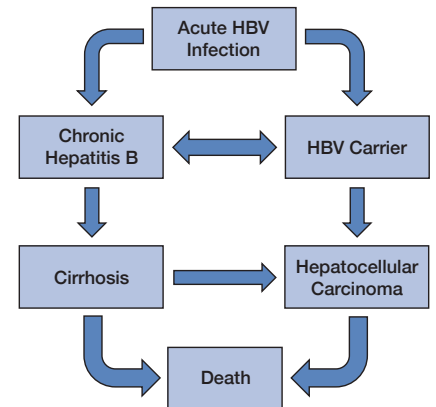


A complete cure for HBV

- ▶ HBV infection remains a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide
- ▶ Currently there is no curative treatment regimen
- ▶ Targeting host cell factors that promote apoptosis of infected cells could lead to a sterilising cure

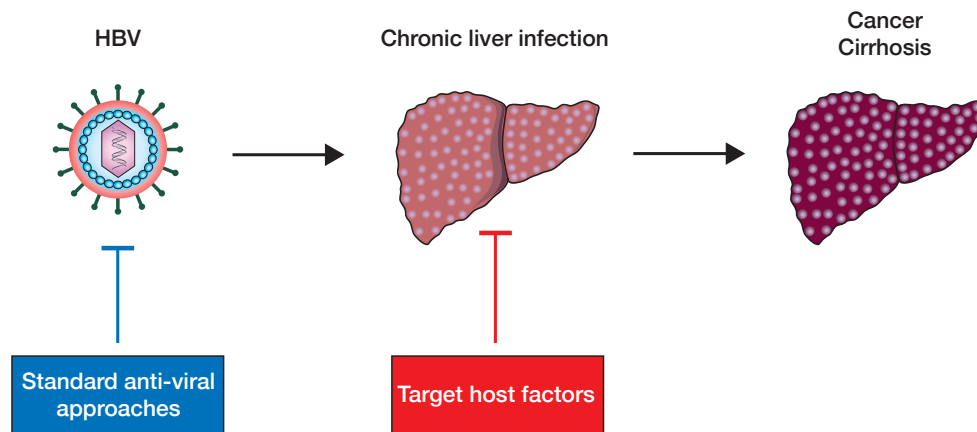
The opportunity

One third of the world's population is infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV), either as chronically infected patients (who currently require high-cost life-long treatments) or as HBV carriers without active disease (who currently require life-long clinical monitoring). HBV causes liver cancer which is responsible for more cancer-related deaths in the world than any other cancer. Presently, there is no cure for HBV infection.



The technology

We have demonstrated that cellular inhibitor of apoptosis proteins (cIAPs) impair clearance of HBV by preventing TNF-mediated death of infected cells. We have shown that cells infected by HBV (both actively and latently) can be preferentially targeted and cleared using clinical-stage Smac mimetics which antagonise cIAP proteins. Our mechanistic studies demonstrate that viral clearance requires TNF- α and CD4+T cells.



Opportunities for partnership

We are developing a curative treatment for HBV that targets host cell factors.

We have:

- Recently published method of treatment patent
- Preclinical expertise including novel unique model with detection of integrated HBV and cccDNA
- Clinical expertise in HBV treatment and management; phase I and II trial design

We are seeking a partner to:

- Invest in the development of new Smac mimetics in our Drug Discovery Center

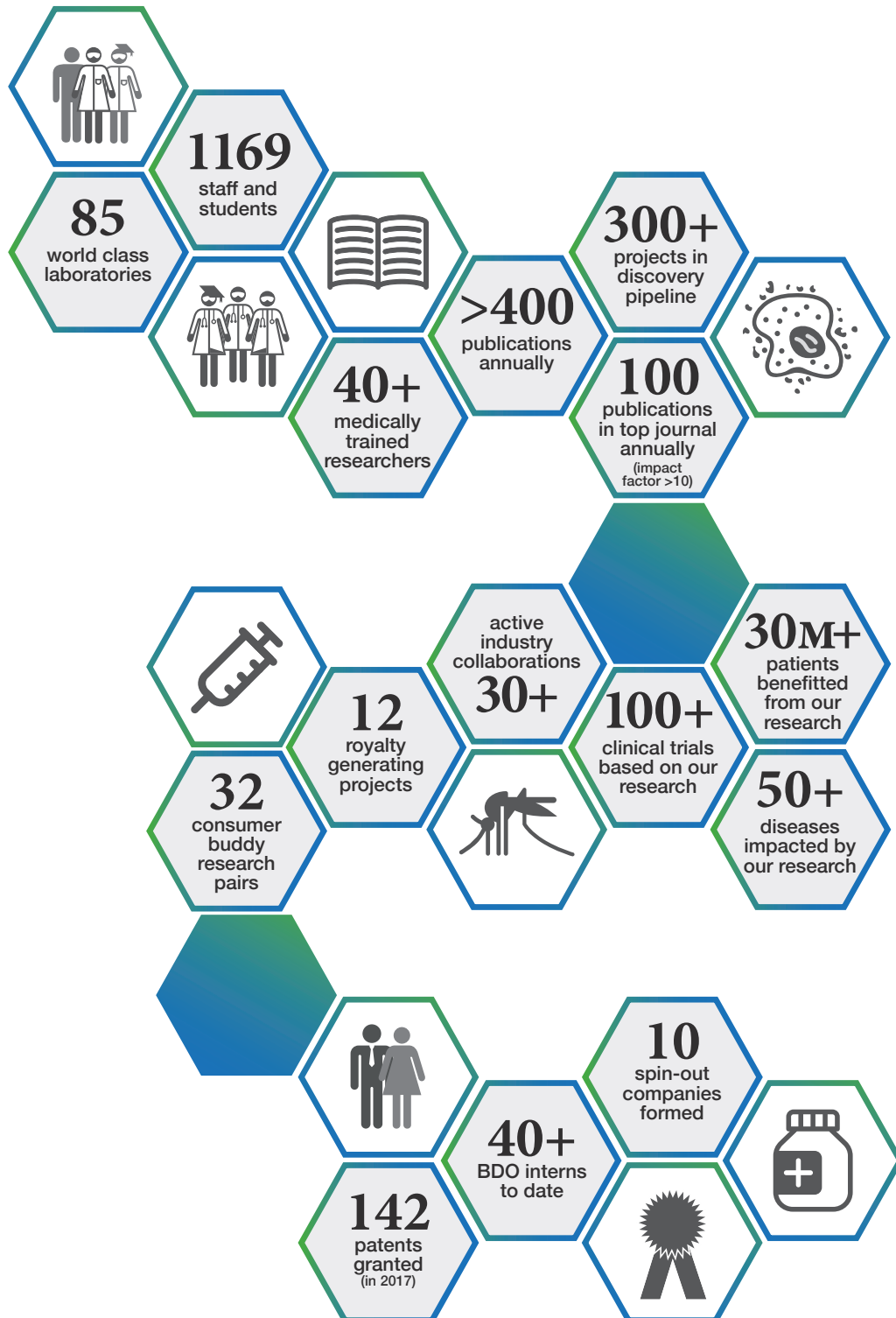
Scientific team

Professor Marc Pellegrini

Infectious Disease Clinician and Division Head, Infection and Immunity Division

Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

At the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute our multidisciplinary research teams are focused on solving complex biological questions by integrating expertise in bioinformatics, clinical translation, computational biology, epidemiology, genomics, medicinal chemistry, proteomics, structural biology and systems biology. Our innovative science expands and improves the understanding of human biology and enables the translation of this new knowledge into novel therapies that benefit patients worldwide.



To discuss partnering opportunities, please contact **Dr Anne-Laure Puaux**, Head of Commercialisation, by email puaux.a@wehi.edu.au or phone +61 3 9345 2175.