



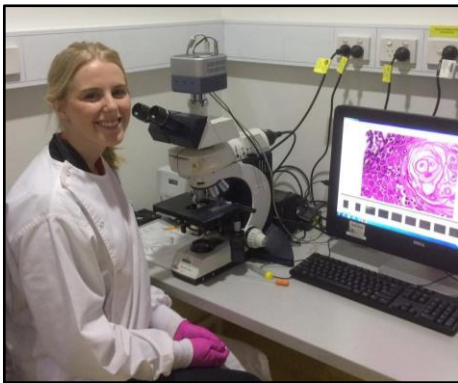
## Catherine Foster

### *Exploring the tiny cells in our brains*

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The brain is the most complex organ in our body and operates everything! So why wouldn't you want to study it?!



I've lived in Hobart, Tasmania, my whole life but have travelled all around Australia and overseas to New Zealand, Japan and the Fijians Islands looking at the exciting world we live in! My fascination with the brain started in college, when another student came and spoke about her work in discovering whether mouse behaviour can be altered by being in a fun and interactive environment, compared to a dull environment. I was hooked! I wanted to discover cures for diseases and illnesses, and so I decided to study medical research at university.

I graduated with Honours in Biotechnology and Medical Research and have now decided to do a PhD in neuroscience. I love the brain! It's so interesting and we have only scratched the surface! Our brain controls everything, from our movements, emotions to our thoughts. But when things go wrong in the brain it can have a big effect on our lives.

I study how the brain works and how tiny little cells can help make our brains work better but can also make them work worse. My PhD is focussed on how the cells in our brain can control the supply of blood in the brain and how changes to the brain's blood flow may be leading to brain diseases such as Dementia. I can't wait to see what the future holds for me and my research, and look forward to telling you all about it!



**For more information:**

[www.utas.edu.au/medicine](http://www.utas.edu.au/medicine)