

# Clinical Trials Network August Update



August 2025

## Your 30 Second Scoop

### Hollywood Private Hospital

First ever lung cancer patient in WA to receive TIL's cellular therapy through a global [phase 2 lung cancer trial](#) being run at site.

### North Shore Private Hospital

Cardiologist, Dr Karan Rao has been awarded the prestigious [Ralph Reader Prize](#) for his work in patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI)

### Ramsay Ethics & Governance Consultations Launched

A new system has launched providing [FREE 1:1 consultations](#) for Ramsay affiliated researchers, designed to help you navigate the ethical and governance aspects of your research

### High Impact Publications

Dr Andrea Tazbirkova (Pindara Private Hospital) and Dr Michelle Morris (SCUPH) in [Nature Medicine](#) and Dr Hanlon Sia (Pindara Private Hospital) in [The Lancet](#)

### New Research Staff

Introducing Javier Jimenez Martin, our new Clinical Trials & Research Unit Manager at Westmead Private Hospital, and Karen Ji, at North Shore Private Hospital.

## Some 'feel good' news

### A patient at Joondalup Health Campus in WA has extended a heartwarming thank you to the research team.

The patient was screened for an adolescent asthma trial and although did not meet criteria and was unable to take part in the research, still took time out of their day to pass on their gratitude to the team.

*"I wish you and your staff all the best in the upcoming studies into the Asthma Trial and would like to thank all those involved for their politeness and professionalism shown".*

You may think it's just a quick thank you, but it means a lot to the Joondalup Research Team to know they're providing positive experiences for their patients - after all that's the whole point!

## Site Spotlights

### Hollywood Private Hospital

## First ever WA lung cancer patient to receive new treatment.

A global phase 2 clinical trial is investigating whether tumor infiltrating lymphocytes (TIL) is safe and effective for different types of patients with Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC).

Hollywood Private Hospital has recruited and is dosing the first ever lung cancer patient in WA with this new treatment.

### So how does it actually work?

A small piece of the patients tumour is removed, and immune cells (TIL's) from the tumour are grown and activated in a lab. The patient then receives a short course of chemotherapy to prepare the body, before the lab-grown TIL's are infused back into the patient.

A medication called IL-2 is then given to the patient to help the TIL's work better with the goal of shrinking or controlling the lung cancer.

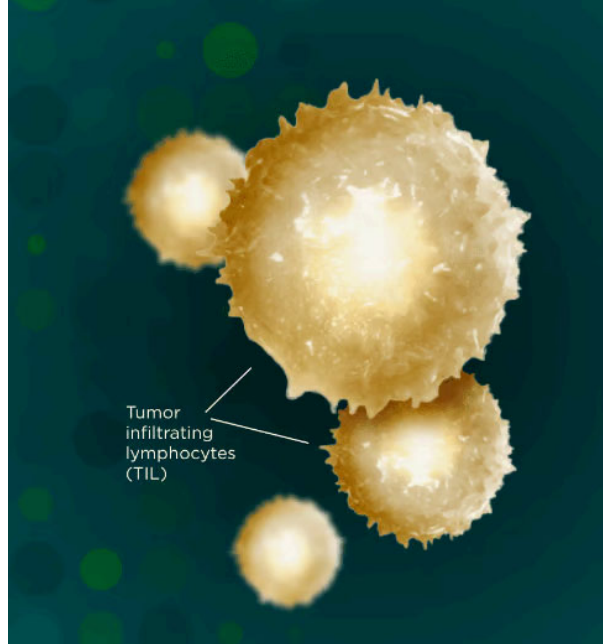


Photo credit: from the study website ([www.lungcelltherapy.com](http://www.lungcelltherapy.com))

[Read more about the study](#)

## North Shore Private Hospital

### Dr Karan Rao awarded the 2025 Ralph Reader Prize.

*"I am so proud and grateful. CONDUCT-TAVI's Ralph Reader Clinical Prize reflects four years of relentless teamwork. A heartfelt thanks to our patients for making this possible."- Dr Rao*

**North Shore Private Hospital** cardiologist, Dr Karan Rao has been awarded the prestigious [Ralph Reader Prize](#) for his work in patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI). Dr Rao was one of three finalists who presented their work at the [CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting](#). Dr Ravi Bhindi (pictured), is Dr Rao's PhD supervisor and attended the CSANZ ASM as well.

CONDUCT-TAVI is an observational study of 200 patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation (TAVI) across two centres. This piece of Dr Rao's PhD aims to predict the incidence of permanent pacemaker implantation (PPMI) due to high grade atrioventricular block (HGAVB) after TAVI.



Dr Ravi Bhindi (left) and Dr Karan Rao (right) at the 2025 CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting.

## Warringal Private Hospital

Congratulations to Warringal Private Hospital for recently being selected for two new trials in bladder cancer and prostate cancer.

**AU-011-102 Trial: A Phase 1, Open-label Trial of Belzupacap Sarotalocan (AU-011) to Determine the Feasibility and Safety of Intratumoral Injection with or without Intramural Injection in Subjects with Bladder Cancer.**

PI: Prof Damian Bolton

Trial Sponsor: AURA Biosciences

Read more [here](#)

**KLK2-ComPAS Trial: A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study: Pasritamig vs Placebo in Late-line Metastatic Castration-resistant Prostate Cancer**

PI: A/Prof Andrew Weichardt

Trial Sponsor: Johnson & Johnson

## Stronger Together: ANZUP & RHRF

**ANZUP and RHRF are teaming up to drive change.**

Listen to Nicola Ware (CEO, RHRF) and Samantha Oakes (CEO, [ANZUP Cancer Trials Group Limited](#)) speak about the wonderful new partnership between Ramsay Hospital Research Foundation and ANZUP, and how the two organisations are working together to conduct more clinical trials in the area of below the belt cancers.



**Research Ethics & Governance Consultations Launched**





### Why?

Because we understand the complexities of ethics and governance requirements, and want to assist you in getting your studies up and running as seamlessly as possible.

These consultations are designed to help you navigate the ethical and governance aspects of your research project. Whether you are in the early stages of project planning or need guidance on specific considerations, this session provides an opportunity to discuss your concerns with our experienced team.

[Register here](#)

## New Staff

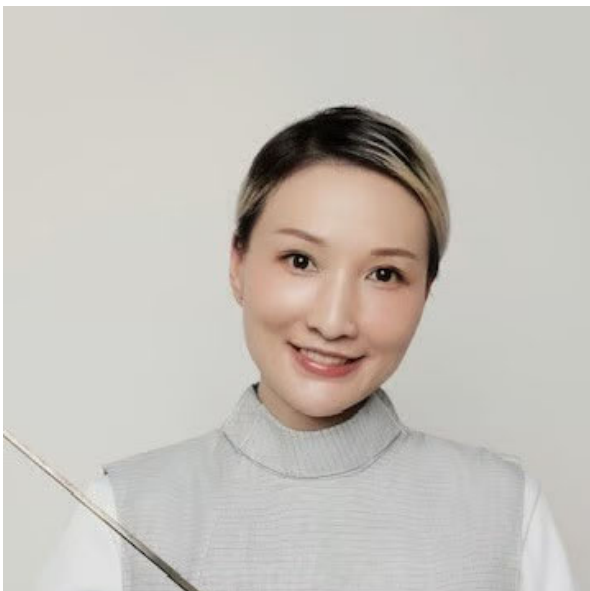


### Welcome Javier

Westmead Private Hospital

Javier is our new Clinical Trials and Research Manager at Westmead Private Hospital. Javier holds a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Otago, a Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours in Biology from the University of Havana, and has held a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at The University of Queensland.

Javier has a wealth of work experience through the Cuban Neuroscience Centre, the International Hospital for Neurological Restoration, Monash University and most recently at Cochlear where he held the position of Clinical Trials Project Manager and led studies across Australia, USA and Europe.



### Welcome Karen

North Shore Private Hospital

Karen is our new Clinical Trials and Research Manager at North Shore Private Hospital. Karen began her career as a registered nurse at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. Six years ago, she transitioned into the field of clinical trials, driven by her strong interest in evidence-based practices and advanced therapeutic treatments.

Karen's journey has taken her through various roles, including at a Medical Oncology Trials Centre, a Cardiology Trials Unit, and most recently, the Kids Research Centre.

*"Working alongside a dedicated team, I am excited to contribute to our shared mission of enhancing patient lives and facilitating innovative medical advancements that deliver new treatments to our community."*

## Recent Publications

Congratulations to several of our Doctors, VMO's and RHRF grant recipients on their recent publications. We are fortunate to see contributions from researchers who actively participate in our Clinical Trials & Research Units as well as from those affiliated with Ramsay sites more broadly.

### Featured Publications

**Dr Andrea Tazbirkova - Pindara Private Hospital and Dr Michelle Morris - SCUPH**  
[CLDN18.2-targeting antibody-drug conjugate IBI343 in advanced gastric or gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma: a phase 1 trial.](#) *Nature Medicine*

**Dr Hanlon Sia - Pindara Private Hospital**

[Belantamab mafodotin plus bortezomib and dexamethasone in patients with relapsed or refractory multiple myeloma \(DREAMM-7\): updated overall survival analysis from a global, randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial.](#) *The Lancet*

**Dr Michael Facek- John Flynn Private Hospital**

[Adductor Canal Blocks May Result in Long-Term Neuropathy After Total Knee Arthroplasty.](#) *Journal of Orthopaedic Experience & Innovation.*

## Some Recent Publications

**Jaswinder Samra and Anubhav Mittal - Westmead Private Hospital**

[Overcoming therapy resistance in pancreatic cancer: challenges and emerging strategies.](#) *Adv Drug Deliv Rev*

**Lana Bell - Westmead Private Hospital**

[Proposing core competencies for physicians in using artificial intelligence tools in clinical practice.](#) *Intern Med J.*

**Yu-Hsien Kent Lin - North Shore Private Hospital**

[The IL-8/NF- \$\kappa\$ B feedback loop confers a paclitaxel-sensitive/doxorubicin-resistant phenotype in triple-negative breast cancer.](#) *Free Radic Biol Med*

**Sadhbh O'Connor and Michael Warner - Hollywood private Hospital**

[Fragility in Focus: Gallbladder Rupture in a Patient With Vascular Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome.](#) *ANZ J Surg.*

**Yugan Mudaliar - Westmead Private Hospital**

[Meropenem and piperacillin/tazobactam optimised dosing regimens for critically ill patients receiving renal replacement therapy.](#) *Intensive Care Med.*

**Marcel Knesl,- Sunshine Coast University Private Hospital**

[RANZCR Economics and Workforce Committee. Faculty of Radiation Oncology 2022 Workforce Census.](#) *J Med Imaging Radiat Oncol*

**Yunzhi Yang, Danielle Delaney, and Amanda Chung - North Shore Private Hospital**

[Sacral neuromodulation in patients with neurogenic lower urinary tract dysfunction.](#) *Curr Urol.*

**Ahmed Goolam, Matthew Winter - North Shore Private Hospital**

[Salvage robotic-assisted radical cystectomy is safe in patients with history of pelvic irradiation.](#) *Curr Urol.*

## Biostatistics Support

# FREE BIOSTATISTICS SUPPORT

FOR ANYONE CONDUCTING RESEARCH AT A RAMSAY FACILITY.

ESSENTIAL AT EVERY STAGE OF YOUR PROJECT - FROM CONCEPT TO CONCLUSION.

"Amazing assistance thank you. You explained complex concepts to me in a way I could understand and provided practical ways for me to solve my stats questions."

-ANONYMOUS RAMSAY RESEARCHER

 Ramsay Hospital  
Research Foundation

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