



In January 2008, following a routine check up for his cholesterol, Phillip Reeves – husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle – was diagnosed with ACC. Phil endured radical surgery to remove his left kidney, adrenal gland and several lymph nodes. After surgery Phil suffered from a massive blood clot in his right lung as well as various other complications and infections. Despite this, Phil was out of the hospital after five weeks and was determined to get back to normal after being given the all clear - Phil was even planning holidays with his wife, Lyn.

Tragically though, a scan in early August revealed that the cancer is back and is inoperable.

Because this form of cancer is so rare, not much is known about it, funding is scarce and little is done to support sufferers in Australia. The researchers at the Kolling Institute are committed to finding ways to diagnose this cancer early and treat it more effectively. But, like any cancer, research is the key to beating this 'beast' and we need your support!

In the last 20 years there have been only 120 cases of Adrenocortical Cancer diagnosed in NSW, compared to several thousand cases of breast cancer and prostate cancer diagnosed each year. Adrenocortical Cancer, or ACC, is a rare and aggressive form of cancer. It affects one or two people in a million and is rarely curable.

What is the Beast?

- ④ Adrenocortical Carcinoma (ACC) is a cancer of the adrenal gland.
- ④ It is usually detected very late in the process, it is aggressive, non curable and IT IS deadly.
- ④ It can affect both men and women, and it can occur in either children or middle aged people.
- ④ Generally there is either surgery or medical treatment with a particular medicine. This cancer does not usually respond to radiotherapy and chemotherapy.
- ④ After all treatment there is only 20% survival at 5 years.
- ④ The FIRM-ACT (First International Randomised Trial in locally advanced and metastatic Adrenocortical Cancer Treatment) trial is a current international trial comparing a combination of mitotane and 2 different chemotherapy regimes.
- ④ The 2 largest centres of excellence for treatment of ACC are in the U.S.A. – MD Anderson Cancer Centre in Houston, Texas and University of Michigan Medical Centre in Ann Arbor, Michigan.