



**ASBESTOS DISEASES SOCIETY  
of AUSTRALIA INC.**

**MEDIA RELEASE – 7 DECEMBER 2017**

**\$85,000 FOR ASBESTOS CANCER RESEARCH**

**ASBESTOS DISEASES SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA**

**WALK FOR RESEARCH AND AWARENESS 2017**

**MERREDIN TO PERTH – 10 SEPTEMBER 2017 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2017**

The Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Inc (ADSA) presented an \$85,000 cheque to Prof Anna Nowak of the National Centre for Asbestos Related Diseases (NCARD), University of Western Australia, at the ADSA Christmas Picnic on Sunday 3 December 2017. This amazing amount is the result of the efforts of the ADSA Walk participants, their sponsors, and all the wonderful supporters who made donations to this lifesaving event.

The Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Walk for Research and Awareness 2017 was from Merredin to Perth via Bruce Rock, Quairading, Beverley, York, and Northam. This is an annual event to raise lifesaving funds for the Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Phd Scholarship in Mesothelioma supervised by Professor Anna Nowak and the NCARD team at the University of Western Australia and also to raise awareness of the risks of asbestos exposure.

Mr Robert Vojakovic AM, JP, President of the ADSA said, "It is unfortunate that decaying asbestos products will remain in our communities for many years to come releasing carcinogenic asbestos fibres that pose a risk to our health. It is essential that people are aware of what they need to do to reduce the risks for themselves and their families."

The Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia Inc is a caring charitable organisation that has for more than 35 years provided a unique service to asbestos diseases sufferers, their families, and the Western Australian community, assisting with the many issues arising out of exposure to asbestos and its devastating consequences. The epidemic of asbestos diseases in Western Australia is affecting members of the community from all walks of life in greater numbers as each year passes. In 2016 the ADSA recorded 300 asbestos caused deaths.

Mr Vojakovic continues, "There is no safe level of asbestos exposure and mesothelioma can be contracted with only minimal exposure to asbestos from home renovations or unsafe work practices. Asbestos was used in commercial, public, and residential buildings in Australia from 1920 to 1987 and indeed recent illegal imports have also been used in our buildings. I am immensely proud of the ADSA Walk Team who gave up the comforts of home for five days to walk from Merredin to Perth to raise awareness of the dangers of asbestos exposure."

Persons wanting to make donations towards the ADSA Walk 2018 can do so by telephone: 1800 646 690 OR online at [www.asbestosdiseases.org.au](http://www.asbestosdiseases.org.au)

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