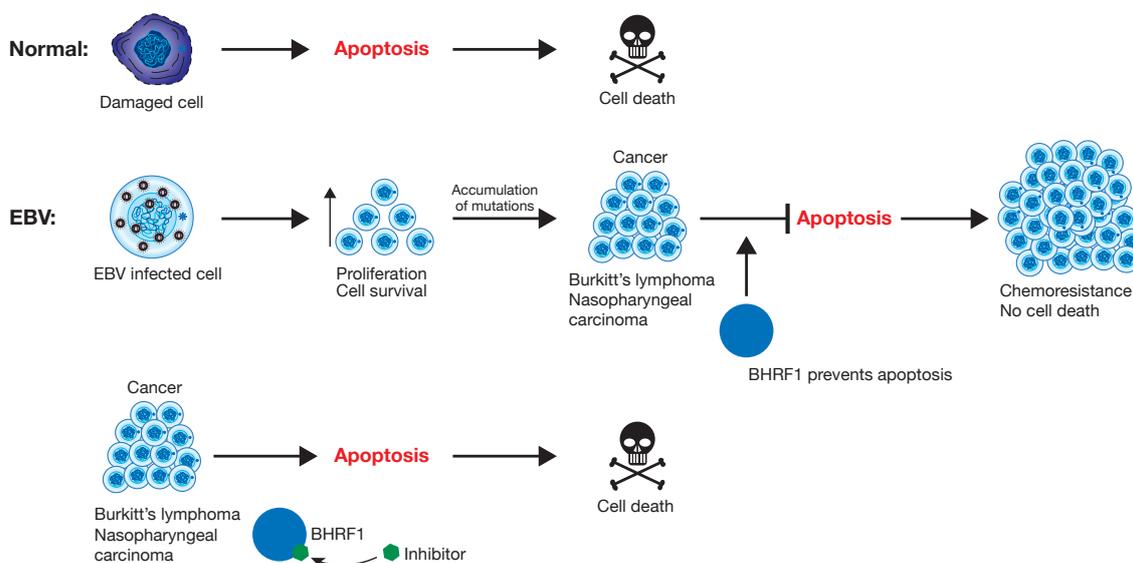


Treating Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) associated malignancies

- ▶ EBV is associated with the pathogenesis of some cancers
- ▶ BHRF1 confers chemoresistance
- ▶ Target identification and assay development completed

The opportunity

EBV is the first human virus with a proven association with the pathogenesis of cancer. These malignancies include Burkitt's lymphoma and nasopharyngeal carcinoma. It is a common viral infection and incidence of EBV-associated malignancies varies across different demographics. There is currently no vaccine against infection and no specific treatments.



The technology

EBV encodes BHRF1, a viral Bcl-2 homolog. Researchers at WEHI have found that BHRF1 can protect cells from chemotherapeutic drugs that induce cell death and also accelerate MYC-driven lymphoma development using pre-clinical models of disease.

Opportunities for partnership

We are seeking a co-development partner for our structure-enabled BHRF1 inhibitor development program:

We have:

- Expertise in BHRF1 biology and hit-to-lead optimisation
- An identified target, x-ray crystal structures of BHRF1, validated biochemical competition assays and robust cellular assays for HTS
- BHRF1 dependent cell and *in vivo* models for compound evaluation

We are seeking investment to complete:

- the HTS and fragment screen for BHRF1 inhibitors
- *in vitro* and *in vivo* inhibitor validation and medicinal chemistry

Scientific team

Dr Brad Sleebs

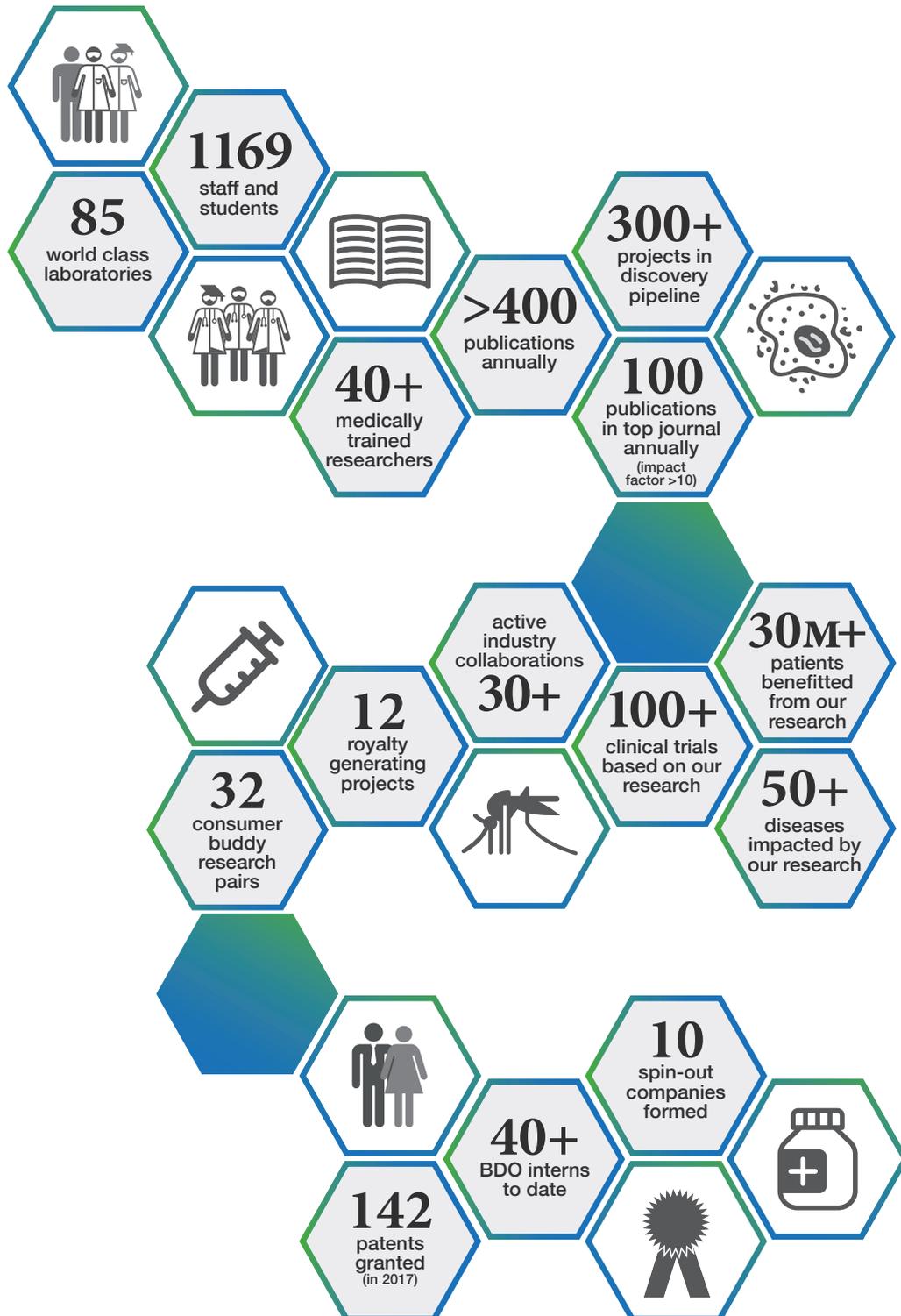
Laboratory Head, Chemical Biology Division

Dr Gemma Kelly

Senior Postdoctoral Fellow, Molecular Genetics of Cancer 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.