

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Research



Offering hope to patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Affecting around 250,000 Australians, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) often leaves sufferers in a near-permanent state of exhaustion and sometimes unable to work, think clearly or care for themselves.

Diagnosis, treatment and management of CFS—also known as Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME)—is estimated to cost the Australian community more than \$700 million annually.

Currently, there is no effective treatment or cure available for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and a lack of understanding of the disease has led to the misdiagnosis of many patients.

Researchers from the National Centre for Neuroimmunology and Emerging Diseases (NCNED) at the Menzies Health Institute Queensland, Griffith University are working to successfully diagnose, manage and treat the devastating illness.

Their remarkable work is driving the development of a diagnostic blood test and is guiding research into drug treatments for the disease.

Their world-first findings report abnormal cell functions that explain the pathology and symptoms of the illness.

Your generosity can support this life-changing research. Please donate today.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome is a complex illness characterised by impaired memory and concentration, metabolic, cardiac, gut and immune dysfunction and debilitating muscle pain and fatigue on exertion (also known as neuroimmune exhaustion).

A world-first breakthrough led by Professors Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik and Don Staines at the National Centre for Neuroimmunology and Emerging Diseases (NCNED) has linked Chronic Fatigue Syndrome to a dysfunctional immune system—proving for the first time that the condition does stem from the body rather than the mind.

Their team of experts are focused towards identifying biomarkers of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and translating this research into preventative medicine, social and clinical care, and public health outcomes.

“Our goal is for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome patients to lead a normal life with appropriate drug treatments,” says Professor Marshall-Gradisnik.

“Chronic Fatigue Syndrome is notoriously difficult to diagnose, with sufferers often going for years without getting the proper medical care.”

“Our research into a laboratory-developed diagnostic test will ensure a firm diagnosis much earlier in a patient’s clinical condition,” says Professor Staines.

For more information on supporting this research, contact:

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‘We are committed to overcoming this debilitating disease. Our research aims to accelerate the diagnosis of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and the discovery of successful treatments.’

—Professor Sonya Marshall-Gradisnik and Don Staines

