

# News Release

For immediate release

Ref: NR04011

Date: 11 April 2011

## The Prostate Cancer Charity becomes the first men's health charity to join the NCRI

The Prostate Cancer Charity has announced today (Monday 11 April) that it has successfully gained membership of the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI). The membership represents an important milestone for the Charity, ensuring that prostate cancer is given a profile within the national cancer research effort.

The NCRI is a UK wide partnership across public and private sectors, and exists to develop coordinated plans for cancer research to address the most important research questions and avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. In doing so, they aim to maximise the benefits to public and patients from the investment of over £500m pa. The NCRI works across charity, government and industry funders enabling partners to set a national research agenda.

Since the Charity launched in 1996, it has invested £9.5 million in prostate cancer research. With an established research strategy in place, the Charity funds research across the spectrum from laboratory work, clinical research with patients, to survivorship research into the physical, psychological and emotional issues affecting men with prostate cancer and their families.

Currently 10,000 men with prostate cancer die every year and more than 37,000 men are diagnosed every year in the UK. The Charity has made a commitment to ensure that by 2020, significantly more men will survive prostate cancer. The Charity's NCRI membership is crucial because the body promotes co-operation in cancer research among its member organisations meaning that research into prostate cancer will be strengthened by the move.

Dr Jane Cope, director of the NCRI, said: "We're delighted to welcome the Prostate Cancer Charity to the NCRI. They are joining us at an auspicious time – our ten year anniversary – and we are pleased that the Charity will be working with the rest of our partners to help shape the next decade in cancer research."

Owen Sharp, Chief Executive for The Prostate Cancer Charity said: "We're thrilled to become a member of the NCRI. This presents a significant opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of cancer research in the UK, particularly prostate cancer. This is a fantastic outcome for the 250,000 men living with prostate cancer in the UK. We're really looking forward to working with the NCRI and all of its members in shaping the future of cancer research."

The Charity joins 21 other organisations including the Association for International Cancer Research, Medical Research Council and the Department of Health: Economic and Social Research Council, and is the first member of the NCRI to specifically represent men's health.

## ENDS

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## Notes to Editors:

### About the NCRI

The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) was established in April 2001. It is a UK-wide partnership between the government, charity and industry which promotes co-operation in cancer research among the 22 [member organisations](#) for the benefit of [patients](#), the public and the scientific community. For more information visit [www.ncri.org.uk](http://www.ncri.org.uk)

NCRI members are: the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI); Association for International Cancer Research; Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council; Breakthrough Breast Cancer; Breast Cancer Campaign; Cancer Research UK; CHILDREN with LEUKAEMIA, Department of Health; Economic and Social Research Council; Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research; Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research; Macmillan Cancer Support; Marie Curie Cancer Care; Medical Research Council; Northern Ireland Health and Social Care (Research & Development Office); The Prostate Cancer Charity; Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation; Scottish Government Health Directorates (Chief Scientist Office); Tenovus; Welsh Assembly Government (National Institute for Social Care and Health Research); The Wellcome Trust; and Yorkshire Cancer Research.

### The Prostate Cancer Charity:

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in men in the UK. Every year in the UK 37,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer. One man dies every hour of prostate cancer in the UK.

African Caribbean men are three times more likely to develop prostate cancer than white men.

The Prostate Cancer Charity is striving for a world where lives are no longer limited by prostate cancer. The Charity is fighting prostate cancer on every front - through research, support, information and campaigning.

If you have any queries about prostate cancer, call The Prostate Cancer Charity's confidential Helpline 0800 074 8383 which is staffed by specialist nurses and open from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday and Wednesdays from 7 - 9pm or visit [www.prostate-cancer.org.uk](http://www.prostate-cancer.org.uk)