



Child Health
Research Institute Inc.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & WOMEN'S HEALTH SERVICE



MEDIA RELEASE

24 January 2005

Team O'Grady to help improve kids' health

Stuart O'Grady, South Australian International Cyclist and Olympic Gold Medalist, and his 'team' will launch 'Team O'Grady for Healthy Kids' on Tuesday 25th January to promote and support research underway at the Child Health Research Institute (CHRI) to improve the health of our children. This will be an ongoing relationship.

CHRI is an independent medical research institute with laboratories at the Women's and Children's Hospital and Flinders Medical Centre, as well as a joint laboratory program with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The Institute is dedicated to improving the quality of health of children and their mothers through quality research.

CHRI Executive Director Professor Heddy Zola said: "We are thrilled to have the ongoing support of Stuart O'Grady and his Team. Stuart's high profile in the community will raise community awareness of our organisation and the research we carry out. This will help us to raise funds for research to enhance the health of South Australia's children".

'Team O'Grady' will focus its interests into research for 'Better Wound Healing for Kids'. Surgery, trauma and burn injuries can cause major problems in wound repair in children when there is extensive scarring and tissue contraction as their growth creates tissue stress and even limb deformities.

Dr Allison Cowin, Head of CHRI's Skin Biology Laboratory said: "Fetal skin is remarkable having a marvellous capacity to heal wounds without scarring. At CHRI, we want to study a group of molecules that are important in controlling how cells move in our tissues. This is an essential part of wound repair and we believe that these molecules have great potential to help repair wounds.

"By finding out how they work in fetal skin and post-natal skin we hope to be able to translate our research to better healing outcomes for children."

WHAT: Launch of 'Team O'Grady for Healthy Kids' by Stuart O'Grady

WHEN: 11.30am, Tuesday January 25th 2005

WHERE: Child Health Research Institute, 7th Floor Reiger Building, WCH

Media to meet Kirsty Mudge Media Liaison Officer at 11.20am in WCH Main Entrance Foyer, Kermode St

Media contacts:

Ms Kirsty Mudge

Media Liaison Officer, WCH

☎ (618) 8161 7164

mudgek@wch.sa.gov.au

or

Ms Mandy Dahms

Child Health Research Institute

☎ (618) 8161 7061

amanda.dahms@adelaide.edu.au

or

Ms Chris Ostermann

Director of Media and Community Relations, WC

☎ mobile 0401 125 630 (after hours)

ostermann@wch.sa.gov.au