

FACT SHEET THE PwC FOUNDATION LEUKAEMIA AND LYMPHOMA TISSUE BANK

- The PwC Foundation Leukaemia and Lymphoma Tissue bank is a joint initiative of the Australian Leukaemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG) and the Leukaemia Foundation.
- It was established in October 2002 and is Australia's only national Tissue Bank for haematological cancers. It is a national facility located at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane.
- The Tissue Bank plays a crucial role in research into leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma and related blood disorders which seeks to improve our understanding of
 - The biological processes leading to the development of these cancers
 - The factors which control variable patient response to current treatments
 - More effective therapies for patients
 - Collecting samples of rare and very rare cancers at one site
- The Tissue Bank is a temperature controlled facility for storing clinical tissue samples to be used in approved research. The samples are human tissue collected from the blood, bone marrow and other body organs of patients across Australia with leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma or a related blood disorder. All tissues are collected with the informed consent of patients.
- Patients who wish to donate their blood and/or bone marrow samples to the Tissue Bank will need to sign a **consent form** at the time of diagnosis. This can be obtained from your clinician. Samples are also welcomed from relapsed patients at re-diagnosis.
- Donating blood and/or bone marrow samples does not involve any additional procedures, it simply involves saving and storing in the Tissue Bank any excess blood or bone marrow extracted during your routine tests.
- The donation of your tissue sample is an invaluable way to support blood cancer research and will help bring us closer to finding a cure. Tissues from blood cancer patients are precious materials for researchers because these cancers are relatively rare and are vital for finding cures.
- Please note - your privacy is protected by legislation and your samples stored as a de-identified number. Your identity is protected at all times.

For further information please visit www.leukaemia.org.au/web/research or contact Dr Sue O'Brien, Leukaemia Foundation National Manager – Vision, at sobrien@leukaemia.org.au.

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