Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Australia

Unifying Support and Genetics



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Connect with TASCA: Latest News and Updates

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TASCA acknowledges Australia's first people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet and provide our services to those affected by genetic haemoglobin disorders. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to Elders both past and present.

Stay connected, stay informed, and look forward to our monthly newsletters!

TASCA MONTHLY



Pat Bollard
Chairperson
Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Australia

From our Chair

Welcome to our October newsletter.

A very sincere welcome to our newest committee member, James. As per his biography (below), James has a great wealth of experience in finance, leadership, and governance training. We look forward to benefiting from his skills in these areas and working together to progress our efforts for the community.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting on October 26. It was a pleasure to be able to report on the year's work and the positive community achievements made. A very special thank you to our esteemed guest speaker, Professor Vasili Berdoukas who shared with us exciting advances in treatments for both Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Disease.

Peter and I will be attending the Thalassaemia International Federation conference in November. This year's focus is Capacity Building for Patients and Associations, with a shared purpose of strengthening patient voices and advancing the care of people affected by haemoglobin conditions. We are looking forward to connecting with other participants, exchanging experiences and challenges, as well as building valuable relationships.

I hope you all look after yourselves and your loved ones.



TASCA MONTHLY

MASTERS OF GENETIC COUNSELLING PLACEMENT STUDENTS

Our two Genetic Counselling placement students from the University of Melbourne, Lauren and Conlon, have now finished their time with TASCA.

Throughout their placement, Lauren and Conlon have undertaken various projects and engagement activities with the TASCA community.

Lauren and Conlon have been busy updating our Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Anaemia factsheets, with guidance from our committee member, Dr Sherouk Fouda, as well as recording an audiobook version of TASCA's children's book: **'Millie and Danny's Big Hearts'**.

We're excited to share these new resources with you, so keep an eye on this space!



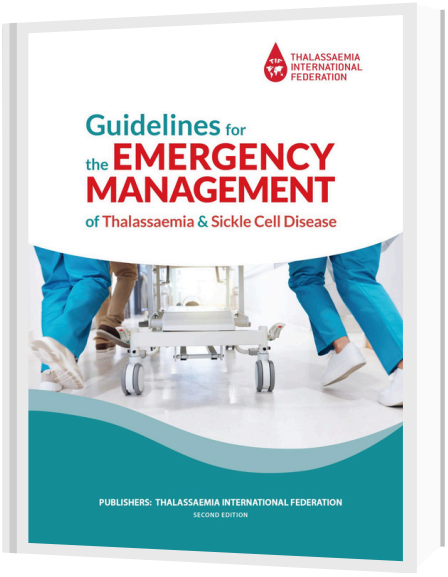
TIF RELEASES 2ND EDITION OF THALASSAEMIA AND SICKLE CELL DISEASE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

We're pleased to announce that the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) has released the second edition of the **'Guidelines for the Emergency Management of Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Disease'**.

Building upon the first edition, the publication has been revised, updated, and significantly expanded to include Sickle Cell Emergency Management alongside Thalassaemia.

Targeted to support emergency physicians, nurses, haematologists, paediatricians and healthcare teams around the globe, this resource provides a guide for recognising potentially serious signs, symptoms and complications; undertaking appropriate initial assessments; initiating urgent management; and how to identify when specialist involvement is required.

You can view the new edition here.



TASCA MONTHLY

MEET TASCA'S NEWEST COMMITTEE MEMBER

MEET JAMES



JAMES MARINOPOULOS

James has over 25 years of senior executive experience in financial services, including leadership roles at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, National Australia Bank and ANZ. His expertise spans enterprise risk management, corporate governance, regulatory engagement and major transformation programs. As General Manager, Model Risk & Assurance at CBA, he implemented the Group Model Risk Policy Framework, chaired the international Model Risk Governance Committee and was appointed the bank's first Operational Risk Model Risk Steward. His work included establishing enterprise-wide model risk frameworks and validation functions recognised by APRA as industry-leading.

James holds both Masters and Honours Degrees in Applied Mathematics and Statistics, a Graduate Diploma in Education and a Diploma of Management, as well as membership of various professional associations.

TASCA'S 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thank you to everyone who attended TASCA's 2026 AGM last night!

We're truly appreciative of your continued support and look forward to another year of working together.

Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Australia

Unifying Support with Genetics

Christmas Raffle

Support the TASCA community while having the chance to win amazing prizes.

Wed 18th Nov - Wed 2nd Dec

Prize

GIFT HAMPER:

Includes restaurant vouchers, family experiences, sweet treats and more

Tickets

$x for 1 ticket

$x for x tickets

$x for x tickets

Click the link to buy your tickets!

https://aus.givergy.com/TASCAChristmasRaffle

Contact info@tasca.org.au for more information

CALENDAR

19TH NOVEMBER
INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY

20TH NOVEMBER
UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

CONNECT WITH US!

FIND TASCA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@tascaust

BECOME A MEMBER AND SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

GIVE TASCA A VOICE AND BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

- You can help support TASCA and its valuable work.
- You can be inspired by stories about the people we support.
- You will be updated regularly on medical advances and clinical trials.
- You will be invited to member events and programs.
- You will belong to a community supporting people living with a genetic haemoglobin condition.
- You will be part of a community voice advocating for better access to medical care.

Your membership will support Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Australia's important work.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we need the support of the community to provide ongoing education, support and advocacy for the benefit of those living with, or touched by, genetic haemoglobin conditions.

Membership is open to all interested individuals and organisations who want to support our mission.

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