

ADOPT US AND HELP US
TO SAVE YOUNG LIVES



Reg. Charity No. 1157147



she supports her...you can too

Leukaemia Busters is a registered children's leukaemia research charity based at Southampton General Hospital in Hampshire. The charity takes its name and logo from ten year old Simon Flavell who devised these before he died from leukaemia in 1990. Our flagship laboratory at Southampton General Hospital bears his name, The Simon Flavell Leukaemia Research Laboratory as a living memorial to him and to all those other children who have lost their lives to leukaemia.

Over the years, our cutting edge research in Simon's laboratory has led to the development of new world beating antibody-based treatments based on a class of drug called immunotoxins. Though we have a very big objective with a potential global reach we are nevertheless a small, local charity totally committed to the discovery and development of these so called 'magic bullet' treatments, for children and adults with currently incurable forms of leukaemia and lymphoma.

Our mission is to fund and conduct high-quality research focused on developing antibody-based treatments for patients with leukaemia, and our ultimate goal is to take promising treatments that we develop in our laboratories, through rigorous testing and into clinical trials, that will ultimately lead to safer and yet more effective treatments for patients. By using antibodies, it is possible to mount an attack directly on the cancerous leukaemia cells without causing damage to normal cells in the patient's body, quite unlike conventional anti-leukaemia drugs that damage both cancerous and normal cells causing unpleasant and sometimes life threatening side effects.

In recent years we have made important progress in the development of new magic bullet therapies after discovering how to increase the potency of our immunotoxin drugs by many thousand-fold. We discovered that a molecule called saponin from the plant 'Baby's Breath' enhances the killing activity of antibody-based immunotoxins for particular types of leukaemia and lymphoma. This potentially important discovery made in our laboratories at Southampton General Hospital featured on BBC News South Today and could allow us in the future to kill leukaemia cells in the patient more effectively and with greater degree of safety (please see the home page of our website at www.leukaemiabusters.org.uk to view the BBC News video). The major challenge now for Leukaemia Busters scientists is to develop this remarkable and potentially scene changing breakthrough into a useable treatment for patients. This will require considerable funds to achieve and we consider that the moral responsibility for this is incumbent on us as a charity.

Leukaemia Busters receives no government funding. We rely wholly on charitable donations to finance our dedicated research. To continue our life saving work and to develop our scientific breakthroughs further, we need support from you and your company/organisation. Leukaemia Busters owes much of its past success to its several thousand supporters and our future strength and success depends on maintaining and building on their loyalty and support in addition to attracting in new supporters. We pride ourselves on our very low operating costs for fundraising and administration with more than 97 pence of every pound donated going directly toward our research programmes.

We would be delighted if you would kindly consider Leukaemia Busters for your chosen charity for the year. Every penny donated to us will move us a step closer to finding a cure for this deadly disease and with your help we can make Leukaemia Busters' vision to quickly, safely and completely cure leukaemia, that much closer.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,



Dr David J Flavell, BSc, PhD, FRCPath
Scientific and Charity Director

Leukaemia Busters
Mail Point 3
Southampton General Hospital
Southampton
Hampshire SO16 6YD
United Kingdom

023 8077 5590

www.leukaemiabusters.org.uk

Saving Young Lives through Research



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