

Project title	Cracking the code to successful cancer immunotherapy
Recipient	Dr Jonathan Chee
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Research description	<p>Mesothelioma is a cancer caused by asbestos that develops in the lining of the lungs. Australia has one of the highest incidences of mesothelioma in the world. The prognosis is very poor, with 5-year survival rates of only 3% for men, and 12% for women.</p> <p>Immunotherapy is an exciting treatment for mesothelioma. It works exceptionally well for some cancer patients, but there are side effects, and it is expensive.</p> <p>The research team want to be able to tell before treatment begins which patients will benefit and predict and prevent any bad reactions. Every person has a unique immune system and we can define features of that system like fingerprints. But these fingerprints change with time and wellness. This study will map the changes associated with successful immunotherapy to see if therapy outcome can be predicted.</p> <p>The benefit of this study is that it will allow the research team to find out early in a treatment plan if that plan is working so that it can be altered if it is not.</p>
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