## Victoria

## Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute

**FT0991657** Dr JR McMullen

**Approved Project Title** **Targeting genes elevated in the athlete's heart to improve function of the failing heart**

| | |
|---|---|
| **2009 :** | $ 85,800 |
| **2010 :** | $ 171,600 |
| **2011 :** | $ 171,600 |
| **2012 :** | $ 171,600 |
| **2013 :** | $ 85,800 |

**Primary RFCD** 3210 CLINICAL SCIENCES

**Administering Organisation** Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute

**Project Summary**

Cardiovascular disease affects about 3.7 million Australians and heart failure ranks as one of the major killers, representing a huge burden on our health care system and economy. This situation is likely to get worse with an increasing ageing population. Current therapeutics for heart failure patients largely delay disease progression but generally fail in significantly improving heart function and quality of life. The proposal has focused on targeting the protective effects of 'good' heart growth by identifying genes elevated in the heart in response to exercise. Targeting genes elevated in the athlete's heart to improve function of the failing heart represents a new strategy for the treatment of heart failure.

**FT0992210** Prof K Peter

**Approved Project Title** **Defining targets and generating tools/therapeutic agents for prevention, diagnosis and therapy of atherothrombosis**

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|---|---|
| **2009 :** | $ 98,600 |
| **2010 :** | $ 197,200 |
| **2011 :** | $ 197,200 |
| **2012 :** | $ 197,200 |
| **2013 :** | $ 98,600 |

**Primary RFCD** 3299 OTHER MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

**Administering Organisation** Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute

**Project Summary**

Atherosclerosis and its complications such as myocardial infarction and stroke are a major cause of death and disability in Australia and worldwide. The proposed research program investigates new therapeutic targets and concepts (e.g. targeting of stem cells) to treat atherosclerosis and aims to develop new therapeutic agents using modern biotechnological methods. The project further aims to develop nanoparticle-based diagnostic tools to identify and preventatively treat atherosclerotic plaques that are prone to cause myocardial infarction. The expected outcome will provide direct benefit to patients and create new economic opportunities in Australian bio-/nanotechnology.