born in Tasmania in one year. The study is now the world’s largest community-based longitudinal health study.

The study is continued by the Tasmanian Community Foundation, the Asthma Foundation of Tasmania, the Asthma Foundation of Victoria and the University of Melbourne and supported by a range of government and nongovernment organisations.

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Tasmanian devils have a highly functional immune system. Full details of this unique research project have been published online at www.menzies.tas.edu.au/immune.

In the past, the devil's immune system was thought to be so weak that it could not fight off a cancer called Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD). But a new study shows that the devil's immune system actually does work. The devil's immune system is surprisingly strong, even though it does not have the same ability to destroy cancer cells as humans do.

The study involved a group of 16 healthy devils, which were infected with DFTD. The devils were then studied using advanced imaging techniques to see how their immune system responded to the disease.

The results showed that the devil's immune system was able to attack and destroy the cancer cells. This is surprising because the devil's immune system is not as strong as that of humans or other animals, and it is not clear how it is able to do this.

The study was led by Dr. Alex Kreiss, a PhD student at the Menzies Research Institute, and Dr. Paul Kilpatrick, a Senior Research Fellow. The results have been published in the journal *Nature*.

The study suggests that the devil's immune system may be able to fight off other cancers in the future. This could have important implications for the treatment of cancer in humans, as we may be able to learn from the devil's immune system.
World’s largest respiratory health study launches next phase

The Markey Research Institute has launched a new phase of its flagship study to launch the Tasmanian Asthma Register, or TAHS. The study of respiratory problems and information about people with chronic respiratory disorders (CRD) forms the caseload for the register.

According to Professor Haydn Walters, the Markey Research Institute’s new phase of the TAHS will provide a better understanding of the mechanisms of asthma, including the role of both genes and the environment in the development of asthma.

“The TAHS started in 1968 by surveying more than 21,000 siblings of the original sample. We hope to launch a new research phase (TAHS) that will build on this legacy,” said Professor Walters.

The register is essential in helping to understand any trends in the type and time of asthma. It also allows us to better anticipate the register will supply accurate medical findings and help researchers to identify the causes of asthma.

The Markey Research Institute is also deeply involved in other generous donors who wish to remain anonymous.

The funds that Menzies receives from the Trust and the significant People’s Choice Community Fund, will be used to support medical research in Tasmania. We are also very grateful for the many people who have made gifts through the Trust and for the many donations to support medical research in Tasmania.

Thank you to our valued supporters

The Markey Research Institute thanks all of our donors for their ongoing support of Menzies research with global significance. May 2021 – July 2022

Markey Research Institute

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The Art of Christmas

Supporting Tasmanian Artists

The Art of Christmas is a fantastic outcome for people with cerebral palsy," said Associate Professor Venn. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to bring together the most creative people from across our region.

It is a fantastic opportunity for everyone with cerebral palsy to contribute to a number of events throughout the year.

We were also saddened to hear of the recent passing of one of our most important members of our community, Mr Bruce Noonan. We extend our most sincere thanks for his support to our ongoing research campaign.

The funds that Menzies receives from the Trust and the People’s Choice Community Fund will be used to support medical research in Tasmania.

We are also very grateful for the many people who have made gifts through the Trust and for the many donations to support medical research in Tasmania.

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New building update

In the last edition of the Bulletin, we reported that the Menzies Research Institute’s $50 million Development Agreement has been accepted by the Tasmanian Government. The Agreement includes contribution funding of $24.9 million (which will also later be adopted as a $40.7 million Business Case submission to allocate an additional $4.9m to the project to enable it to proceed) and additional $9.447 million for the University’s Business Case submission. The Council also approved extra funding of $1.4m to support a business case submission to allocate an extra $4.9m to the project to enable it to proceed. Approval delays have not yet affected the project.

The Tasmanian Government is currently under tremendous pressure to fund major projects, so it is important that the project remains on track. The project will commence in mid-2009, with the first new building scheduled to be completed in 2011.

Diary Date | 3 March 2008

2008 Menzies Research Institute Golf Classic

The Menzies Research Institute Golf Classic is a cost-effective programme catering for needs. Corporate and individual investors are invited to participate in the 2008 Golf Classic, which will be held at the picturesque Tote Hotel Golf Club on Monday, 3 March 2008.

Register your interest today, as places are limited. For further details and to register for the 2008 Golf Classic contact Dr. Graham Cottrell or the Events Coordinator, Jill Butterworth on 6226 7751.

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