



THE VICTOR CHANG  
CARDIAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

## MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release  
Monday 23 January 2005

---

# ROYAL BABY TO BE HONoured

**The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute (VCCRI) announced today that a scholarship will be awarded to a Danish doctor or scientist as a christening gift to their Royal Highnesses, The Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark, to mark the birth of their son.**

The scholarship to be named, The Prince Christian Scholarship, will be given to a Danish doctor or scientist to spend at least one year working and training in heart research at The Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.

Her Royal Highness, Crown Princess Mary, visited the Institute and was Guest-of-Honour at a Royal Ball held in her honour in March 2005. The Crown Princess is no stranger to heart disease having lost her own mother to it in 1997 - heart diseases still claiming one-in-three lives in both Australia and Denmark.

The Crown Princess, who accepted a Victor Chang Honorary Life Governorship at the Ball, spoke passionately about her personal struggle and the devastating effect heart disease had had on her own family. She urged guests to support the work of the Institute.

On announcing the scholarship, Professor Robert Graham, Executive Director of the VCCRI said, "We see the Prince Christian Scholarship as a meaningful endeavour to strengthen the collaborative efforts between Australian and Danish researchers, who have long shared a common bond of excellence in biomedical research. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to work in a centre-of-excellence with world-class scientists, who are committed to finding important new preventions and treatments for heart disease."

The scholarship is set to commence later in 2006 when it is anticipated that the first recipient will join the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.

"We hope that in the future Prince Christian will also take a keen interest and be supportive of heart disease research," Professor Graham commented.

---

For further information please contact:

**Samantha Lucia - Communications and Marketing Manager - VCCRI**

Ph: 02 8382 3415    Mobile: 0415 140 595    E-mail: [s.lucia@victorchang.unsw.edu.au](mailto:s.lucia@victorchang.unsw.edu.au)