

# Media Release

**March 2012**

## Shaved for a cure

Holy Spirit Northside's Medical Oncologist, Dr Rick Abraham recently participated in the Leukaemia Foundation's World's Greatest Shave.

The Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland has supported blood cancer patients and their families since 1975. More than 10,000 patients per year are diagnosed- around 27 people each day or one every hour.

As an Oncologist, it is not hard to understand why Dr Abraham was involved in this annual event.

Dr Abraham prepared well for this event- he grew his beard and hair for some months prior to the "big shave".

He said, "My biggest dilemma was whether to shave or colour my hair! However, the staff here at Holy Spirit Northside wanted me to shave, as I was starting to look like a woolly mammoth!"

"In all seriousness though, as a Medical Oncologist I regularly have many hard conversations with patients about cancer related illness. I would obviously prefer not to have these conversations.

My participation in the shave may be a bit of fun at the time, but is based on the principal of drawing attention to a cause or foundation that does offer support and assistance to patients and their families whilst also funding medical research seeking better treatments and cures for cancer".

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