



"I have always been interested in cancer research; I have gained an incredible level of motivation and dedication to involve myself in the study and treatment of this disease after losing multiple family members and friends to cancer during my childhood. The most significant was the loss of my mother to pancreatic cancer and leptomeningeal disease in 2015."

Olivia Comito, WARPINE Researcher

Meet our WARPINE Research Fellow, Olivia Comito

After graduating from Penrhos College in 2019 with an ATAR of 96.9, Olivia received early admission to the University of Notre Dame. Ranked as one of the top ten students within her bachelor's degree in biomedical science and chosen by the University's Board of Examiners to be the Academic Representative for the degree, Olivia received an offer to complete an Honours degree in Biomedical Science in 2023.

Basing her educational choices on her desire to become an Oncologist, Olivia's drive and passion are uncompromising. *"I plan on studying for a Doctor of Medicine, specialising in Oncology, after completing my master's degree, which I will begin at the start of 2024."*

Besides her current WARPINE Fellowship, Olivia has also had placements at Telethon Kids Institute and the Harry Perkins Institute of Medicine. *"At Harry Perkins, I worked on identifying and analysing genetic mutations linked to cancer development, and in my spare time, I stimulated a virus outbreak."*

Outside of work and study, Olivia volunteers at Perth Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House as a Family Ambassador, assisting families with terminally



Olivia and Nick at the 2021 Perth Royal Show

ill, long-staying children, and as an Event Ambulance Officer and Rapid Ambulance Support Officer with St John Ambulance.

When it comes to cancer research, philanthropy can change lives in a variety of ways. Your support for a WARPINE Fellowship, dedicated to assisting with the management of clinical trials, increases our

capacity to run and participate in trials that we hope will lead to the discovery of cancer treatments, improving patient options and patient outcomes. Support for a WARPINE Fellowship also helps us attract, train, develop and retain the next generation of doctors and researchers in the field of pancreatic, rare and gastro-intestinal cancers.

"I am so fortunate for the opportunities I have received. These roles have allowed me to treat patients suffering from strokes, seizures, diabetic comas, broken or dislocated bones, drug overdoses, heart attacks, cardiac arrest, and much more. The highlight of my volunteer position, however, was delivering a baby at the Perth Royal Show in 2021. Shocked is a massive understatement! My volunteer positions have conditioned me to view the world differently and to appreciate every little aspect of my life. This I am incredibly grateful for."

Olivia Comito, WARPINE Researcher