FINDING CURES FOR ALL CANCERS

INVESTING IN OUR RESEARCH

cruk.org
Welcome
On behalf of Cancer Research UK, I would personally like to thank you for your interest in our vital work.

Our vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured. The generosity of our supporters has enabled Cancer Research UK to lead the world in discovering and developing newer, kinder, more effective treatments. As a result we’ve doubled survival rates in the last 40 years.

However, our work can’t stop. Every year more people in the UK die from cancer than any other disease and sadly, more than 1 in 3 of us will go on to develop it at some point in our lives.

With your help, we rise to the challenge and keep pushing forward in our fight. As the world’s leading cancer charity dedicated to saving lives through research our ambition is strong and we believe that, with your support, we can win. We’re living in a golden age for cancer research and our understanding of the disease is increasing at a faster pace than ever before; more people are surviving and more cancer cases are being prevented thanks to our work. But there’s still so much more to do and we can’t do it without the support of people like you. We receive no government funding for our research and rely solely on the extraordinary support we receive from the public to continue our work.

In this booklet we have highlighted for you some of the ways in which you can make a real difference in the fight against cancer. We focus on four priority areas where your gift would make a significant and long-term impact.

We have a dedicated team to help you decide what is right for you and how you would like to support us. With your help we can accelerate our progress against this disease and save more lives sooner.

With many thanks,

Harpal Kumar
Chief Executive, Cancer Research UK
Living proof of the incredible progress we’re making – cancer survivors inspire our fundraising. Their stories motivate others to join us and help beat cancer.

Oliver’s story
Oliver, managing director at Roubini Global Economics, was diagnosed with tonsil cancer when he was in his mid-40s. As part of his treatment, Oliver took part in a clinical trial funded by Cancer Research UK which has since shown that a new, more targeted type of radiotherapy treatment is more effective and causes fewer side effects for patients.

“In July 2009 I noticed swollen lymph nodes in my neck under my jaw. After a referral from my doctor, several tests and a biopsy, it was confirmed I had cancer and I had surgery to remove my tonsils. I was invited to take part in a radiotherapy clinical trial named PARSPOST that compared the side effects and effectiveness of conventional radiotherapy with a newer, more targeted type called IMRT – Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy. I was entered into the IMRT group and was really pleased to be getting the new treatment which was less likely to damage healthy areas of my mouth while still being as effective at killing the tumour cells.

Cancer Research UK plays a vital role in spearheading the development of more effective cancer treatments, giving patients like me the opportunity to receive the very latest innovations through taking part in clinical trials.

I feel very fortunate that I was able to take part in this trial because it meant that I was able to receive the latest in radiotherapy treatment whilst it was still undergoing testing for my type of cancer. I experienced fewer side effects during treatment and have now made a full recovery from my illness and am able to lead a full and active life again.”
Leading philanthropists choose Cancer Research UK because they want to make a lasting impact and work in partnership with us to see the difference that their support makes to our work. They know that by giving a gift to Cancer Research UK they are investing to save lives in the best way possible.

“We truly believe that the research we are currently funding through Cancer Research UK is ground-breaking and could lead to important advances in our understanding of this complex disease. During the last thirty years, Masonic charities have donated millions towards curing and treating many types of cancer, demonstrating that it is a cause of much importance to Freemasons.

Kevin and Kate McGrath

We are the world’s largest independent funder of cancer research, supporting the work of more than 4,000 world-class scientists, doctors and nurses who are dedicated to reducing the number of deaths from cancer. They work tirelessly to prevent, control and cure over 200 types of cancer, and have contributed to more than half of the world’s top cancer drugs, as well as pioneering the use of radiotherapy to treat cancer.

The Freemasons’ Grand Charity and the Masonic Samaritan Fund are long-term supporters of Cancer Research UK and are jointly contributing towards a pancreatic cancer research project.

Laura Chapman
Chief Executive of The Freemasons’ Grand Charity

“We are delighted to support Cancer Research UK as we believe they have the commitment, the drive and the expertise to save lives.”

‘Cancer Research UK is a wonderful organisation carrying out world-class work. We are thrilled to have supported their vital work for a number of years and we have always felt that we have been kept abreast of their progress over this time. By supporting PhD students as they complete their studies it is wonderful for us to be able to invest in the next generation of world class scientists. In partnership with Cancer Research UK we are absolutely committed towards helping save more lives from cancer, sooner.”

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PAVING THE WAY FOR
THE ERA OF
PERSONALISED
MEDICINE

DISCOVERING NEW
LIFE SAVING DRUGS
“Over the last two decades, advances in our understanding of cancer biology and technology have revolutionised the way we discover drugs. The work that we are doing in drug discovery is laying the foundations for treatments that will help many more people beat cancer.”

Professor Herbie Newell
Professor of Cancer Therapeutics

Discovering new drugs to help people beat cancer is a priority for Cancer Research UK. We have made great strides in this area and thanks to our excellent scientists and researchers we have contributed to more than half of the world’s top cancer drugs, including Herceptin®, Temodal® and Taxol®.

However we need your help to accelerate the development of new, more effective treatments, so that we can keep improving survival rates for people with all types of cancer.

Pioneering the future of cancer treatment
Cancer Research UK is investing in discovering innovative, targeted drug treatments that home in on cancer cells, making them more effective and reducing their impact on other healthy cells in the body.

These can be based on chemicals designed in the lab or on a computer, or on molecules from the natural world.

For example, our researchers are designing drugs based on antibodies from our immune system.

Cancer cells are not usually recognised as dangerous because they are our own body’s cells that have gone wrong, but the antibody drugs mark them out as an enemy, making it easier for the immune system to find and destroy them.

Other types of drugs switch off the molecules in cancer cells that drive their growth and survival, or starve them of essential nutrients and oxygen.

The new generation of targeted drugs is paving the way for the emerging era of personalised medicine, where each patient has the treatment most appropriate for the characteristics of their cancer.

Your support will help us develop new and exciting drugs that will be powerful and effective weapons in the fight against cancer. We currently fund a vast array of research into the discovery of new cancer drugs across the UK.

Our team will work with you to pick the project that you would most like to support.
WE’RE TACKLING THE BIGGEST KILLERS

ADVANCING RESEARCH INTO THE BIGGEST KILLERS
“Each year our scientists get closer to finding cures for cancers, whether that’s through new targeted molecular treatments or simply by finding ways of detecting cancers earlier. As a result we’ve helped double survival rates in just 40 years.”

Professor Peter Johnson
Cancer Research UK’s chief clinician

Remarkable progress in survival rates has been made in the last 40 years but, sadly, 1 in 4 deaths in the UK are still caused by cancer. Lung, bowel, breast and prostate cancers account for almost half of these deaths. We want to change this. By funding research into these cancers you will be able to have a real impact on some of the greatest challenges we face.

Lung cancer remains one of the most difficult cancers to treat because, often, it is not diagnosed until it is at an advanced stage. The pioneering work of our scientists has contributed to two of the most commonly used drugs to treat lung cancer, cisplatin and carboplatin. But we need to do much more to prevent, diagnose and treat lung cancer more quickly and effectively.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the UK. Each year, more than 48,000 women hear the devastating news that they have the disease. With the help of our supporters we have developed life-saving drugs such as tamoxifen and Herceptin® and our revolutionary research into the genetic classification of breast cancer and development of new therapies is changing the face of breast cancer treatment.

Bowel cancer is the UK’s second biggest cause of cancer death. Our research means that those diagnosed today are twice as likely to survive for at least ten years than those diagnosed in the early 1970s. We continue to make breakthroughs that will save many more lives in the future. For example, we helped fund a groundbreaking study showing that a simple new flexi-scope test could cut the risk of developing bowel cancer by a third, and reduce deaths by almost half in those screened.

Prostate cancer is the most common form of male cancer; around 37,000 men are diagnosed with it each year. Cancer Research UK’s work is transforming our understanding of prostate cancer and is pioneering research into the next generation of treatments. Our scientists are also leading the world in discovering the best ways to diagnose the disease, giving men a better chance of beating it before it develops.

More people are beating cancer than ever before thanks to phenomenal advances in treatments and technologies.

But we cannot afford to slow down our progress in discovering new ways to prevent, control and cure these deadly diseases that continue to claim too many lives. Your gift could help many more people beat the biggest killers.

Our team will be happy to discuss the different projects we have that focus on these deadly cancer types, where your gift would ensure we continue our progress.
Our people will find the cures.

Training the next generation of scientists.
“As a student, Cancer Research UK is one of the best places to do a PhD in the world. I was so happy to get the news that I had been offered a place; I’d had two other offers, but coming here was an easy decision.”

Irene Asphalter
Current PhD student

To achieve our vision of bringing forward the day when all cancers are cured, we need the very best scientists and researchers. Great facilities and cutting-edge technology are important in enabling research but, ultimately, it is the researchers themselves who come up with the ideas and make the discoveries that save lives.

**PhD Studentships**
Doing a PhD is an exciting and challenging experience that forms the foundations of a young scientist’s career. Cancer Research UK’s PhD studentship programme is regarded as one of the best in the world. Students want to join us, first and foremost, because of the opportunity to make a real difference for people with cancer, but also because the support and facilities we offer are second to none. They have a unique opportunity to learn from some of the best researchers, and also to see the impact that their work has for patients.

**Clinical Research Training Fellowships**
These allow qualified medical doctors to take time out from the clinic to undertake a three or four-year research programme which can focus on helping to improve patient outcome and survival. The Fellows are a vital bridge between the clinic and the lab and are able to bring their understanding of real clinical problems to bear on their research.

**New Investigator Awards**
We fund a range of awards to allow promising young researchers to set up their own research teams or to continue carving their own path in the research landscape. This support comes at a vital point in their careers, enabling them to open up exciting new avenues of research that could lead to the breakthroughs of tomorrow.

We are committed to supporting both current and future generations of leading cancer scientists.

Our team will be happy to discuss how you could support the successful career of a groundbreaking researcher. Through funding one of these awards, you will be a vital part of their development and have a significant impact on ensuring that we continue to accelerate progress against this disease.
INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF TREATMENTS

DRIVING A NEW DAWN FOR RADIOTHERAPY
“It is exciting to be involved in this research because of the possibilities on the horizon. Targeting tumours more precisely, and making them more susceptible to radiation, will benefit thousands of patients across the world.”

Professor Gillies McKenna  
Director, Cancer Research UK/MRC Gray Institute for Radiation Oncology & Biology

Radiotherapy is one of the cornerstones of cancer treatment, with four in ten people who survive the disease receiving it as part of their treatment. Cancer Research UK laid the foundations of modern radiotherapy, and has contributed to many of the cutting-edge techniques used today.

Investing in the future
We’re continuing to drive forward research into radiotherapy in the UK and investing in the next generation of experts in the field. We want to make treatments even more precise and effective, to save more lives and reduce side effects.

To do this, we need to understand more about what radiotherapy actually does to kill cancer cells, and how cancers can overcome these effects – for example how genetic makeup affects a patient’s response to radiotherapy. By combining this in-depth knowledge with cutting-edge technology, we can radically transform the power of radiotherapy.

Our progress
As well as funding world-class laboratory research, we also support pioneering clinical trials to develop new radiotherapy techniques including:

– changing the size and number of doses
– combining radiotherapy with other treatments, such as chemotherapy
– investigating the potential and effectiveness of different types of radiotherapy
– examining whether new ‘image guided radiotherapy’ techniques, which allow doctors to make adjustments to the radiation beam during the course of treatment, are effective.

These clinical trials give patients access to cutting-edge treatments and guide the radiotherapy of tomorrow.
In 1902 a group of visionary doctors and scientists came together to raise money to investigate the cause, prevention and treatment of cancer. Thanks to the generosity they received we have made amazing progress over the last 100 years. The Major Giving team at Cancer Research UK would like to speak to similarly notable individuals who want to make their mark on the future of cancer research.

We receive no government funding for our research. Every step we make towards beating cancer relies on every supporter, and every pound donated. Each year we receive a growing number of outstanding research proposals that we simply cannot afford to fund. With increased support, we will be able to fund this additional research and save more lives sooner.

**Working with us**

We are committed to working with each of our supporters in a way that best suits them. The team at Cancer Research UK are able to:

- Identify research into a specific cancer type or treatment that you would like to invest in
- Find a project close to your home or in a region that you are keen to help
- Structure your gift, whether you plan to donate straight away or pledge to give over a number of years
- Regularly update you on our progress so that you can see the impact of your gift
- Arrange for you to meet and talk with people on the front line and see how they carry out their work

Contact us today on **020 3469 5301** or **fundingourresearch@cancer.org.uk** for further information.

We look forward to speaking to you.