

<b>Project title</b>	<b>A new strategy to prevent melanoma metastases</b>
Recipient	Mr Joseph Backhouse
Institution	Harry Perkins Institute of Medical Research
Research description	<p>The most life-threatening aspect of cancer is spreading of the tumour to other body locations in a process called metastasis. Current treatments often fail due to cancer cells avoiding detection and spreading. Important drivers of metastasis are the abnormal, “leaky” blood vessels within the tumour that also prevent delivery of cancer therapeutics.</p> <p>This project will investigate the ability of a new drug called LIGHT-VTP to fix the “leaky” blood vessels, thereby limiting metastasis. Importantly, this drug has been previously shown to improve immunotherapy delivery to tumours. This investigation will involve analysing tumours and their blood vessels with tools like immunohistochemistry and quantitative PCR. Demonstrating the efficacy of this drug will open up the possibility to develop a new adjuvant treatment for melanoma patients that will reduce mortality and improve current clinical treatments.</p>
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