Panel debate: Accelerating shifts in stage

There is no doubt that further research is needed if we are to identify the changes and interventions needed to reduce late stage diagnosis of cancer and give more patients a better chance of surviving their disease. But that doesn’t deter us from acting now. There are evidence-based interventions that contribute to earlier stage diagnosis, and more that reasonable logic dictates should make a positive contribution, even if the evidence base is not yet established. Ensuring these are implemented in an open, equitable and high-quality manner is vital if we are to accelerate the shifts in stage at diagnosis that patients deserve.

Chair:

Professor Greg Rubin

Professor Greg Rubin is Emeritus Professor of General Practice and Primary Care at Newcastle University. With over 200 peer-reviewed publications, his current research is in the diagnosis and management of cancer in primary care and at the interface with secondary care, and the configuration of health services to enable this.

He is a senior adviser to the NIHR-funded Policy Research Unit for Cancer Awareness, Screening and Early Diagnosis, and chairs the Cancer Research UK-funded CanTest Collaborative (<www.cantest.org>). He has provided advice to DH and CRUK on the implementation of cancer strategy, was the Royal College of General Practitioners’ first Clinical Lead for Cancer (until 2014) and is the clinical lead for the English National Cancer Diagnosis Audit.

In 2017 he was awarded the Cancer Research UK Jane Wardle Prevention and Early Diagnosis Prize for world-leading research in the field of prevention and early diagnosis of cancer.
**Wednesday 13th February**

**Panel debate:**
**Accelerating shifts in stage**

**Panellists:**

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<tr>
<th>Dr Jodie Moffat</th>
<th>Professor Willie Hamilton, CBE</th>
<th>Cally Palmer, CBE</th>
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<td>Dr Jodie Moffat has been the Head of Early Diagnosis at Cancer Research UK since the team’s inception in 2013. The team sits within the Policy and Information (P&amp;I) Directorate and drives the distillation of early diagnosis evidence and its translation into policy and practice. After joining CRUK in 2008, one of Jodie’s first projects was the launch event for the National Awareness and Early Diagnosis Initiative (NAEDI) and she continued to play a key role in the Initiative over the years that followed. In 2012, Jodie spent a year seconded to the Department of Health to develop and implement the evaluation framework for the early Be Clear on Cancer awareness campaigns and the clinical decision support tools for use in primary care settings. The author of a number of peer-reviewed papers on awareness and behaviour, inequalities and screening, Jodie is passionate about evidence-led decision-making. Jodie oversees EDAG, the early diagnosis policy relevant funding committee at CRUK, chairs the Early Diagnosis Programme in P&amp;I and sits on a number of external groups including the Bowel Screening Research Advisory Committee, the Be Clear on Cancer Steering Group, the NHS England Lung Cancer Clinical Expert Group and the National Cancer Diagnosis Audit Steering Group. Prior to joining CRUK, Jodie undertook a PhD in earlier diagnosis of lung cancer, and also spent three years working in the NHS as a therapy radiographer.</td>
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<td>Professor Willie Hamilton, CBE, MD, FRCP, FRCGP, is Professor of Primary Care Diagnostics at University of Exeter. The major part of his work is in cancer diagnostics in the symptomatic patient – the one sitting in the GP’s consulting room. He leads the DISCOVERY team, with staffing varying from 6–10, plus 3–4 PhD students, all supported by his grant awards. These grants total over £30m, including CRUK’s first Catalyst award. He has over 250 publications, including the 2010 and 2015 overall Research Paper of the Year for studies on ovarian cancer and on the public appetite for cancer testing. He was also the cancer category winner in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2017. His recent paper, on the risk of cancer with thrombocytosis, was the most downloaded and read paper in 2017 in the British Journal of General Practice. He was clinical lead on the NICE guidance on suspected cancer, NG12, published in 2015. This governs around £1bn of annual NHS spending. One of his textbooks, ‘Cancer Diagnosis in Primary Care’ won a rather minor BMA award. Do please buy it – he gets 50p in royalties on every sale.</td>
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<td>Cally Palmer was appointed as National Cancer Director for England in October 2015. She is responsible for leading the implementation of the Independent Cancer Taskforce Strategy for improving cancer care in England and more recently the development of the Long Term Plan for Cancer. Cally is also Chief Executive of The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, a Trustee of the Institute of Cancer Research and a Trustee of The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. She has an MSc in management with distinction from the London Business School and was awarded a CBE in 2006 for her contribution to the NHS.</td>
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**Jane Lyons**

Jane Lyons is CEO of Cancer52, an alliance of more than 90 largely small patient support group charities working in the field of rare and less common cancer. Jane leads Cancer52 in its relationships with influencers and policy makers at a national level, and sits on the Independent National Cancer Advisory Group. Jane has worked for Cancer52 for the past five years and before that was CEO of the women’s gynaecological cancer charity The Eve Appeal. She previously worked in the communications field and has been a director of top ten consultancies, run her own PR agency, and worked at a senior level in house. |
Panel debate: Accelerating shifts in stage

Tom Haswell

Tom’s background was in engineering and he worked overseas for many years. In 1993 at an employment medical in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia he was told he had lung cancer. He returned home to Glasgow, underwent further tests only to be told there was no treatment which would have any effect on his lung cancer and given a very short life expectancy. He took part in an early phase chemotherapy clinical trial followed by radiotherapy which had positive effects. This led him to believe that his experiences could help other patients and researchers and clinicians and for many years he has been involved in numerous organisations, groups and committees.

Some of his consumer/patient involvements include the NCRI CTRad, Screening, Prevention and Early Diagnosis Advisory Group (SPED), Consumer Forum, and Lung CSG, CRUKCTU (Glasgow), ECMC, PHE Lung Site Specific CRG, and involvement with NICE as a “patient expert” at Technology Appraisals. Tom is also a member of CRUK’s Research and Strategy Sounding Board and the Regional Cancer Advisory Group of the West of Scotland Cancer Network.

He is very much involved in cancer research and is co applicant, collaborator, advisor on several clinical trials and sits on TMGs, including the UKLung Matrix Trial and TSCs. Tom was also a member of CRUK’s NAEDI Funding Committee and Early Diagnosis Funding Application Revue Committee and is a member and trustee of the charity Independent Cancer Patients’ Voice. He has also attended and been a panellist at the Precision Medicine Forum Conference and has been appointed as consumer member on NCRI’s Cellular Molecular Pathology Initiative. He has also been appointed onto the British Thoracic Oncology Group, (BTOG) Steering Committee.

Professor Tom Crosby, OBE

Professor Tom Crosby, OBE, is a Consultant Oncologist in Velindre Cancer Centre, specialising in upper GI cancer since 2008.

As clinical lead for the Wales Cancer Network, Tom lead the development of the Cancer Delivery Plan 2016-20, Peer Review of Cancer Services in Wales and the Cancer Implementation Group’s prioritisation programme including the development of Cancer Prevention, Early Diagnosis, Person Centred Care and Cancer Information Subgroups. He is also helping to lead the development a new Cancer Research Strategy for Wales. He currently leads a priority initiative in Wales: the Single Cancer Pathway which looks to transform patient pathways from referral, through diagnosis to treatment.

Tom is a leader in upper GI oesophageal chemo-radiotherapy research, service and development in the UK. He is Chief Investigator to the series of UK Multi-centre SCOPE trials (SCOPE1, NeoSCOPE and SCOPE2). He is currently Chair of the NCRI Oesophago Gastric Cancer Subgroup and co-lead applicant on the ambitious stratified medicine programme in oesophageal cancer known as Oelixir.

He was lead of the inaugural Royal College of Radiologists Site Oriented e-Network and is the current Welsh and Oncology Lead for the UK National Oesophago-Gastric Cancer Audit.