**Transcript**

***Dr Mark Hulett – Inhibiting the growth and spread of cancer***

So we’re interested in cancer and the mechanisms that lead to its growth and spread. They’re the main reasons why cancer is such a deadly disease. So by understanding the mechanisms of that we hope to stop cancer cells from growing, forming tumours and also spreading throughout the body.

Well we’d like to develop some inhibitors, so some drugs which can go into patients obviously and help patient survival and hopefully cure cancer. So, one of the big problems is that ability of the tumours to grow and spread throughout the body, so if we can understand that process and we’re working on enzymes which help cancer cells burrow their way out of the primary tumour site, move into the blood supply and then move throughout the body. If we can block that process we could hopefully cure most solid cancers.

Well obviously it’ll help cancer patients greatly if we can cure them from cancer that would be fantastic. So wellbeing, alleviating mortality and morbidity in cancer patients and also there’s huge economic benefits as well. You probably know, cancer is a leading cause of death in Australia. 400,000 or so people will get cancer this year of which 40,000 will die so if we can alleviate that economic burden that would be fantastic as well.