Research Proposal:
Help us to improve and extend the lives of the 1.7 million Australians currently living with diabetes – the fastest growing chronic disease.

Researcher: Associate Professor Dianna Magliano
Diabetes and Population Health

THE PROBLEM
Diabetes is the biggest epidemic of the 21st century and the biggest challenge confronting Australia’s health system today.

With the rapid increase in prevalence, understanding the full range of consequences associated with diabetes is of growing importance.

It is known that compared to people without diabetes, people with diabetes are at greater risk of a range of long-term complications. Whilst some of these diseases are already known, such as heart disease, liver disease and eye disease, there are a range of diseases that are not yet determined but are more likely in those diagnosed with diabetes.

THE RESEARCH
Baker IDI’s Associate Professor Dianna Magliano is researching the non-traditional associations of diabetes and relationships between diabetes and other diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer’s disease.

A/Prof Magliano is collaborating with the National Diabetes Service Scheme, a registry of over 1.2 million Australians with diabetes and other Australian disease and health registries.

Using anonymised records the diabetes registry has been linked to the cancer and death index, to determine links between cancer and diabetes and find trends in the reasons for death amongst those living with diabetes.

The next stage is to link the diabetes registry to other registries including the medications database (PBS), Australian and New Zealand dialysis and kidney transplant registry and the orthopaedic database. The plan is to link the data to serveral Australian health registries so full analysis can be undertaken and trends found.

National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS): The NDSS is an initiative of the Australian Government that commenced in 1987. It is now compulsory for those that are diagnosed with diabetes in Australia is encouraged to register for the scheme. Through registration, diabetes patients are provided with support services as well as subsided and free products such as syringes and testing strips. Australia has one of the biggest registries in the world with 1.2 million people on the list. It is estimated that the NDSS covers around 95% of all persons diagnosed with diabetes.

THE SOLUTION
By linking the health databases, doctors will be able to help those living with diabetes anticipate their likelihood of getting diseases such as cancer or Alzheimer’s disease down the track. Diabetes patients will have a better knowledge of what having the disease will mean for their lifetime. Doctors will also be better informed as to the outcomes of diabetes medications over time and can take steps to prevent side effects.

An integrated monitoring system for diabetes is essential to improve Australia’s capacity to make decisions for cost-effective allocation of resources and plan preventative and treatment services.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.
Donate today to help improve and prolong the lives of the 1.7 million Australians currently living with diabetes.

## RESEARCH TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>The NDSS was commenced by the Australian government to keep a record of all Australians with diabetes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012 – 2015</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof Magliano published various papers on the links between diabetes and developing cancer, including death from cancer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 – 2018</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof Magliano is beginning to link the NDSS to the medications database, Australia and New Zealand dialysis and transplant registry and Australian death registries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Link NDSS with other Australian health registries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Provide diabetes patients with a solid understanding as to their likelihood of developing other diseases as a result of their diabetes.</td>
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Your support will help us establish links between diabetes and other diseases, allowing us to improve and extend the lives of those living with diabetes.

## WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Your donations will go directly towards medical research to better improve the outcomes for those diagnosed with diabetes.

### Diabetes and Cancer Database

- **$100**
- A $100 donation would allow us to store the diabetes and cancer database for four years and to continue to analyse and find more links.
- *Your gift could help fund four years access to the cancer database to analyse the links.*

### Research Assistant

- **$150**
- A $150 donation would help support the salary of a Research Assistant to assist Associate Prof. Magliano with data analysis.
- *Your donation could provide analysis and research assistance.*

### On-going Database Access

- **$200**
- A $200 donation would help to purchase the rights to new databases for on-going analysis.
- *Your support could assist researchers to access health databases to discover thorough links with diabetes.*