For health professionals
Clinical research nurses

Together we will beat cancer

2020 Excellence in Research Programme event:
Celebrating the impact of clinical research nurses delivering cancer trials

Wednesday, 5 February 2020
Birmingham
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Dear colleagues,

Two years ago we held our first event for clinical research nurses to launch our Excellence in Research Programme, aimed at supporting your continuing professional development, education and sharing of best practice.

Today we’re delighted to be holding our second event, and what better time to do it than in the year designated ‘International Year of the Nurse and Midwife’ by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Like the WHO campaign, today is about celebrating you and your role, the amazing work you do to deliver vital cancer research and the impact you have whilst caring tirelessly for your patients.

It’s an opportunity for you to meet clinical research nurse colleagues, learn, share your experiences and be inspired.

An exciting agenda of speaker sessions, interactive workshops and panel discussion will explore the changing nature of clinical trial design, the future of cancer research and your role within this.

Reflect, ask questions, make new connections, give us your feedback and let us know what more we can be doing to support you. But most importantly, enjoy the day. Because quite simply, cancer research just wouldn’t happen without you.

Anne Croudass,
Lead Research Nurse,
Cancer Research UK
## Agenda

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Chair</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From 08:45</td>
<td>Registration, refreshments, poster &amp; exhibition viewing</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00–10:30</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Chair: Anne Croudass, Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Lead Research Nurse</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30–11:00</td>
<td>Speaker session 1: The changing nature of cancer clinical trial design</td>
<td>Professor Lucinda Billingham, Director of Statistics, CRUK Clinical Trials Unit, Birmingham</td>
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<td>11:00–11:30</td>
<td>Refreshments and dedicated networking time</td>
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| 11:30–12:15  | Discussion panel: Panellists to discuss the common misconception that “research nursing isn’t clinical” | Suriya Kirkpatrick, Senior Research Nurse, Southmead Hospital, North Bristol NHS Trust  
\                  |                                                                     | Ben Hood, CRUK Senior Nurse, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
\                  |                                                                     | Dr Helen Jones, Head of Research Nursing, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust |
| 12:15–13:00  | Parallel workshops (session 1)                                       | Facilitated by CRUK Senior Research Nurse Network (for more information, see pages 6–7)  
\                  | 1 Approaches to seeking informed consent                           | Joined by patient representatives from the CRUK Patient Involvement Network  
\                  | 2 Balancing protocol and patient care: The challenges of caring for a patient on a clinical trial in today’s NHS | Please refer to your badges for your allocated workshops.  
\                  | 3 Managing patient expectations and quality of life                 |                                                                              
\                  | 4 Managing follow up and supporting patients coming off trial       |                                                                              |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:00–14:00</td>
<td>Lunch (served in the Horton Bar &amp; Foyer area)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00–14:45</td>
<td>Parallel workshops (session 2) Facilitated by CRUK Senior Research Nurse Network (for more information, see pages 6–7) Joined by patient representatives from the CRUK Patient Involvement Network</td>
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<td>14:45–15:00</td>
<td>Refreshments and time to network</td>
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<td>15:00–15:45</td>
<td>Speaker session 2: An inspirational look ahead to the future of clinical cancer trials: University College London’s CAR T-cell programme Professor Karl Peggs, Senior Lecturer in Stem Cell Transplantation and Immunotherapy, University College London Honorary Consultant, University College London Hospitals</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:45–16:00</td>
<td>Closing remarks Chair: Anne Croudass, CRUK Lead Research Nurse</td>
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Workshops

Exploring the role and impact of clinical research nurses in improving patient experience

A patient representative volunteer from our Patient Involvement Network will join each workshop session and participate in discussion about improving patient experience along the clinical trial pathway.

Please refer to your name badge for the workshop you’ll be attending in each parallel session.

For more information about our Patient Involvement Network and to speak more with the patient representative volunteers about their clinical trial experiences, visit the CRUK Patient Involvement Network exhibition stand.
1 Approaches to seeking informed consent
Facilitators: Jean Mullin, Vivienne Wilson, Laura Rooney
Room: Opal Room
- Key principles of consent and the application of these for different trials and patients
- Common challenges when seeking consent and how these can be overcome using different methods and communication techniques

2 Balancing protocol and patient care: The challenges of caring for a patient on a clinical trial in today’s NHS
Facilitators: Kelly Gleason, Karen Turner, Ruth Stafferton
Room: Horton Suite B
- Challenges and realities of managing clinical trials whilst maintaining high-quality patient care
- Ideas, opportunities and techniques for managing these challenges

3 Managing patient expectations and quality of life
Facilitators: Ben Hood, Nikki Hayward, Clare Dickinson
Room: Diamond Suite
- Managing patient expectations when consenting to trial participation
- Different strategies for appropriate side effect management support

4 Managing follow up and supporting patients coming off trial
Facilitators: Kerry Gready, Ruth Boyd
Room: Horton Suite C
- Different methods for short and long-term follow up with patients
- Strategies for talking about what happens next and when (e.g. when the trial treatment phase stops)
Learn and network

**Visit the exhibition zone**
Visit the exhibition stands in the Horton Foyer and Bar areas to meet our partners and learn how they can support you in your role.

Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres (ECMC)

The Royal Marsden School

The Christie School of Oncology

National Institute of Health Research (NIHR)

UK Clinical Research Facility Network (UKCRF)

International Association of Clinical Research Nurses (IACRN)

UK Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS)

Guy’s Cancer Academy

**Visit our publications stand**
Find out about our wide range of evidence-based, accessible information services and resources available to you and your patients.

Available to order free from our publications website: cruk.org/publications
Connect with each other and share your experiences

Meet new colleagues and share your achievements on the ‘Celebrating your impact on cancer research’ wall of fame, located in the Horton Foyer and Bar area.

Get social: Take a selfie using the Excellence in Research Programme photo frame and share using the #CRUK4crns hashtag and @CRUKresearch.

Meet your local CRUK Senior Research Nurse: Discover what clinical trials are happening in your area and find out how they can help you to design and deliver high quality clinical research for patients.

View the poster presentations: Hear more about the work of your peers as they present their posters during the lunch break.

Want to share more suggestions for education and networking? Email us at researchprogramme@cancer.org.uk.

Ask questions and get involved

Go to www.slido.com and use the meeting code #1428 to send your questions to today’s speakers and participate in interactive polls during sessions (wifi: Macdonald WIFI).

Sign up and learn more

Discuss the latest in targeted cancer treatments and immunotherapies with Elaine Vickers and sign up to our free ‘Demystifying Targeted Cancer Treatments’ online course – now including new educational content on immunotherapy – starting Monday 17 February.

Sign up:
futurelearn.com/courses/targeted-cancer-treatments

Elaine Vickers
Chair

Anne Croudass, Lead Research Nurse, Cancer Research UK

Since qualifying, Anne has worked in a variety of clinical and research settings. Following graduation, she worked in the field of general medicine, progressing to the role of Ward Manager of a 32-bed respiratory and diabetes specialist ward.

Anne has managed research nurses in asthma, allergy and oncology, and was involved in establishing the UK Clinical Research Facility (UKCRF) in Southampton and the Central South Coast Cancer Research Network. Since 2006, she has been the Lead Research Nurse at Cancer Research UK, where she heads up a national team of 15 senior research nurses. In this role, Anne is able to work both strategically and operationally to ensure that clinical research, and research nursing, are recognised as key to quality patient cancer care.

Speakers

Professor Lucinda Billingham, Professor of Biostatistics, Institute of Cancer and Genomic Sciences, University of Birmingham and Director of Statistics, Cancer Research UK Trials Unit (Birmingham)

Lucinda Billingham has worked for twenty five years as a Biostatistician at Birmingham’s Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit. She is now Director of Biostatistics for the Unit working with a large team of Biostatisticians on an extensive portfolio of early and late phase trials.

Lucinda has a special interest in lung cancer research and is the Chief Biostatistician for the National Lung Matrix Trial. She is a member of the British Thoracic Oncology Group Steering Committee and is an invited member of the Cancer Research UK Clinical Expert Review Panel, providing statistical advice for funding applications.

Her areas of expertise include design and analysis of trials in rare cancers, early phase trial design, analysis of quality of life data, application of Bayesian methods in trials and statistical methodology for biomarker discovery, validation and evaluation for stratified medicine.
Dr Helen Jones, Head of Research Nursing, Royal Free Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, London

Helen has spent much of her nursing career working as a Clinical Research Nurse across various clinical areas. She was formerly the Research Matron at Guys and St Thomas’s NHS Foundation Trust where she worked for seven years and supported and led a workforce of 150 research nurses. She has recently taken up the post of Head of Research Nursing at the Royal Free London and has academic links with the University of Hertfordshire.

Helen’s research nursing career has spanned more than 20 years. She has experienced first-hand the growth and development of the clinical research nurse role and workforce, along with the development of the national research infrastructure supported by the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR). Last year Helen completed a Doctorate in Healthcare at Kings College London.

For her thesis, Helen carried out the first national mixed methods study to examine the organisational structure of the national clinical research nurse workforce and their experience working in research delivery.

Suriya Kirkpatrick, Senior Cancer Research Nurse and Genomics Practitioner, North Bristol NHS Trust

Suriya Kirkpatrick qualified as a registered nurse and midwife in South Africa. She moved to the UK in 1999 and has worked in Bristol ever since. Initially, Suriya worked as a staff nurse in acute medicine, later stroke and ITU. Shortly after completing a degree in Psychology she took on the role of Haematology Research Nurse in 2008. She currently works as a Senior Research Nurse and Genomics Practitioner at North Bristol NHS Trust.

Suriya is responsible for the delivery of a wide portfolio of clinical trials and is a principal investigator on multiple studies. Since completing an MSc in Advanced Practice in 2014, Suriya has run a weekly myeloma trials clinic alongside her consultant colleagues.

Suriya also works closely with charities and pharma companies where she has gained experience on various advisory boards and has recently been appointed as a core member to the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Acute Care and Toxicities Workstream.
Ben Hood, Cancer Research UK
Senior Nurse, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle

Ben is the Senior Cancer Research UK Nurse for Newcastle, based at the Sir Bobby Robson Cancer Trials Research Centre. He is also part of the Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres (ECMC) Nurse Steering Group, and sits on the RCNi Cancer Nursing Practice editorial advisory board.

Ben has extensive experience in delivering high quality research and cancer clinical trials, driving innovation to support the changing nature of trial design and emerging cancer treatments. He helps lead patient and public involvement in cancer research within Newcastle for cancer research, ensuring that the patient voice is heard in research.

He was a finalist for the 2019 ‘Excellence in Cancer Research’ RCNi Nurse Award for his work on developing patient co-designed educational resources for early phase oncology clinical trial patients. Ben continues to develop his patient co-designed work further through his doctorate research project.

Ben has developed educational packages and delivered teaching sessions for universities in North East England and Scotland to demystify and highlight the role of a clinical research nurse in cancer services. Following his research into nursing students’ understanding of the role, Ben is currently working in partnership with the National Institute for Health Research to develop e-learning for universities, explaining the role of the research nurse and a patient’s clinical trial journey.

Professor Karl Peggs, Senior Lecturer in Stem Cell Transplantation and Immunotherapy, University College Hospital and Honorary Consultant in Haematology/Transplantation at University College London Hospital

Karl Peggs received his preclinical training and MA at Cambridge University, completing his clinical training at Oxford University Medical School. Following qualification, he completed general medical training at Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge, and specialist haematology training at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford and subsequently UCLH, London. During this time Karl spent three years in the research group of Professor Stephen Mackinnon, establishing adoptive cellular therapies for cytomegalovirus. After taking the position of Senior Lecturer at UCL in 2003, he spent 2 years at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Institute, New York, in the laboratory of Professor James Allison, studying murine models of regulatory checkpoint blockade.

Karl’s research interests include immune reconstitution, pathogen-specific adoptive cellular therapies, and regulatory checkpoint-directed immunotherapeutics. He is member of the Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research Clinical Trials Committee, a Trustee of the Teens Unite charity, and has contributed to several international working parties on infectious complications and relapse following stem cell transplantation. He is Chief Investigator for four UK Clinical Research Network national studies investigating transplantation in Hodgkin Lymphoma and cellular therapies for cytomegalovirus.
Workshop facilitators

Jean Mullin, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Jean is the Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse based in Cambridge. She has been in the role for over five years and splits her time between the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute and the Cambridge Cancer Trials Centre where she manages a team of clinical trials team leads.

Vivienne Wilson, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Cancer Research UK Edinburgh Centre, Western General Hospital

Vivienne’s role within Cancer Research UK is to promote and facilitate the delivery of clinical trials for cancer patients within the Edinburgh Cancer Centre, act as a mentor, leader and educator to junior research staff whilst representing the charity at a local, national and international level.

She has a keen interest in supporting staff with their personal and professional development and as a trained supervisor offers clinical supervision to oncology nurses across the region.

Laura Rooney, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre, Glasgow

Laura is the CRUK Lead Research and Information Nurse for the CRUK Glasgow Centre. Based at the Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre and covering the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Laura leads a team of research nurses involved in the management of haemato-oncology, Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant, Carcinoma of Unknown Primary (CUP) and Cellular Advanced Therapy Investigational Medicinal Product (ATIMP) trials.
Nikki Hayward, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Cancer Research UK Oxford Centre

Nikki has over thirteen years’ experience of research nursing in an early phase cancer clinical trial setting. She started working as the Senior Nurse for Research and Engagement as part of the Cancer Research UK team in Oxford in 2014. In this role, she focuses on public engagement and involvement, including the development of resources to help increase knowledge and understanding of early phase research for patients and the wider hospital community.

Nikki’s passions include the training and development of research nurses within the unit, mentoring and supporting staff, leading the centre’s induction programme, striving for excellence and improvement in both patient care and experience as well as increasing the safety of early phase trial drug delivery. She also has a particular interest in those patients living with and beyond a cancer diagnosis and completed a dissertation in 2018, focusing on strategies and interventions which may help these patients to improve their quality of life.

J. Clare Dickinson, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, The Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester

Clare has over 20 years’ experience in oncology, specialising in chemotherapy, late phase clinical trials, translational and early phase research. As a Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Clare is responsible for developing strategic collaborative partnerships for the Manchester Research Centre and promoting excellence in clinical research through education and training. She was previously Lead Research Nurse for the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Cancer Research Network (GMCCRN), where she led a large team of research nurses working on commercial and non-commercial studies across twelve sites.

Clare sits on the Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre (ECMC) Network’s Nurse Steering Committee and Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement Steering Committee. She is also a Steering Committee member for the Champions for Change Breast Conference and the National Cancer Research Network (NCRN) Senior Research Professional Group. Clare was a finalist in the ‘Excellence in Cancer Research’ category at the 2019 RCNi Nurse Awards and was previously ‘Research Nurse of the Year’ runner up in the Greater Manchester Clinical Research Awards.
Kelly Gleason, Cancer Research
UK Senior Research Nurse,
Imperial College London

Kelly graduated with a Hons BSc Nursing
in Canada in 1989 and an MSc in Nutrition
from Kings College London in 2000. For the
last 14 years, she has led a team of oncology
research nurses and now manages a team
of translational researchers at Imperial
College London, focusing on early phase,
surgical and imaging trials.

Kelly has several years of experience in
the education and training of research
delivery professionals, with a special interest
in helping people find the right career
pathway for their unique talents. She has
also been involved in creating, alongside
an active patient and public involvement
group, a research culture at Imperial which
maintains a patient-centred focus in all
phases of the research process.

Kelly is the co-founder of Clinfield, an
organisation that provides training,
information, support and career
development for research professionals.
Kelly was inspired to bring greater ‘meaning’
to the role of research nurse. She believes
that developing research nurses benefits
patients and the healthcare system, while
bringing greater job satisfaction to those
drawn to improving care through research.

Karen Turner, Cancer Research
UK Senior Research Nurse,
University of Birmingham

Karen is based within the Cancer Research
UK Clinical Trials Unit (CRCTU) at the
University of Birmingham. She trained at the
Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham
before qualifying as a cancer nurse at the
Royal Marsden Hospital, London.

In her role as a Senior Research Nurse,
Karen’s time is divided between CRCTU
Nursing Team management and working
closely with Cancer Research UK locally
and nationally. The CRCTU Nursing
Team delivers early phase oncology and
haemato-oncology clinical trials within
University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trust.

Karen is also a member of the Experimental
Cancer Medicine Centres (ECMC) Nurses
and Patient Involvement Network
Steering Group.

With over 25 years’ oncology nursing
experience, almost 20 of which have
been within early phase clinical research
( oncology and haematology), Karen is
able to promote cancer trials awareness
amongst health care professionals, patients
and the public. She is passionate about
raising the profile of clinical trials.
Ruth Stafferton, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, University of Liverpool

Ruth was awarded her DipHE in Health Care Studies and Nursing (Adult Branch) from the Berkshire College of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Reading in 1995. Following this, Ruth worked in research at St Mark’s Hospital Polyposis Registry, The Royal Marsden Hospital and Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. In 2012 Ruth was appointed Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse and is based in Liverpool Clinical Trials Centre at the University of Liverpool.

Kerry Gready, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Southampton General Hospital

Kerry has worked as a nurse at Southampton General Hospital for many years across different specialties but for the last 18 years she has focused within different areas of oncology and research.

Kerry is passionate about working in research nursing and the opportunity to truly make a difference to patients’ lives.

Ruth Boyd, Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse, Belfast City Hospital

Ruth is the Cancer Research UK Senior Nurse and Deputy Director of the Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Network (NICTN) based at Belfast City Hospital. Ruth works with a team of research nurses and staff supporting high quality care for patients participating in cancer research studies across Northern Ireland. She is the designated Personal and Public Involvement Professional Lead for the NICTN and Belfast Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre. Ruth has worked in cancer research nursing for over 20 years and she is a passionate advocate for cancer research and the research nurse role.
Our partners
Are you a clinical research nurse involved in the delivery of cancer research?

Have you entered the RCNi Nurse Awards 2020?

Cancer Research UK are proud to sponsor the Excellence in Cancer Research Nursing Award and encourage you to submit your entry today!

With 2020 being the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife these awards are set to be the most prestigious yet.

Enter the awards now for the chance to be among the finalists. Visit nurseawards.co.uk