

Under the Microscope

With Dr Evan Ingley

RPH researcher Dr Evan Ingley is one step closer to understanding the molecules responsible for causing leukaemia and other cancers thanks to a \$197,000 grant from the National Health Medical Research Council.

Dr Ingley, (who works for UWA and the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research) has been working on this study for five years with two research assistants, two PhD students and one honours student.



He said the study looked at a particular molecule called ‘Lyn,’ which had been linked to several specific leukaemias as well as prostate, colon and breast cancer.

“We will be investigating Lyn’s signalling pathways and how it interacts with other molecules,” he said.

“We have identified a molecule which can turn off Lyn and also one that can degrade it.”

Lyn is involved in red blood cell development and binds strongly with several molecules which can turn it off and then degrade it in two to six hours.

Dr Ingley and fellow researchers will use their knowledge of the molecule’s interaction to design and test them for their ability to inactivate and degrade Lyn in leukaemia and cancer cells.

“The ultimate aim of this study is to use this information to develop novel therapeutics capable of inactivating or degrading Lyn and other molecules like it which occur in leukaemia and specific cancers.”