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# NCRI newsletter

## Welcome to our latest newsletter (October 2015)

The NCRI Cancer Conference is nearly here - if you're joining us in Liverpool from 1 November there are plenty of exciting sessions to attend - find out about some of this year's special features in this newsletter. If you haven't yet booked your place and still want to attend then check out the programme at [conference.ncri.org.uk](http://conference.ncri.org.uk), you can still register at the venue on the day. In addition, the NCRI team and some of our experts involved in NCRI activities will be joining us on the NCRI stand in the Exhibition Hall throughout the Conference, so be sure to come along to stand 48 to say hello and find out more about our other areas of work.

As well as Conference highlights, we have a round-up of news from our collaborative initiatives and the UK cancer research community; read on for more.

Best wishes  
The NCRI team



Follow the latest conversations from the NCRI Cancer Conference and find out what's going on at the NCRI stand in the Exhibition Hall throughout the Conference.

[@NCRI](#) [#NCRI2015](#)

## This issue's features

### The NCRI Cancer Conference, 1-4 November, Liverpool

As well as the usual top scientific research and networking opportunities, we will also be running a series of professional development workshops this year. These promise to be informative, hands-on workshops.

[Find out more...](#)

## Updates across NCRI activities

### Now live: NCRI interactive portfolio maps

The NCRI Clinical Studies Groups (CSG) portfolio maps are a visual representation of the clinical

cancer research landscape, highlighting areas of clinical cancer research that are currently well represented in the national portfolio, and where there are any gaps. They are now available to view through a new interactive platform.

[Find out more...](#)

## **Imaging: report on the work of the NCRI PET Core Lab**

The NCRI PET Core Lab provides quality control expertise to support researchers using PET in multicentre trials. The development of this activity was supported by a subset of NCRI Partners, and has now moved to a new home within the ECMC network where it continues its work. The report explains how the PET Core Lab works and summarises the Core Lab team's achievements over the past three years.

[Find out more...](#)

## **Biobanking: registration now open for NCRI CCB's winter meeting**

NCRI's Confederation of Cancer Biobanks (CCB) presents a meeting on 'Informed consent in a digital age' on Friday 11 December 2015 at the International Centre for Life, Newcastle. The meeting will explore the meaning and importance of informed consent for the use of tissue samples in research from the perspective of the donor, regulator and scientist and explore new ways in which consent may be obtained using online techniques.

[Find out more...](#)

## **Partner news**

### **Cancer Research UK's £20m Grand Challenge funding call is now open**

Grand Challenge is a series of up to £20m awards seeking to accelerate progress through multinational, interdisciplinary collaborations to tackle some of the toughest challenges in cancer. Cancer Research UK encourages novel applications from any discipline and any institution.

[Find out more...](#)

### **The International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership - seeking expert opinion**

The International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership (ICBP) is a global partnership of clinicians, academics, data experts and policymakers seeking to understand how cancer survival varies between high-income countries and what could be driving these differences. The ICBP has developed a short online survey and is seeking expert opinions from clinicians, academics, data experts, patient representatives and policymakers in all ICBP jurisdictions to help to refine and prioritise new research questions.

[Find out more...](#)

### **Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health seeks successor**

Professor Dame Sally Davies has confirmed that, as she looks forward to the NIHR@10 celebrations next year, she has decided that the time is right for her to step back from the day to day leadership role for Research and Development in the Department of Health.

[Find out more...](#)

## **Reports, publications and resources**

## Report on the National Prevention Research Initiative

A report on the National Prevention Research Initiative (NPRI; an initiative set up in 2004 by a subset of NCRI Partners and other research funders working beyond cancer) was recently published by the Medical Research Council. It shines a light on how we can take a fresh approach to preventing ill health.

[Find out more...](#)

## Research delivery in the NHS - annual statistics published

The NIHR Clinical Research Network recently published its annual statistics which show that more than 618,000 patients took part in clinical research studies last year. During the year the Network hit a recruitment milestone of more than three million patients engaged in clinical research studies in five years.

[Find out more...](#)

## A guide to collaboration from the ABPI

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) and National Voices have jointly produced a guide to support collaboration between the voluntary sector and pharmaceutical companies.

[Find out more...](#)

## Research Councils report on technology development consultation

Earlier this year the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, along with the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the Medical Research Council, held a consultation with the research community to develop Technology Touching Life - a potential initiative spanning the sciences. They have now published a report summarising key findings from the consultation.

[Find out more...](#)

## Events and opportunities

[Prostate Cancer UK PhD studentships in bioinformatics, apply by 26 Oct](#)

[Event from the Academy of Medical Sciences with support from Health and Care Research Wales: building a research career in a changing environment, Cardiff, 27 Oct](#)

[International Cancer Benchmarking Partnership - calls for expressions of interest by 6 Nov](#)

[Event from Northern Ireland's HSC Public Health Agency \(R&D Division\): Building Research Partnerships Workshop, Belfast, 11 Nov](#)

[3rd International Clinical Trials Methodology Conference, Glasgow, 16/17 Nov](#)

[Target Ovarian Cancer research awards now open for application](#)

[...click here to see more opportunities like these on the NCRI website](#)