

# Get involved.....

## Attend one of our fundraisers

Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group holds a number of events throughout the year such as golf days, trivia nights and an annual White Pearl Ball.

## Hold your own fundraiser

**Raise funds online** - through a fundraising page.

**Challenge event** - run, walk, cycle, swim in support of SNOG at any number of physical challenge events here and OS.

**Fundraising event** - host a SNOG Supporter Fundraising Event such as dinners, lunches, morning or afternoon teas, movie nights.....

**Special occasion** - give a donation in lieu of gifts.

**Give in memory** - of someone you love.

## Monthly Giving

Giving a monthly gift to Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group can make a real difference to the future of brain cancer research, education and support.

## Gifts in Wills

Leaving a bequest is a lovely way to give something back and assist with brain cancer research and support for future generations.

## Workplace Giving

Giving on payday supports brain cancer patients with education, support needed after treatment, support groups and funds the Neuro-Oncology Nurse Care Coordinator along with the ongoing research.

**For more information on getting involved or to make a donation visit our website [www.snog.org.au](http://www.snog.org.au) or call on 02 8425 3369.**

Follow us on Facebook and share our news  
[facebook.com/SydneyNeuroOncologyGroup/](https://facebook.com/SydneyNeuroOncologyGroup/)

## I WISH TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE SYDNEY NEURO-ONCOLOGY GROUP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed my cheque payable to:

*Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group*

OR

Please debit my credit card for the below amount:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  MasterCard  Visa

Card Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_/\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to:

### Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group

North Shore Private Hospital  
Westbourne Street, St Leonards, NSW 2065  
Fax: 02 84253629

### Donate Via – Paypal

All donations greater than \$2.00 are tax deductible.

Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group is a  
Registered Not-for-Profit organisation,  
ABN 39094873211.

## THE SYDNEY NEURO-ONCOLOGY GROUP IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Dr Raymond Cook  
Chairman



Dr Michael Biggs  
Deputy Chairman



Assoc Prof. Helen Wheeler



Dr Gordon Dandie



Assoc Prof. Michael Back



Dr Mustafa Khasraw



Mr Greg Bown



Mr John Ballard



Ms Suzane Peponis-Brisimis

### Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group

North Shore Private Hospital  
Westbourne Street, St Leonards NSW 2065  
Ph: 02 8425 3369  
[www.snog.org.au](http://www.snog.org.au)

### The Kolling Institute of Medical Research

Royal North Shore Hospital  
Pacific Highway, St Leonards NSW 2065  
Ph: 02 9926 8486  
[www.kolling.usyd.edu.au](http://www.kolling.usyd.edu.au)

### Follow us online – Facebook

1. NSW Cancer Institute, NSW Cancer Registry, 2008
2. AIHW, "Cancer in Australia: an overview, 2012"
3. Cancer Council NSW, "Understanding Brain Cancer", 2011
4. Access Economics "Cost of Cancer in NSW", Report for Cancer Council NSW, 2007

# Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group



## SNOG

## Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group

[www.snog.org.au](http://www.snog.org.au)



*Aiming to improve the management of brain cancer and non-malignant tumours through research, education and ongoing support for patients and their families.*

## ABOUT SNOG

The **SNOG Board** works with a multidisciplinary approach to uphold the three pillars that makes us who we are as a Group – **Research, Education and Support**. We offer a unique translational ‘bench to bedside’ approach that integrates patient care with treatment. This multidisciplinary approach ensures the patient and their family receive ongoing support throughout the continuum of care.

**Research** - Brain tumour research is conducted through the collection of individual patient clinical data throughout their treatment.

Some projects begin at the cell level in incubators; others come from analysis of outcomes of patients we have treated. SNOG provides support for neuro-oncology clinical trials with new promising therapies at NSPH, RNSH and elsewhere, including the much anticipated GBM AGILE.

**Education** - It is our responsibility as primary care givers of these patients to share our knowledge with our colleagues in the medical and nursing community as well as provide education to our patients and their families. We do this in many ways – journal publications, clinical education seminars, information sharing on our website, brain tumour support and education evenings, in-services to nurses and Allied Health and through coming together with our peers at local and international conferences and state-wide patient information seminars.

**Support** - Unlike other cancers, patients with brain tumours have many different needs following diagnosis. Their mobility, speech, personality, memory and cognition can all be affected. Not only does this have a major impact on the patient, it also has a huge impact on their family and friends.

With these different needs in mind, SNOG is committed to supporting patients and their carers throughout their diagnosis.

**Neuro-Oncology Nurse Care Coordinator** - SNOG believes in the relevance of this role and therefore is proud to fund the position. This is a clinical as well as supportive nursing role. The role of Care Coordinator makes a huge difference to how our patients are managed and takes a lot of the stress from family and carers. The position of Care Coordinator for brain cancer is not funded by the government. Due to generous donations from the public we are lucky enough to be able to offer this much needed role.

## RESEARCH GOALS

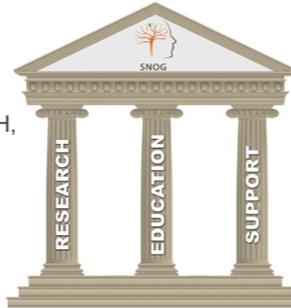
Our research goal is to identify a molecular genetic description that will improve treatments and increase survival time of patients with brain tumours. The Australasian Brain Tumour Tissue Bank, established in 2003 by SNOG’s Chairman Dr Raymond Cook and University of Sydney’s Professor Bruce Robinson, is now one of the largest repositories of nervous system tumours in Australia. Housed at the Kolling Institute of Medical Research, it remains an invaluable resource for our research. Brain tumour tissue samples are collected and exposed to genetic analysis. The outcomes of the research done in the lab have strong potential to be translated into the clinic, with exciting implications for patient care.

SNOG’s research program is conducted in the Bill Walsh Cancer Lab, also in the Kolling Institute of Medical Research on the Royal North Shore Hospital Campus. SNOG’s research team in collaboration with the Bill Walsh Cancer Research Lab have been focusing their research on 1) laying the foundations for improved treatments for IDH-mutated glioma, 2) the development of non-invasive monitoring for brain tumour recurrence and treatment resistance and 3) studying the molecular heterogeneity in high-grade glioma.

In 2017 The Bill Walsh Cancer Research Lab will see the installation of a pre-clinical image guided radiotherapy unit. This will be one of only 2 units in Australia and the first on the eastern seaboard. This system will allow the assessment in the pre-clinical setting, novel therapies in combination with radiotherapy that brain cancer patients receive.

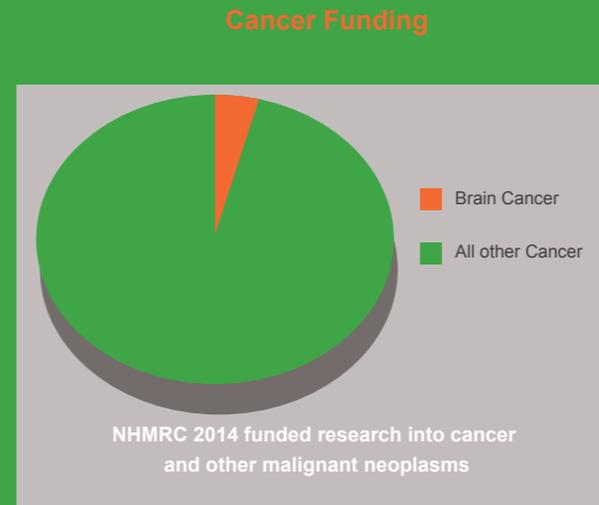
Neuro-Oncologist Dr Adrian Lee is focusing his PhD studies on patients with high-grade brain cancer (glioblastoma) and why they are at a higher risk for developing clots and life threatening thrombotic events. PhD student Angela Cho is focusing her studies on how and why IDH-mutated tumours (a subtype of glioma) become more aggressive and less responsive to treatment over time.

Generous donations to the Sydney Neuro-Oncology Group fund our Post-Doctoral Research Associate Dr Amanda Hudson and PhD positions. Consumables costs for research are also funded by **SNOG**. <http://www.bwcancerresearchlab.org.au/research/>



## CHALLENGES IN BRAIN CANCER

Brain cancer is one of the most under-studied of all cancers yet receives very little research funding.



No risk factors have been identified and no screening procedures are in place.

No significant improvement has been made in survival rates in almost two decades.

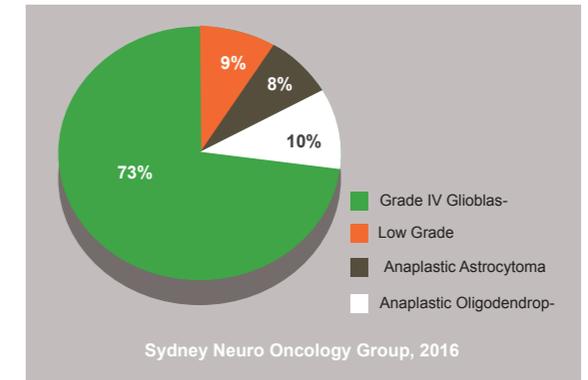
Current therapies are often ineffective and have debilitating side effects.

Some brain cancers infiltrate the brain and migrate quickly away from the primary tumour, making them extremely difficult to treat.

Effective treatment options for brain cancer patients are limited, tumours are developing resistance to standard therapies.

**100% of monies raised through donations go directly into brain tumour research and patient support.**

## Gliomas (primary brain tumours) treated since 2000



Brain cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in people under 39 years and accounts for more than a third of cancer deaths in children under the age of 10.<sup>1</sup>

About 40% of all brain tumours are malignant.<sup>3</sup> The most common malignant brain cancer, high grade glioma (HGG) is almost 100% fatal.

One person dies from malignant brain cancer every eight hours in Australia. Brain cancer carries the highest individual burden of all cancers due to its debilitating effects, often preventing patients from working and driving.

## Lifetime financial cost of cancer for families

