

# MAZDA FOUNDATION AND THE ALFRED HOSPITAL



## A healthy injection of funds

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The Mazda Foundation is proud to have made a grant of \$250,000 to The Alfred Hospital. This will assist in research of the best methods of treatment for trauma victims being conducted by the National Trauma Research Institute (NTRI) and for the actual treatment of severe burns within Victoria's Adult Burns Service, located at The Alfred.

The grant was instigated following Mazda Australia's association with prominent former AFL footballer Jason McCartney of the Kangaroos, who was severely burned in the Bali bombing and who was subsequently treated by the Burns Unit at The Alfred Hospital.



## Taking the pressure off

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A major focus of the research of the NTRI will be the development of approaches to decrease the severity and extent of brain and spinal damage following head or neck trauma (neurotrauma). Very large proportions of severe trauma admissions involve head injury. In Australia, trauma accounts for 50% of deaths in children and 75% of deaths in adolescents and young adults.



Much of the research in the neurotrauma lab will aim to identify the many complex events that accompany a primary brain injury and to distinguish the beneficial from the harmful processes within the secondary brain injury events. These might occur in the brain over an indefinite period of time leading to further tissue damage and neurological impairment.

## The Mazda Foundation Tissue Bank

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The NTRI will establish Australia's first cerebral tissue bank, to be known as the Mazda Foundation Tissue Bank. The purpose of this Bank is to preserve, catalogue and build a resource of valuable specimens for future research. The cerebrospinal fluid will be collected from patients with severe head trauma, which is routinely collected to reduce brain swelling. Information provided through this Bank will be made available to researchers around the world creating an invaluable global resource in trauma research.

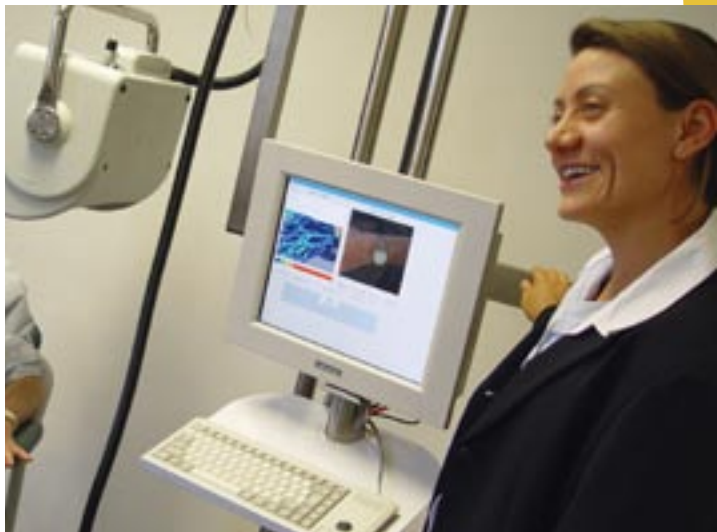
## New Laser Doppler machine

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\$100,000 of the grant will be used in The Alfred's Burns Unit to purchase a new Laser Doppler machine. All patients with major burn injuries throughout the state of Victoria, as well as patients from southern New South Wales and Tasmania, are managed by this unit, also referred to as Victoria's Adult Burns Service.

This machine will enable accurate measurement of the depth of a burn, which in turn gives clinicians important information to guide surgery. It will also provide an excellent teaching tool.

The machine will provide additional information too which will be instrumental in numerous important research studies. It is most appropriate for the Adult Burns Service at The Alfred to have the benefit of this state-of-the-art technology that will benefit so many people.



Further information about the work of the Mazda Foundation can be obtained from the Foundation's website.

Communications and donations should be directed to:

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