Discovery Circle

Join an exclusive group of benefactors changing the world through medical research.

sahmri.org.au

Discovery Circle

Work together to accelerate life-saving discoveries at SAHMRI

SAHMRI is an independent, not-for-profit institute.

Hundreds of researchers work collaboratively inside our iconic headquarters to learn from and support each other's work.

These dynamic partnerships extend beyond SAHMRI, connecting with leading research organisations across Australia and the globe.

Our researchers are making extraordinary progress, but income from research grants alone is not enough to turn their discoveries into preventions, treatments and cures.

We invite you to join an exclusive group of like-minded philanthropists in SAHMRI's Discovery Circle to create a world where we don't just live longer but live better lives.

Join the SAHMRI Discovery Circle

The Discovery Circle brings together a group of committed donors who share a passion for life-changing research and are determined to make a powerful impact on improving the health and well-being of our community.

We ask you to donate $5,000 to join our exclusive Discovery Circle.

As a member, you'll meet annually to discuss your shared passion and decide collectively which research projects your philanthropy will support for the year.

You can renew your $5,000 commitment each year to remain within the circle and follow the progress of each project you've helped fund.

All donations are tax-deductible.

The cumulative potential of the Discovery Circle is immense.

Your donations combine to create a substantial, meaningful investment in inspiring projects with the potential for wide-ranging impact.

Please join this special circle of supporters and have a say in the future of SAHMRI's research.

To join now or learn more, please contact our Fundraising Manager, Alex Bassett, on 08 8128 4329 or alexandra.bassett@sahmri.com.

RDLIPARINGGA
Original Research

A Proud History

SAHMRI was created to sit at the nexus of government, the universities and the hospital system to connect, support and amplify the world-class research underway throughout our state.

The benefits of the work we do however extends well beyond South Australia's borders, throughout Australia and the world.

As a not-for-profit institute, SAHMRI must source our own resources to fund our life-saving research. That is what makes initiatives like the Discovery Circle so crucial.

Our researchers are at work every day, striving for discoveries that improve health and well-being for everyone. Your support will accelerate those life-changing discoveries.

SAHMRI's research began in earnest just ten years ago. Yet, in such a short time, our achievements have been significant:

- I've personally led SAHMRI Women and Kids theme's research, pioneering Omega-3 supplements as a simple and readily available preterm birth intervention.
- Our Precision Cancer Medicine theme continues to spearhead leukaemia research that has already seen some forms of the disease reduced from a death sentence to a safely manageable chronic condition.
- Our Aboriginal Health Equity theme led the development of the South Australian Aboriginal Health Research Accord. This document laid the foundation for meaningful, culturally appropriate Indigenous health research now employed nationwide.
- Our Lifelong Health theme has developed a treatment that reduces symptoms of abdominal pain for millions of people with Irritable Bowel Syndrome giving them back a quality of life that most of us take for granted.

I'm honoured to lead our institute as we enter our second decade of collaborative and transformative health and medical research.

You can stand alongside our researchers as we continue our quest to improve global health.

I invite you to join our SAHMRI Discovery Circle and play an active role in health and medical research to benefit us all.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Professor Maria Makrides
Executive Director, SAHMRI

You can accelerate the discovery of dementia treatments

Ann Pietsch was busy at her regular job in her local council office, when she first realised something wasn't right.

"Suddenly, I couldn't do the tasks I'd always done with ease. I couldn't stay focused and kept forgetting things from one meeting to the next," Ann said.

At home, things were getting harder, too. Ann would forget the flour when baking a cake and find herself confused by simple tasks like hanging out the washing.

Ann didn't waste any time seeing her doctor, who confirmed her fears that she had dementia, changing her life forever.

A decade since her diagnosis, she's a dedicated advocate, sharing her experience to raise awareness about the reality of living with the condition, inspire hope and emphasise the importance of research.

"I'm so grateful to organisations like SAHMRI that treat dementia as a challenge to be met, not a life sentence to pity," Ann said.

"The fear and stigma surrounding dementia stops many people from seeking help, and that's why it's important to address dementia with compassion and understanding."

Ann's hope for the future rests on ongoing research, finding treatments and ultimately a cure, a mission she shares with SAHMRI's Dr Andrew Shoubridge.

"I'm leading a unique project looking at the impact of food and medication on the development and management of dementia," Dr Shoubridge said.

"This feeds into my broader research investigating the relationship between the gut and the brain. This rapidly growing field of medical research is showing strong promise as a foundation for developing future dementia treatments."

By joining SAHMRI's Discovery Circle, you can help young researchers like Andrew develop world-leading ideas that will significantly impact our community and our loved ones.

SAHMRI is a globally-connected centre of world-class health and medical research

From our iconic “Cheesegrater” headquarters in Adelaide, South Australia, Hundreds of SAHMRI researchers have forged meaningful collaborations with colleagues across South Australia, Australia and the world.

We’re searching for solutions to a wide range of diseases and medical conditions that cause human suffering so we can discover better ways to treat, heal and care for people.

Our key areas of focus include:

- Developing better cancer treatments, including proton therapy,
- Giving our kids the best start in life,
- Targeting the health challenges we face as we age, including dementia, stroke and heart disease,
- Championing Australia’s largest dedicated Indigenous health research unit dedicated to Aboriginal Health Equity,
- Studying trends in real-world data to improve health services, and
- Investing in ground-breaking technology and state-of-the-art equipment for all our researchers to use cost-effectively.

Joining the Discovery Circle is more than a donation – it’s a unique opportunity to accelerate life-saving health and medical research.

You can support ground-breaking new treatments for blood cancer

Jess Simone was ten years old when she was told she had acute lymphoblastic leukaemia – the most common cause of non-traumatic death of children in the Western world.

It was terrifying news. But, thanks to advances in health and medical research, Jess is a survivor who's now 20 and cancer-free.

"While I was having treatment, we saw a lot of friends pass away, and we've had family members also die from cancer," Jess said.

"We realise how important research is because without it, there is no way we will find a cure. Without research, I wouldn't be here now."

Since her treatment and recovery, Jess's family have devoted themselves to supporting cancer research – hosting elaborate fundraising parties at their home every two years.

SAHMRI postdoctoral research fellow Elyse Page received a $100,000 grant from the Simone family to support her globally significant project.

"It is absolutely amazing what they have done. It is sustaining our research that is showing exciting possibilities for people with blood cancers," she said.

"There are so many different types of leukaemia, and not all patients respond well to chemotherapy.

"We are trying to find more personalised treatments, to learn what is driving a particular leukaemia and see what is actually going to kill these leukaemia cells successfully."

Collective support from the community helps make Elyse's work possible.

In the same way, by joining SAHMRI's Discovery Circle, you can give hope to people like Jess by helping to accelerate life-saving research projects like this one.

Why I'm committed to SAHMRI's Discovery Circle

"

I believe people everywhere should have the opportunity to live long, active and healthy lives.

While not all of us can find the cure to cancer, we can support the researchers who can find solutions.

I could have just made a donation, but I like how the Discovery Circle program connects me to SAHMRI's researchers. They have so much potential; their talent and dedication will discover life-changing and life-saving advances.

By directly supporting them, I'm hopeful that SAHMRI's researchers can enable all of us to have disease-free lives and the opportunity to thrive.

Please join us.

Kathryn House AM
Discovery Circle Member

A beacon in the face of life's unpredictable challenges

"

Amidst the myriad of choices for donations, I've chosen the SAHMRI Discovery Circle, driven by profound personal experiences and the indomitable spirit of two individuals close to my heart.

My sister's battle with triple-negative breast cancer at 32, who passed five years later, its relentless resurgence despite all efforts, is a stark reminder of the urgent need for research breakthroughs. Equally inspiring is my colleague's ten-year journey battling adenoid cystic tongue cancer, diagnosed at 35 years old, defying grim odds.

Both stories underscore the pivotal role of research in discovering novel treatments and improved screening methods.

SAHMRI represents hope, the prospect of effective treatments with fewer side effects, a beacon in the face of life's unpredictable challenges.

Dr Evelyn Yap OAM
Discovery Circle Member

How it works

Join the Discovery Circle, and you'll be part of an exclusive group of benefactors determined to improve the world through medical research.

- Commit to investing a minimum of $5,000, with the option to re-commit each year
- After hearing SAHMRI researchers present their work, you decide with your fellow members which project to support with the pool of funds
- Be kept up-to-date with progress on the projects you've supported
- Receive recognition of our support on the Discovery Circle Honour Board in SAHMRI's foyer and our Annual Report
- Have opportunities to network with your fellow Discovery Circle philanthropists, sharing a passion for turning research discoveries into preventions, treatments and cures.

You can pay in monthly instalments if you wish. You can choose to remain in the Discovery Circle each year by renewing your annual commitment of $5,000.

Contributions of more than $5,000 are most welcome. However, each membership comes with a single vote when choosing which projects will receive support from the Discovery Circle's funds.

Organisations or foundations that join the Discovery Circle will also receive a single vote and should nominate an appropriate contact person.

How to join

For more information or to join, contact Fundraising Manager Alex Bassett on **08 8128 4329** or **alexandra.bassett@sahmri.com**.

You can also visit our website at **sahmri.au/circle**

Discovery Circle

SAHMRI
North Terrace, Adelaide 5000 South Australia
PO Box 11060, Adelaide 5001 South Australia
+61 8 8128 4000 — hello@sahmri.com

Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter

SAHMRI is located on Kaurna Country. We pay respects to the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We are committed to embracing knowledge and culture as we continue our working journey to incorporate Aboriginal health research across all of our themes and further reconciliation.

SAHMRI
South Australian Health & Medical Research Institute