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# MPN Matters

Issue 2 - June 2017



**"Cuts to funding for research in Australia, has lead to a drop in the success rate. Down from 24% to 10%".** Dr Steven Lane, Melbourne, April 2017.

Please help Us Raise Valuable \$\$\$ to contribute to MPN-related Research in Australia

Make a tax deductible donation directly into the MPN fund, managed by the Leukaemia Foundation and read on to see what MPN AA is doing to raise awareness of MPNs, educate patients, and highlight the need for further research into MPNs.

**Donate Now**



To donate and to keep up-to-date with information and news go to the MPN AA website home page [www.mpnallianceaustralia.org.au](http://www.mpnallianceaustralia.org.au). Click on the button as shown in the image and select to receive an emailed tax receipt at completion of the process.

## Research leads to better understanding about the causes of MPNs and new treatment options

"I support MPN research as I see it as the only way of developing better treatments. As a younger person, I really wish for targeted drug therapies to halt my disease and improve my quality of life".

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### Did you know that there is currently MPN-related research being undertaken in Australia?

In each issue of our newsletter, we will bring you information about research that is currently taking place in Australia. Wouldn't it be fantastic if the next big MPN discovery happened here! With your help, MPN AA can donate to Australian MPN research.

For example, Professor Richard D'Andrea, Head of the Acute Leukaemia Laboratory at the Centre for Cancer Biology, South Australia, is currently running a study titled: **"Molecular mechanisms of Polycythemia Vera – identification and characterisation of novel candidate genes:** The Philadelphia chromosome negative myeloid proliferative neoplasms (MPN) are clonal stem cell disorders with an associated risk of progression to myelofibrosis and transformation to AML. We have identified several novel somatic gene variants that highlight novel pathways as potentially important in MPN pathogenesis and are working to determine the significance of these gene variants in MPN and AML."

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## Understanding MPN



Watch our wonderful Ken Young presenting the story of his own MPN journey at the MPN Advocacy and Education International Patient Program in Melbourne. His story is heartwarming and life-affirming, as well as being very entertaining. It also underscores how serious these diseases can be. Ken's story demonstrates how far we have come in the understanding and treatment of MPNs, thanks to research and also the efforts of a dedicated group of patient volunteers around the world.

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## Your Patient Story

There are already a number of patient stories published on our website. We would also love to feature your MPN patient story, (or the story of an MPN patient who is close to your heart) as a way of further raising awareness of the nature of our MPNs. We are all so different, and everybody travels a different road on their MPN journey!

Please contact us on [mpnaa@mpnallianceaustralia.org.au](mailto:mpnaa@mpnallianceaustralia.org.au) if you would be interested in sharing your story.

## How else can you help?

1. **Organise a fundraiser** such as a Bunnings sausage sizzle to raise funds for the MPN AA. Do you have a group of friends, colleagues or family that could help you run a stall? Get in touch by contacting us on [mpnaa@mpnallianceaustralia.org.au](mailto:mpnaa@mpnallianceaustralia.org.au)

2. **Let others know** about the need for MPN research and how they can donate. Share the MPN AA donation link within your circles.

<http://www.leukaemia.org.au/mpn>

3. **Make a tax deductible donation now**

*Thank you !*

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