



OUR VISION

MCCC's vision is to bring together its partners' research and clinical strengths to provide the best possible clinical outcomes for cancer patients in Melbourne's South East.

Sponsor:



Partners:



CONTENTS

The Year in Review	4
Strategic Goals and Key Performance Indicators	5
Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium's Strategic Goals	
2011 Key Performance Indicators	
Establishment of a Governance Structure	6
Management Committee	
Advisory Council	
Partnership Agreement	
Operational Appointments	7
Interim Research Director	
Chief Operating Officer	
Communications Officer	
Operational Funding	8
Victorian Cancer Agency	
Industry Support for Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium's Translational Research Programs	
Funding for Research Initiatives	9
Funding for Enabling Platforms	
Victorian Cancer Agency Collaborative Program Grants	
Victorian Cancer Agency Clinical Fellowships	
Victorian Cancer Agency Clinical Trials Capacity Building Grant	
National Health and Medical Research Council Funding for Cancer Research	
National Health and Medical Research Council Fellowships	
Translational Research Programs	10
Breast Cancer Program	
Lung Cancer Program	
Prostate Cancer Program	
Colorectal Cancer Program	
Improving Research and Clinical Integration	12
Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium Website	
Workshops	
Monthly Seminar Series	
E-Newsletter	
External Engagement	14
Victoria's Cancer Hubs	
Government Consultation	
Cancer Agencies and Networks	
Industry Engagement	
Future Development	15
Integration of Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service and Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium	
Monash Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre	
Appendix 1: Summary of Progress Against Strategic Goals	16
Appendix 2: Statement of Income and Expenditure	18
Appendix 3: Auditor's Declaration	19

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium's (MCCC) partners include the major research, clinical and service provider organisations across Melbourne's Southeast, an area which encompasses over 28% of Victoria's cancer patients. MCCC is unique in its inclusion of both public and private service providers, and its close partnership with the Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Services (SMICS), providing a truly comprehensive network of interdisciplinary expertise.

Throughout 2011, MCCC's network has continued to grow with assistance from a strong and experienced pool of leaders in research and clinical care. An effective governance framework with a focus on collaborative decision making, regular network interactions and the provision of resources to facilitate these have aided progress toward a series of competitive translational tumour specific research programs that are underpinned by the strength of expertise and research platforms.

MCCC's achievements in 2011 demonstrate our capacity to realise Victoria's cancer research priorities despite the restraints of limited funding and resources.

Key achievements in 2010/2011 include:

- Establishment of governance structures and implementation of a Partnership Agreement.
- Appointment of key operational positions, including Interim Research Director, Chief Operations Officer and Communications Officer.

- Development and launch of an interactive website and monthly e-newsletters.
- Provision of regular networking opportunities for researchers and clinicians including a monthly seminar series and focussed collaborative workshops.
- The lead centre for the Victorian Lung Cancer Initiative.
- Facilitation of grant submission for major collaborative program "CAPTIVE (Cancer of the Prostate Translational Research in Victoria)"
- Award of two VCA Clinical Research Fellowships at MCCC Partner organisations.
- Submission of Clinical Trial Capacity Building Grant for MCCC Partner organisations.
- \$1.6M in funding from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) to establish the ARCF Centre for Cancer Genomic Medicine at the Monash Health Translation Precinct (MHTP).
- MCCC partners received over \$8.1 million from NHMRC's 2012 research grants for Australian cancer projects and five NHMRC Fellowships for 2012.
- Sponsorships from the pharmaceutical industry towards development of MCCC's collaborative translational tumour research programs in 2011 and 2012.
- Preparation of a model to increase integration of SMICS/MCCC activities to minimise duplication of translational tumour stream initiatives.
- Preparation of an "Integrated Cancer and Blood Diseases" proposal for Monash University's Academic Health Science Centre.

The MCCC's ambition to deliver world-class translational research outcomes for cancer patients in a collaborative framework, beyond institutional boundaries, is genuine and enduring, and will continue to thrive in coming years with sustained support.



Prof David de Kretser AC
Advisory Council Chair



Prof Gail Risbridger
Management Committee Chair



Prof Neil Watkins
Interim Research Director

STRATEGIC GOALS AND KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

MCCC's Strategic Goals

MCCC's Strategic Plan identifies ten strategic goals:

1. Establish clear structure, governance and policy.
2. Broaden the funding base.
3. Leverage existing platforms and invest in specific infrastructure needs.
4. Recruit, support and train key people.
5. Network interactions – support information exchange and facilitate new multidisciplinary interactions and collaborations.
6. Build world-class cancer research programs.
7. Drive translation of discoveries through to patients.
8. Support excellence in clinical delivery.
9. Provide top quality education, training and workforce development.
10. Provide leadership and increase external engagement.

Progress towards these goals in 2011 has focussed on goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10. Details of activities and achievements are provided throughout this report, and are summarised in Appendix 1.

2011 Key Performance Indicators

In 2010, the MCCC was awarded \$450,000 over two years from the Department of Health, with a view to delivering the following Key Performance Indicators:

- Appointment of a Manager and Clinical Research Facilitator (amended with agreement from VCA Board to Communications Officer) to support the activities and communications needs of the network.
- Provision of an interactive website to facilitate sharing of information between MCCC partner organisations, researchers and clinicians.
- Delivery of a monthly seminar series and at least six workshops over two years to increase researchers' and clinicians' awareness of capabilities and opportunities available within the current platforms.
- Provision of an Annual Report in December 2011 to provide an assessment of progress against MCCC's Strategic Goals.

MCCC has delivered each of these Key Performance Indicators, with details provided in this Annual Report.



ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Management Committee

The MCCC Management Committee is Chaired by Prof Gail Risbridger, Deputy Dean for Special Projects, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (FMNHS), Monash University. The Management Committee meets each month to drive the routine management of the consortium and initiate proposals for strategic and collaborative research activity.

Members of the Committee in 2011

- **Dr Peter Briggs**, Head of Medical Oncology at Southern Health, Medical Director of SMICS.
- **Ms Elise Davies**, Manager of Cancer and Palliative Care, Victorian Department of Health.
- **Dr Peter Downie**, Paediatric Oncologist at Monash Children's Cancer Centre.
- **Prof Gary Egan**, Director of Monash Biomedical Imaging.
- **A/Prof Mark Frydenberg**, Clinical Director of Centre for Urological Research Monash University.
- **Dr Vinod Ganju**, Director of the Peninsula Oncology Centre.
- **Dr Romayne Holmes**, Head of Department of Medical Oncology, Peninsula Health.
- **Prof Stephen Jane**, Head Central Clinical School at Monash University FMNHS and Director of Research at The Alfred.
- **A/Prof Richard King**, Director of Medicine, Southern Health.
- **A/Prof Martin Lackmann**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash University.
- **Dr Jason Lickliter**, Director of Phase I Clinical Trials, Monash Institute of Medical Research and Southern Health.
- **A/Prof Joe McKendrick**, Head of the Department of Medical Oncology, Box Hill Hospital.
- **A/Prof Paul McMurrick**, Chief of Colorectal Surgery, Cabrini Health.
- **Prof John McNeil**, Head of the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.
- **A/Prof Jeremy Millar**, Director of the William Buckland Radiotherapy Centre, Alfred Health.
- **Prof Christina Mitchell**, Dean of the Monash University FMNHS.
- **Prof Margaret O'Connor AM**, Vivian Bullwinkel Chair in Palliative Care Nursing, Monash University FMNHS.
- **A/Prof Gary Richardson**, Head of the Department of Medical Oncology, Southern Health.
- **Prof Gail Risbridger**, Deputy Dean for Special Projects, Monash University FMNHS.
- **Prof Hatem Salem**, Executive Director of the Australian Centre for Blood Diseases.
- **Prof Max Schwartz**, Head of the Department of Medical Oncology, Alfred Health.
- **Prof Evan Simpson**, Director of the Metabolism and Cancer Laboratory, Prince Henry's Research Institute.
- **Ms Tracey Tobias**, Manager of SMICS.
- **Prof Neil Watkins**, Interim Research Director of the MCCC.
- **Prof Bryan Williams**, Director of the Monash Institute of Medical Research.

Advisory Council

In order to ensure strong governance and coordination of high-level organisational strategy, an Advisory Council was formed in 2010, comprised of CEOs from the participating Health Services, the Dean of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University and the Director of Prince Henry's Institute. Prof David de Kretser AC accepted an invitation to serve as Chair of the MCCC Advisory Council, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience. The Advisory Council met in July and December of 2011 to review MCCC's progress and endorse the proposals of the Management Committee.

Members of the Council in 2011

- **Ms Sherene Devanesen**, CEO of Peninsula Health.
- **Prof Matthew Gillespie**, Director of Prince Henry's Institute.
- **Prof David de Kretser AC**, Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Monash University.
- **Prof Christina Mitchell**, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University.
- **Ms Shelly Park**, CEO of Southern Health.
- **Mr Andrew Way**, CEO of Alfred Health.
- **Mr Michael Walsh**, CEO of Cabrini Health.

Partnership Agreement

In 2011, the MCCC finalised and implemented a Partnership Agreement, which:

- Outlines the legal structure of the MCCC and relationship between partners.
- Regulates the composition and roles of MCCC's governance bodies (the Advisory Council and Management Committee).
- Defines the roles, responsibilities and limitations of the MCCC Research Director.
- Mandates management of MCCC funds, through budgeting, accounting and auditing procedures.

OPERATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Interim Research Director

Prof. Neil Watkins, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Cancer Research, Monash Institute of Medical Research was acknowledged as the MCCC's Interim Research Director in May 2011. Prof Watkins has provided leadership in the formation of MCCC. He continues to act as the group's representative in his role as Interim Research Director.

Throughout 2011 the role of Interim Research Director has been a voluntary position, with an in- principle agreement from Monash University and Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Services to co-sponsor the position in 2012.



Chief Operating Officer

Seed funds allocated by the Victorian Cancer Agency allowed for the recruitment of a Manager to oversee the activities of the Coordination Unit, provide support to the Interim Research Director, Management Committee and Advisory Council in their activities, provide financial reporting and assist to securing funding for major initiatives.

In May 2011, Anna Kilgour was appointed as Chief Operating Officer of MCCC. This is a twelve-month appointment. Continuation will be determined by allocation of further funding for MCCC.



Communications Officer

VCA funds also enabled the appointment of Communications Officer to deliver an interactive website, administer and maintain the website content, coordinate network interactions including monthly seminars, workshops and e-newsletters, and assist with both internal and external promotion of MCCC.

Hailee Gyngell was appointed as Communications Officer in July 2011. The ongoing nature of this position will be dependent on the allocation of additional funding.



OPERATIONAL FUNDING

Victorian Cancer Agency

In October 2010, the VCA committed \$450,000 to support the operational activities of MCCC until October 2012. This funding supports the essential administration and communication activities needed to develop an effective network, including the appointment of a Chief Operating Officer and a Communications Officer. A Statement of Income and Expenditure is provided in Appendix 2 and the Auditors Declaration is provided in Appendix 3.

Securing funds to sustain MCCC's initiatives beyond October 2012 has been a major objective throughout 2011. This has involved meeting with key government Ministers and the associated departments, cancer agencies and non-partner based networks to gain support for future allocation of funds.

Industry Sponsorship of MCCC's Translational Research Programs

In 2011 the initiation of MCCC's translational research program was sponsored by a number of pharmaceutical companies, who contributed towards venue and catering costs associated with delivering the tumour stream workshops.

Amgen Australia, Astra Zeneca, Novartis Oncology, Eli Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck Serono, Pfizer Australia, Roche Pharmaceuticals, Sanofi Aventis and Specialised Therapeutics have been invited to sponsor MCCC's Tumour Research Program in 2012.



FUNDING FOR RESEARCH INITIATIVES

Funding for Enabling Platforms

One of MCCC's strategic goals is to secure funding for major joint platforms that underpin leading cancer research programs across multiple partner organisations. In 2011 the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) awarded \$1.6M to establish the ACRF Centre for Cancer Genomic Medicine at the Monash Health Translation Precinct. This Centre will service researchers at Monash Institute of Medical Research, Southern Health and Prince Henry's Institute. The grant enabled the purchase of the latest in next generation DNA sequencing technologies that will allow the genetic profiling of specific cancers. This information is critical to the development and application of anticancer drugs tailored to individual patients.

Victorian Cancer Agency Collaborative Program Grants

MCCC leaders have facilitated the formation of two major collaborative translational research programs in 2011.

Victorian Lung Cancer Initiative

In July 2011, the Victorian Cancer Agency awarded \$3.5 million to establish the Victorian Lung Cancer Initiative, a state wide collaborative network designed to improve outcomes for patients with lung cancer. This project is based at Monash University, and led by Prof Neil Watkins. The program has four core projects including: The Victorian Lung Cancer Registry, The Victorian Bio-resource Network; The VCA Lung Cancer Molecular pathology platform; and the Lung Cancer Chemoresistance Project.

Cancer of Prostate Translational Research in Victoria (CAPTIV) Project

MCCC was instrumental in the submission of a VCA Translational Research Program grant for \$2 million to establish the Cancer of Prostate Translational Research in Victoria (CAPTIV) project. This project will be led by Prof Mark Frydenberg, Clinical Director, Centre for Urological Research Monash University, and brings together clinicians and scientists across Victoria with the goal of creating a unified approach to prostate cancer research within Victoria.

Victorian Cancer Agency Clinical Fellowships

VCA awarded Clinical Fellowships to two researchers at MCCC Partner organisations, including:

Dr Ben Markman, Monash Institute of Medical Research
Project Title: The role of Notch pathway ligand DLL4 in lung cancer.

Dr Andrew Wei, Monash University
Project Title: Targeting the PI3-kinome for cure in acute myeloid leukaemia.

Victorian Cancer Agency Clinical Trials Capacity Building Grant

A VCA Clinical Trials Capacity Building Grant was submitted by Peter Midolo, Research Manager, Southern Health for the project "Investigator-initiated trials at Monash Cancer Centre as a means to promote collaborative research within the Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium and improve patient enrolment in cancer trials". This project will fund a Research Fellow dedicated to co-ordinating collaborative clinical trials and recruiting patients.

National Health and Medical Research Council Funding for Cancer Research

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) awarded approximately \$64.5 million to Australian cancer research, for 2012. Victoria received the largest proportion (43%) of these research funds. The MCCC partners secured \$8,156,627 (13.3%). Only 3.9% was awarded to non-CCC related organisations. These figures highlight the importance of the VCA in leveraging funds to support cancer research efforts in Victoria.

National Health and Medical Research Council Fellowships

2012 NHMRC Fellowships were awarded to the following cancer researchers in MCCC Partner organisations:

NHMRC Research and Practitioner Fellowship

Prof Paul Hertzog, Director of the Centre for Innate Immunity and Infectious Diseases, Monash Institute of Medical Research.

NHMRC Career Development Fellowships

Dr Lisa Kaminskas, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences: "Administration of nanomedicines via the lungs to improve the treatment of primary and secondary lung cancers".

Dr Lisa Kaminskas, Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences: "Macromolecules as improved treatments for primary and secondary lung cancers".

NHMRC Early Career Fellowships

Dr Mitchell Lawrence, Department of Anatomy and Stem Cell Biology, Monash University: "Stem cells in the Prostate Cancer Environment".

Ms Mary Panjari, Professor of Women's Health in the Department of Medicine, Alfred Hospital Campus: "Women's Health and Wellbeing after Colorectal Cancer".

TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS

MCCC's Translational Research Programs aim to facilitate the formation of multidisciplinary research teams around specific tumour streams.

Breast Cancer Program

MCCC's Breast Cancer Program was initiated in June 2011 through the coordination of a Breast Cancer Workshop. This event brought together 45 interdisciplinary participants from across MCCC partner groups representing laboratory, preclinical, clinical and health services and population research as well as the Integrated Cancer Services. The objective was to "identify and facilitate linkages in breast cancer research".

A series of collaborative projects and opportunities were identified. Active and developing projects include:

1. Neo-adjuvant study in operable ER positive breast cancer treated with Metformin and Aromatase inhibitors
2. Locally advanced breast cancer: SETUP Trial collaboration
3. Inflammatory Breast Cancer

Lung Cancer Program

Interdisciplinary researchers and clinicians from across MCCC partner organisations were invited to participate in the development of MCCC's Lung Cancer Program at a dedicated workshop in November 2011. The session was Chaired by Prof Peter Briggs, Director of SMICS. Prof Neil Watkins, Monash Cancer Centre at Monash Institute of Medical Research, Dr Vinod Ganju, Director Peninsula Oncology Centre and Prof Danielle Mazza, Department of General Practice Monash University, facilitated discussion of opportunities for a lung cancer program, through identifying projects and infrastructure in their respective areas of expertise. Projects underway include:

1. The Victorian Lung Cancer Registry
2. Hedgehog inhibitors in small cell lung cancer
3. Genetic mouse models of lung cancer
4. Mechanisms of innate and acquired chemoresistance
5. Advanced preclinical models of lung cancer
6. Biomarkers in locally advanced lung cancer

Prostate Cancer Program

In 2011, Assoc Prof Mark Frydenberg Head of Urology at Southern Health and leader of MCCC's Prostate Cancer Program brought together interdisciplinary clinical and research teams through the coordination and submission of a state-wide funding proposal for VCA's Collaborative Research Grant Program.

Known as the CAPTIV (Cancer of the Prostate Translational Research in Victoria) collaboration, this program seeks to improve the quality of life and outcomes for men with prostate cancer. It will generate new data on the social issues associated with an active surveillance option for men with low risk prostate cancer, as well as its validity as a reliable treatment option instead of radical prostatectomy. It will also study the genetic basis of prostate cancer and conduct laboratory testing of potential

new drugs. Overall, this program will improve collaboration between doctors and scientists, increase the resources needed for research and create a more unified approach to prostate cancer research within Victoria.

The aims and objectives of research activity include:

1. Establishment of the CAPTIV Collaboration
2. The Prostate Cancer Active Surveillance Project
3. Integration and Annotation of Tissue Resources
4. Prostate Cancer Xenografting Platform
5. Expansion of the Victorian Familial Prostate Cancer Cohort
6. Capacity building of key technologies

Colorectal Cancer Program

Prof. Paul McMurrick, Professor of Surgery, Cabrini Hospital convened an interdisciplinary group dedicated to Colorectal Cancer in April 2011. The meeting focussed on the collection of clinical data using Cabrini Health's Colorectal Cancer Surgery Registry, and will be developed further in 2012. Key activities in 2011 include:

1. Development of an Australasian Colorectal Cancer Registry Model
2. Advanced tissue banking and biomarker development
3. Primary xenograft models of colorectal cancer
4. Development of faecal proteomic markers of early colorectal cancer



IMPROVING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL INTEGRATION

The MCCC aims to support information exchange across its network and through these activities, to facilitate new multidisciplinary interactions and collaborations. In 2011 it has built on the initiatives of 2010 through the provision of a website, monthly e-newsletters, a monthly seminar series, and tumour research program focussed workshops.

MCCC Website

One of the major projects undertaken by MCCC in 2011 was to develop an interactive website which supports the sharing of information between MCCC partner organisations, researchers and clinicians. MCCC allocated over 10% of the initial \$200,000 VCA funding towards the development of the site, which was tendered to Mintleaf Studios.

MCCC's website was developed with review and consultation from MCCC participants and with the support of a dedicated working group, to ensure that it satisfied the network's communication and information needs.

MCCC network participants wanted access to a centralised list of cancer research resources including information regarding clinical trials, platform technologies, tissue banks, industry networks, contacts across the MCCC network, as well as information about events and research grants.

The agreed aim of the website was to:

- Promote individuals and research opportunities within MCCC research network.
- Communicate activities and events across the network.
- Market MCCC and the opportunities it provides to external stakeholders.

The website (www.mccc.edu.au) was launched in October 2011 and will continue to expand and develop as the MCCC and its activities evolve. The site provides information about MCCC's leadership, research programs, research resources and technologies, clinical services, and news and events.

MCCC Communications Officer will manage the site content and administration, and monitor usage patterns to meet the needs of MCCC.



Workshops

MCCC's workshops provide a focussed forum to identify and facilitate opportunities for new multidisciplinary research and clinical collaborations, and to begin to develop the foundations of a unique and competitive interdisciplinary tumour research program.

A summary of the workshops hosted by MCCC in 2010/2011 is provided below:

BioPlatforms of South-East Melbourne was held in conjunction with the Victorian Platform Technologies Network, and showcased the range of state-of-the-art equipment and techniques available to cancer researchers in all MCCC partner organisations

Breast Cancer Program Development Workshop brought together researchers and clinicians to identify collaborative interdisciplinary opportunities for breast cancer research

Academic Health Science Centre Workshop was driven by partner organisation Monash University, to develop a best practise model for cancer in the form of an Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC). The resulting collaborative AHSC application proposes to leverage MCCC's research and clinical network model through closer alignment with Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service (SMICS) and further integration of education, health prevention and awareness resources

Lung Cancer Program Development Workshop brought together researchers and clinicians to identify collaborative interdisciplinary opportunities for lung cancer research

Monthly Seminar Series

MCCC's monthly seminar series aims to achieve two important goals for the MCCC's multi-site network. Firstly, it provides a platform for network participants to promote their current work and to increase the overall awareness of opportunities for collaboration. Secondly it provides a regular opportunity for informal networking, bringing together clinicians and researchers from across different groups, sites, tumour streams and disciplines.

MCCC's seminar series has run throughout 2010 and 2011. Examples of highlight speakers include:

- International guest, Dr David Dilts, Director Clinical Research, Knight's Cancer Institute & Professor of Healthcare Management, Oregon Health and Science University "CCC's in the US: promises and pitfalls of oncology clinical trials".
- Assoc. Prof Grant McArthur, Head Medical Oncology Skin and Clinical Service, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre "Targeting Oncogenes in Melanoma".
- Prof Gary Egan, Director Monash Biomedical Imaging "Multi-modality biomedical imaging at Monash University: opportunities for collaboration".

Other topics presented at the MCCC's seminar series have included:

- Epidemiology and Registries.
- Risk Factors and Screening.
- Palliative and Supportive Care and Survivorship.
- Drug Development and Clinical Trials
- A model of Chemoresistance in Small Cell Lung Cancer.
- Cancer Stem Cells and Micro Tumour Environment.
- Innate Immunity, Immunology and Cancer Vaccines.
- Endocrinology and Systems Biology
- Overviews of research activity in Prostate, Colorectal, Thyroid, Neurological and Gynaecological Cancers.

E-Newsletter

MCCC provides a monthly e-newsletter, with a recipient list of over 400 people. The e-newsletter communicates upcoming seminars, workshops, funding opportunities, research highlights, successes of MCCC colleagues and promotion of specific cancer research teams/departments.



EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

Victoria's Cancer Hubs

The vision for MCCC is to serve as one of the three major cancer hubs within the integrated system of cancer research and care in Victoria, and to work jointly with Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) and the Olivia Newton John Cancer & Wellness Centre (ONJCWC) to maximise overall benefit for Victoria's cancer patients.

Prof Jim Bishop, Director of the VCCC and Prof Jonathan Cebon, Research Director of the ONJCWC were invited to address the MCCC Management Committee in 2011, to aid in effective cross engagement.

MCCC's intention for 2012 is to establish a biannual meeting of MCCC, VCCC and ONJCWC at Executive level to maintain open dialogue across the three cancer hubs and to aid in strategic cancer research delivery. Potential areas for collaboration exist in addressing areas of unmet need across Victoria including platform technologies, skill shortages, joint strategic funding proposals, and research delineation to create complimentary centres of excellence across Victoria.

Government Consultation

The MCCC leadership met regularly with the Victorian Government through the Victorian Cancer Agency and the Department of Health to ensure its strategy is aligned with state objectives in cancer research.

In November 2011, the MCCC leaders were invited to meet with The Hon David Davis, Victorian Minister for Health, to provide an overview of MCCC's achievements over its first twelve months and to request consideration for ongoing state funding to maintain the momentum of MCCC.

Cancer Agencies and Networks

MCCC has engaged with a variety of cancer agencies and networks throughout 2011, including the Cancer Council Victoria, Australian Research Council, Victorian Platform Technologies Network, Breast Cancer Network Australia, Bio21 and BioMelbourne Network.

Through the membership of its Management Committee, MCCC has also participated in several external cancer expert advisory committees, including the Government's working party responsible for the review of BioGRID and BioBank.

Industry Engagement

MCCC was invited to present at a Monash University Business Breakfast at the Park Hyatt Hotel in June 2011. This was an opportunity to demonstrate the research and clinical strengths of MCCC to a broader industry base, and in particular to begin to engage the pharmaceutical industry more directly.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Integration of SMICS and MCCC

MCCC is unique in its incorporation of the local Integrated Cancer Services (ICS) team as a partner and key collaborator. This relationship offers the opportunity for improved integration of clinical networks into the cancer research framework and for translation of research outcomes to the clinic for the benefit of patients.

Working closely with the leadership of Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Services (SMICS), MCCC has identified the need to further leverage this partnership with the aim of building synergies across the two organisations and reducing duplication in the translational research arena. This initiative may be viewed as a test model for other ICS/CCC groups in coming years.

Monash Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre

Monash University's Academic Health Science Centre proposal offered a focussed project under which MCCC could further integrate its cancer research and clinical resources with education, prevention and public health resources. MCCC lead the effort to engage its network across Southeast Melbourne to prepare an "Integrated Cancer and Blood Diseases" theme for submission to Monash University's Steering Committee. This application process for this project is still in progress and will continue throughout 2012.



APPENDIX 1: SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AGAINST STRATEGIC GOALS

The MCCC Strategic Plan identified the following areas as priorities for June 2010 – June 2011. Column 3 provides an update on progress in 2010/2011 against each of these key goals, and column 4 proposes target actions for 2012.

GOAL	RELEVANT STRATEGY	2010/2011 PROGRESS	2012 TARGET ACTION
G.1 Governance, structure & policies	S.1.1 Finalise org structure and governance S.1.2 Finalise key agreements.	Agreed governance structure in place (Advisory Board and Management Committee) Partnership Agreement executed	Preparation for appointments of MCCC Deputy Directors to drive MCCC activities at partner sites Closer alignment of SMICS and MCCC governance structures
G.1 Governance, structure & policies	S.1.3 Formalise and announce appointments S.1.4 Establish coordination unit	Interim Research Director announced Coordination Unit appointments recruited and announced.	
G.2 Broaden funding base G.10 External engagement	S.2.2 Engage with government agencies and Departments to build awareness and support for MCCC S2.3 Adopt strategic joint approaches	\$450K operational funding committed by VCA/ DHS Ongoing consultation with VCA, DHS and VCC. Briefing meeting with Minister for Health, The Hon David Davis, 3 November 2011 Open dialogue with VCCC and ONJCWC	Secure funds for continued operations of MCCC 2012 - 2016 Continue to engage and consult with Government departments and agencies. Contribute to delivery of Victoria's Cancer priorities as identified by Victorian Government. Establish biannual strategic review meetings with MCCC, VCCC and ONJCWC
G.3 Platforms	S.3.1 Raise awareness of existing technology platforms S.3.2 Review platform needs relevant to targeted research priority areas S.3.1 and S.2.3 Seek funding for major joint platforms	Seminars detailing key technology platforms A-Z list of MCCC research platforms provided on MCCC website Funding secured for ACRF Genetic sequencing technology platform. Co-ordination of major Collaborative Research Grants for lung and prostate cancers	Senior researcher 'think-tank' on platform needs Review Victoria's cancer research platform needs in conjunction with VCCC and ONJCWC
G.4 Key people G.8 Clinical excellence	S.4.1 Support engagement of Research-active clinicians S.8.2 Link research programs to clinicians	3 clinician-researcher fellowships awarded by VCA to applicants from MCCC partner organisations. MCCC Translational Research Program Development Workshops in Breast and Lung Cancers	Co-ordinate workshops to develop MCCC translational research programs in prostate and colorectal cancers
G.4 Key people	S.4.2 Recruit cancer research 'stars'	Ongoing	Seek opportunities to recruit under Academic Enhancement scheme

GOAL	RELEVANT STRATEGY	2010/2011 PROGRESS	2012 TARGET ACTION
G.5 Network interactions	S.5.1 Raise internal awareness S.5.2 Provide regular networking events.	Development and launch of MCCC Website Monthly e-newsletters MCCC Seminar Series ran monthly throughout 2010 and 2011.	Maintain website and develop content as required Continue monthly e-newsletters Continue seminar program throughout 2012.
G.7 Drive translation	S.7.1 & S.7.2 Establish major translational tumour-specific programs	\$3.5 million funding secured for major translational program in Lung Cancer. Collaborative grant submitted for a major translational program in Prostate Cancer	Support development of collaborative translational programs.
G.6 World-class cancer programs	S.6.2 Attract funding to support/build world-class research programs or platforms	ACRF funding secured for ACRF Centre for Cancer Genomic Medicine - state-of-the-art enabling platform critical to cancer researchers in MIMR, PHI and Southern Health.	Identify opportunities for national/international cancer research collaborations
G.2 Broaden funding base	S.2.1 Increase philanthropic efforts for cancer research	Philanthropic strategy developed with Monash Advancement, aligned with 3 focus areas of MCCC – Lung Cancer, Prostate Cancer, and Cancer Stem Cells	Increase support to Monash Advancement Office to facilitate further contributions
G.5 Network interactions (and G.6 and G.7)	S.5.3, S.6.1, S.7.1 Establish strategic 'seed fund' to build programs in targeted areas	Sponsorship received from pharmaceutical industry to support MCCC's research program workshops venue and catering expenses.	Invite pharmaceutical companies to sponsor MCCC's 2012 cancer research workshops

APPENDIX 2: STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE



Research and Revenue Accounting Services
M36011/ 3223086 M01001/3150333

17th October, 2011

GRANTOR: VICTORIAN CANCER AGENCY
GRANTEE: MONASH COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONSORTIUM (MCCC)
PROJECT: INTEGRATING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD

From 01 October, 2010 to 31 August, 2011.

		\$
Income		
	Victorian Cancer Agency (a)	200,000
	Total Income	200,000
Expenditure		
	Salaries (b)	51,912
	Operating	
	Travel expenses	-300
	Print, Books, Stationery	- 499
	Communications, IT	-1,026
	Computer Related	-12,976
	L Peake Salary Transfer (b)	26,639
	Other expenses- Venue hire	<u>-160</u>
		- 11,678
	Total Expenses	40,235
	BALANCE as at 31 August, 2011	\$ 159,765

Ref

(a) Revenue held in M01001/ 3150333 (Faculty Office) & reimbursed retrospectively.

(b) L Peake salary incorrectly credited twice \$26,639 (SAP). Amended in September report.

Research and Revenue Accounting Services, Corporate Finance Division
Postal address: Corporate Finance Division, Monash University Vic3800
Location: Building 77, Clayton Campus
Telephone +61 3 9902 4702 Facsimile +61 3 9902 9500
leola.griffin@monash.edu
www.monash.edu
ABN 12 377 614 012 CRICOS Provider #00008C

APPENDIX 3: AUDITOR'S DECLARATION



Declaration:

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD

From 01 October, 2010 to 31 August, 2011.

MONASH COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONSORTIUM (MCCC)

INTEGRATING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

I certify that the above financial statement correctly reflects Income and Expenditure as recorded in the Monash University Accounting and Financial reporting System against the grant monies received from the Commonwealth of Australia.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joel Chibert".

Joel Chibert
Director
Research & Revenue Accounting Services
Monash University
Clayton.

Research and Revenue Accounting Services, Corporate Finance Division
Postal address: Corporate Finance Division, Monash University Vic3800
Location: Building 77, Clayton Campus
Telephone +61 3 9902 4752 Facsimile +61 3 9902 9500
lrn@rfa.cfd@monash.edu
www.monash.edu
ABN 12 377 614 612 CRICOS Provider #00008C



Monash Comprehensive Cancer Consortium

Address

27-31 Wright Street
Clayton VIC 3168

Postal Address

PO Box 5418
Clayton VIC 3168

Phone: +61 3 9902 4965
Fax: +61 3 9594 7114
Email: info@mccc.edu.au
URL: www.mccc.edu.au

