KAWASAKI DISEASE INFORMATION DAY
FOR FAMILIES AND HEALTH PRACTITIONERS

Program - Saturday 19th July

Cox-Walford Room, Level 5, The Murdoch Children's Research Institute or online

Time (AEST)	Session	Speaker
9:00 – 9:45am	**Registrations & coffee (Synapse Café)**	
10:00am	Opening and Acknowledgment of Country	Prof David Burgner *OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence* *Murdoch Children's Research Institute*
10:05am	Introduction to the OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence	Prof Erica Wood *OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence* *Monash University*
10:10am	Introduction to the Kawasaki Disease Foundation	Ms Penny Long & Mrs Shirley Mates *Kawasaki Disease Foundation Australia*
10:15am	The diagnosis and treatment of Kawasaki Disease	Prof David Burgner *OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence* *Murdoch Children's Research Institute*
10:55am	Patient and Family Session	Ms Penny Long Ms Joce Turner Ms Rebecca Wilby Ms Caitlin Russo Ms Nidal Raslan *Kawasaki Disease Foundation AU* Ms Vicky Devine *Kawasaki Disease NZ Support Group*
11:30 – 12:00pm	**Morning tea (Synapse Café)**	
12:00pm	Cardiovascular update	Dr Ari Horton *Monash Health*
12:40pm	Kawasaki Disease – Short- and long-term challenges for clinicians and families	Dr William Renton *The Royal Children's Hospital*
1:20 – 2:00pm	**Lunch (Synapse Café)**	
2:00pm	Kawasaki Disease research – what's happening locally and internationally?	A/Prof Davinder Singh-Grewal *OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence* *University of Sydney*
2:30pm	Q&A panel with speakers	
3:30 – 4:00pm	**Meeting close, afternoon tea & networking (Synapse Café)**	

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Kawasaki Disease Foundation Aust.
Support. Awareness. Research.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Prof David Burgner is a paediatric infectious diseases consultant at the Royal Children's Hospital and leads the Inflammatory Origins group at MCRI. A medical advisor to the KD Foundation, he has led national and international research efforts on KD and related post-COVID inflammatory conditions.

Ms Vicky Devine, based in Christchurch, NZ, is co-founder of the Kawasaki Disease New Zealand Support Group. Her daughter was diagnosed with KD in 2005. Vicky has extensive experience in cardiac physiology and family support roles, including with Heart Kids NZ and Parent to Parent NZ.

Dr Ari Horton is a paediatric cardiologist and clinical geneticist at Monash Children's Hospital and the Victorian Heart Hospital. He cares for children with KD and other inflammatory cardiac diseases and is passionate about equitable, precision-based care.

Ms Penny Long joined the KD Foundation in early 2015 after their daughter Billie-Grace was diagnosed with KD at just 16 months old, following a delayed diagnosis. Billie later required heart surgery at age 2 due to KD complications. Penny now serves as the Foundation's President and Tasmanian State Representative.

Mrs Shirley Mates is a founding member and current Secretary of the KD Foundation. She has represented the Foundation at four International KD Symposiums and played a vital role in community education and support. Her son Cam was diagnosed in 1994/95 and underwent bypass surgery at 14, inspiring Shirley's decades-long advocacy for awareness and research.

Ms Caitlin Russo is the Queensland Representative and social media coordinator for the KD Foundation. One of her twin daughters, Calli, was diagnosed with KD in 2020. Following a challenging diagnostic journey and treatment, Calli has since made a full recovery. Caitlin uses her experience to support families.

Ms Nidal Raslan became involved with the KD Foundation following her son Kareem's was diagnosis in 2008. She is the SA Parent Support Representative and has led multiple fundraising and awareness events. Nidal is as an interpreter and is passionate about supporting families through their KD journeys.

Dr William Renton is a paediatric rheumatologist at Royal Children's Hospital and Monash Children's Hospital. His work focuses on KD, uveitis, and optimising therapeutics. He has published KD outcome studies in Australia and serves on key national advisory bodies for paediatric medicines.

A/Prof Davinder Singh-Grewal is a paediatric rheumatologist at the Sydney Children's Hospital Network. He is a leader in KD research in Australia and is involved in the national KD registry and the Optimal IVIg CRE. He has held multiple grants to investigate IVIg use in KD management.

Ms Joce Turner is the KD Foundation's Treasurer and WA Representative. Her son Reuben was diagnosed with atypical KD in 2021 and experienced coronary complications. Joce, now a registered nurse, is committed to advocating for families and raising KD awareness across WA.

Ms Rebecca Wilby is a past President of the KD Foundation. After her youngest child, Quinn, was diagnosed with KD twice as a toddler, she became active in raising awareness and community support. She was instrumental in launching the KD Foundation Facebook group and brings a professional background in social work, mental health, and HR.

Prof Erica Wood is a Transfusion Medicine Specialist and Director of the Transfusion Research Unit at Monash University. She is a Consultant Haematologist at Monash Health and an NHMRC Leadership Fellow. Erica has led major research programs in transfusion medicine and was recently awarded funding to establish the national OPTIMAL Centre of Research Excellence in improving immunoglobulin use and clinical outcomes.