

22 July 2021

Showcase to explore pancreatic cancer research

Community members can hear world leaders talk about the latest breakthroughs in pancreatic cancer research by watching the virtual Health Beyond Research & Innovation Showcase seminar from the comfort of their homes.

People from south western Sydney and around the world zoomed in to be part of the seminar which was held live and online on Wednesday 21 July and is now available for residents to enjoy at any time.

Professor Minoti Apte, a lead researcher at the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research, chairs the online seminar.

She is the first person in the world to successfully isolate pancreatic stellate cells. This discovery in 1998 helped researchers isolate and identify these cells and how they helped cancer cells grow and spread around the body.

South Western Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Amanda Larkin said the seminar was a wonderful opportunity for residents to hear about the work of local and international experts and the new models of care being explored.

“Professor Apte shares the stage with her Ingham Institute colleague Dr Zhihong Xu, who talks about stromal-tumour interactions in pancreatic cancer,” Ms Larkin said.

“They are joined by Associate Professor Vikas Dudeja, from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the United States, who talks about the gut microbiome and its role in the fight against cancer.”

Joining them is Chipping Norton resident Christine Goodman, who cared for her husband Peter during his cancer treatment, and provides a carer’s perspective.

South Western Sydney Local Health District is proud to again partner with the Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research to host the monthly showcase which is being held via Zoom this year.

The seminar series presents a wide range of topics including innovation to commercialisation in August and oesophageal cancer in September.

To watch a seminar or to register for monthly alerts visit www.healthbeyondshowcase.org.au