

## + How GenV could make a difference. An example.

Sarah gives birth to her daughter, Kate, at a local hospital. A couple of days later she and her partner are approached by a GenV team member and agree to take part. At age four, Kate becomes ill.

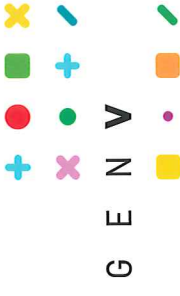
She is often tired, and not eating or sleeping properly. Her parents take Kate to many different specialists.

After months of searching for an answer, Kate was diagnosed with a complex food allergy that needs a special diet.

Researchers using GenV data had been looking at links between food allergies and a broad range of health data. With the complete picture of child health provided by GenV, they find a number of children have a pattern of symptoms like Kate's. The researchers shared this knowledge with doctors and other scientists.

GenV's data and samples helped in the discovery of a more precise test for this allergy.

With the new test, other families were saved the experience of having a sick child with no diagnosis quickly available.



GENV

# Your family is invited

Important information for every parent.



## • Where can you find out more?

Talk to your health professional about GenV or contact us directly.

**W:** [www.genv.org.au](http://www.genv.org.au)

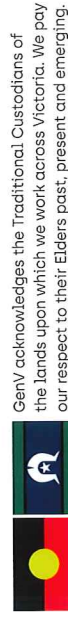
**E:** [genv@mcri.edu.au](mailto:genv@mcri.edu.au)

**P:** 1800 436 888 (1800 GEN VVV)

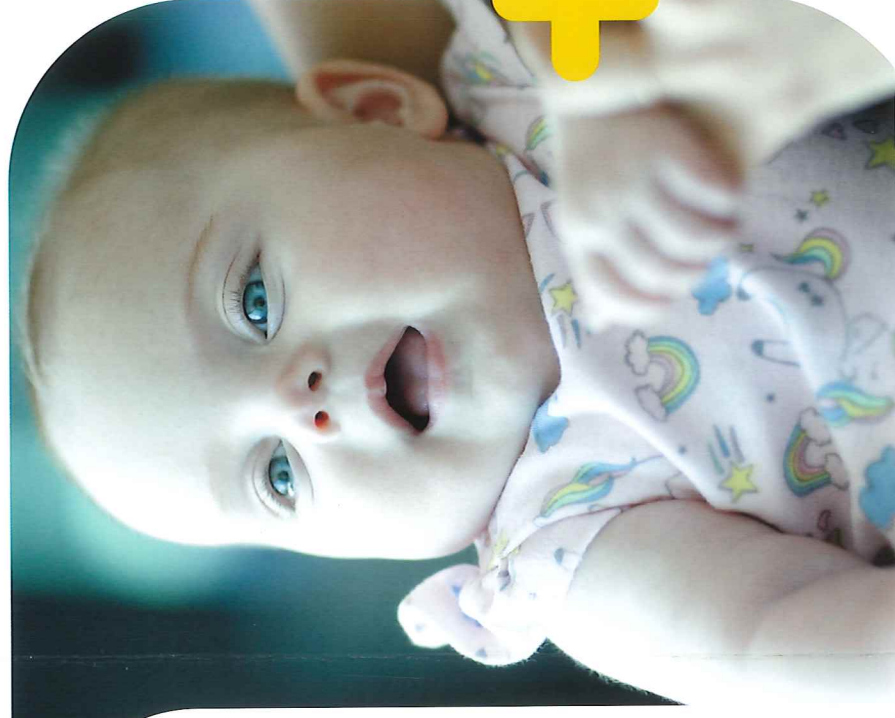
GenV is led from the Melbourne Children's Campus in partnership with maternity hospitals across Victoria.



GenV. Let's make this our healthiest generation ever.



GenV acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which we work across Victoria. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



## **X** You and your baby could help make this Victoria's healthiest generation ever.

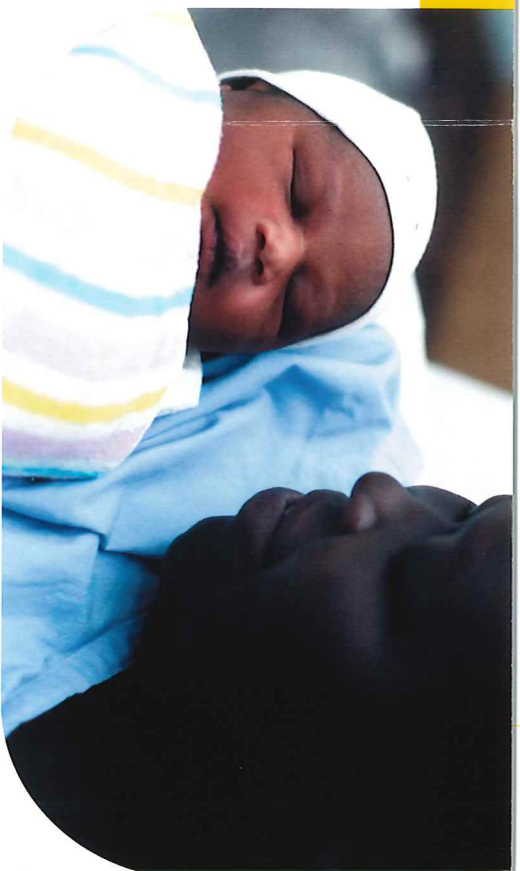
Most Victorian children and parents can look forward to a happy and healthy future. But too many families deal with health and wellbeing challenges.

These include:

- X** allergies
- infections
- anxiety
- +** obesity
- ✓** learning difficulties and more.

GenV (short for Generation Victoria) is a statewide initiative. It is designed to include children and parents no matter who they are or where they live. Every family matters - including yours.

GenV is led from the Melbourne Children's Campus (Murdoch Children's Research Institute, The Royal Children's Hospital and University of Melbourne, supported by The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation).



## **+** Why should we join GenV?

By taking part in GenV, you will help researchers find better ways to treat, predict and prevent health problems. You can help create a better future for all families – now and tomorrow.

GenV will involve information that gives a more complete picture of community health and wellbeing.

This includes how children develop, how people age, and how health changes across generations.

## **■** What does GenV involve?

Taking part is simple. A GenV team member visits or contacts you soon after your baby is born, usually in the hospital or by phone, email or post.

We ask for your consent for your baby to take part, and one or more parents or guardians.

Information about you and your baby is collected on the spot. If you agree, we collect or post out saliva swabs for you and your baby.

These swabs are to collect saliva from inside your and your baby's cheeks. This allows us to look more closely at how genetics and biology affect health and wellbeing.

As your child grows, GenV stays in touch, and collects brief information about you and your child. Sometimes, services may help GenV with assessments like an extra vision test.

We also add information and samples that services already collect. So GenV takes very little of your time.

## **●** How will GenV look after our information?

GenV data is kept private and secure. Data can only be used for approved research that benefits human health and wellbeing. Data storage follows international best practice. For example, personal details (like names) are removed from data used by researchers.

## **■** How do we join GenV?

If we miss you in hospital, we contact you at home to invite you and your baby to join GenV. We will give you information about GenV and you can ask us questions. To take part in GenV, you must sign a consent form. Joining GenV can be done online using your phone, tablet or computer.