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## **LOLIPOP trial receives \$A3.8 million from UK's National Institute for Health and Care Research**

An Australian-led trial that aims to reduce post-surgical pain for breast cancer patients has been awarded nearly \$A4 million by the UK's top research funding body.

The Long-term Outcomes for Lidocaine Infusions for persistent PostOperative Pain in patients undergoing breast surgery (LOLIPOP) trial has been awarded £1.8 million by the UK's National Institute for Health and Care Research to run the study in the UK.

The success of the LOLIPOP UK grant led by Perth-based anaesthetist Associate Professor Andrew Toner is a result of a collaboration between the Australian study team and UK investigators with Associate Professor Mark Edwards at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust and Bristol Trials Centre at the University of Bristol.

The LOLIPOP trial will evaluate the effectiveness of lidocaine infusions intra and up to 24 hours after surgery to reduce the incidence of chronic post-surgical pain at 12 months in 4300 patients undergoing breast cancer surgery.

"It is really exciting to welcome our UK collaborators on board this trial. LOLIPOP will now generate quicker results that also have greater international validity," Associate Professor Toner said.

"If proven effective, people worldwide may benefit sooner with improved quality of life outcomes and reduced risk of chronic or persistent pain, which is estimated to be experienced by nearly half of those undergoing breast cancer surgery.

"We look forward to strengthening ties between our two world-class clinical trials networks."

The LOLIPOP trial led by chief principal investigator Professor Tomas Corcoran, Director of Research in the Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine, Royal Perth Hospital and Adjunct Clinical Professor in the Central Clinical School at Monash University, was awarded \$A4.3 million in 2020 from the Medical Research Future Fund.

This followed a \$70,000 grant from the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists' (ANZCA) Research Foundation for the team to run a pilot study which demonstrated the feasibility of the research techniques.

The trial is running at 29 sites across the ANZCA Clinical Trials Network.

**For more information or to request interviews please contact ANZCA Media Manager Carolyn Jones on +61 408 259 369 or [cjones@anzca.edu.au](mailto:cjones@anzca.edu.au).**