$2 million boost for cancer research

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Cancer researchers in NSW will benefit from a $2 million funding boost from the Cancer Institute NSW, which will provide cutting-edge technologies for advancing cancer research across the State.

The new, state-of-the-art cancer research equipment will be used to improved personalised cancer treatments for people with the disease and increase the pace of cancer research for many cancers - ultimately leading to improved treatments for people with cancer across NSW.

The new technologies will be accessible to all cancer researchers across NSW through the Cancer Institute NSW's Translational Cancer Research Centres.

Mary Haines, Director of Strategic Research Investment at the Cancer Institute NSW, said the funding will give researchers new equipment which they need to continue to make a difference to cancer outcomes in NSW, but also around the world.

"This $2 million investment means that our brightest research minds have access to the latest technologies that will help them accelerate their research discoveries into new treatments and therapies for people with cancer across NSW," she said.

"By enabling cutting-edge research to take place here in NSW, we are giving our researchers the resources they need to make ground-breaking discoveries which will benefit the people of NSW and contribute to the global cancer research community."

The new technology includes a micromanipulator platform for the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research at Liverpool Hospital, through the Centre for Oncology Education and Research Translation (CONCERT). The platform can analyse single cancer cells in a patient’s blood which will allow researchers to track how a cancer behaves as it grows and spreads, leading to better personalised treatment selection.

A gene expression analysis system for the University of Sydney, through Sydney Vital Translational Cancer Research Centre, will also lead to improved personalised cancer treatment by allowing researchers to measure the genes expressed by different cancer cells so that treatment can be targeted accordingly.

The funding also includes a new cytometer at the Garvan Institute, through Sydney Catalyst Translational Cancer Research Centre, which will be the first of its kind in Australia, dramatically increasing the pace of cancer research. It is expected that the technology will make in-roads into treatment for multiple types of cancer, including prostate cancer, breast cancer and neuroblastoma.

"NSW is home to some of the world's brightest research minds working in the field of cancer. Through this funding, the Cancer Institute NSW is giving cancer researchers across the state access to world leading infrastructure and technologies which will strengthen our State’s capacity to drive advancements in cancer research,” Mary Haines said.