

Dear colleague,

In this edition we provide highlights of our Winter Partners Meeting held in January, report on the third of our series of Future of Surgery Workshops, and update you on Partner activities and other relevant events.

Don't forget you can follow us on [Twitter](#) and check the [NCRI website](#) for previous newsletters and for updates across all our activities.

We also welcome your feedback and if there's anything you'd like featured in our future newsletters, please get in touch via info@ncri.org.uk

Best wishes

The NCRI team
info@ncri.org.uk

Updates across NCRI activities

Winter Partners' Meeting Highlights

The 2017 NCRI Winter Partners Meeting brought together NCRI Trustees, senior representatives from NCRI Partner organisations, industry stakeholders, patient representatives (also known as 'consumers' within NCRI), and other key stakeholders in the field of cancer research.

It is one of two annual meetings that provide Partners with the opportunity to catch-up on NCRI's work and steer the future direction of cancer research funding activities through shared insights and ideas.

[Click here to read the full report](#)

NCRI Consumer Forum and the LSHTM Cancer Survival Group's Joint Spring Meeting



The NCRI Consumer Forum came together with the Cancer Survival Group to host its Spring meeting at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) on Monday 13th February. The meeting brought together 80 patients, carers, researchers and clinicians involved in cancer research, to present and discuss topics around the headline "Driving with Data – a Journey into Cancer Epidemiology".

Keynote talks were presented by Professor Michel Coleman and Dr Bernard Rachet, and presentations were given by NCRI consumers Margaret Grayson and John Reeve, in addition to TV presenter and long-standing bowel cancer campaigner, Lynne Faulds-Wood, with a lively Question Time session.

The joint meeting showcased patient involvement in cancer research with a Dragons' Den session, where researchers came to present current work to consumer panels for input and advice. Presenters included international members of the LSHTM's Advisory Group, representing the Universities of Lyon, Ljubljana and the Karolinska Institute (Stockholm), as well as researchers from UCL, Imperial and Oxford, and senior administrators from UK Government health departments.

One presenting researcher, Professor Rachet, Professor of Cancer Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, highlighted the value of the NCRI's involvement of patients in research design, commenting "The Dragons' Den research tables provided confirmation that we are going in the right direction in many cases. Our researchers and clinicians were amazed by the exchange and what we can learn from the patients. What we take from today is that we should try to meet small groups of patients more regularly to discuss our results".

For further information, see <http://www.ncri.org.uk/resources/ncri-consumer-forum/>

60 Second Interview with Angharad Kerr



This month we welcomed two new Partner representatives – Rob Buckle from MRC and Angharad Kerr at Health and Care Research Wales. We asked Angharad a few questions about what her roles entail and the importance of the NCRI in supporting collaborative working.

[Read more here](#)

Call for Proposals in Screening, Prevention and Early Diagnosis (SPED)

The SPED Advisory Group will be holding a workshop on **Wednesday 17 May 2017**. The aim of this workshop is to help investigators develop their ideas for studies into an application which can subsequently be submitted to a funding committee. We are therefore inviting brief outline proposals from investigators in the areas of screening, prevention or early diagnosis to discuss at the workshop.

Investigators will be invited to give a presentation, followed by a discussion on how their proposals may be developed.

Please note the deadline for the submission of outline proposals is **Friday 24 March 2017 at 4pm**.

[Click here for for more information](#)

Future of Surgery Workshop - register now



Workshop 5: "Surgery for metastatic disease", 21 March 2017

We welcome surgical consultants, trainees, patients, methodologists, trial unit staff and funders to the fifth and final Future of Surgery workshop, which will recommend surgical research priorities on topics including resection of metastatic disease and management of the primary tumour in the presence of metastatic disease. The registration deadline for this event has now been extended to **Sunday 5 March 2017**.

For further information and to register visit: <http://www.ncri.org.uk/events/ncri-future-of-surgery-workshop-surgery-for-metastatic-disease/>

First CM-Path / RCPATH Workshop paves way for further developments

On 9 December 2016, CM-Path and the Royal College of Pathologists hosted a joint workshop aimed at pathologists who want to gain knowledge of research and clinical trials. The workshop had excellent feedback and raised awareness of the role of pathologists in NCRI Clinical Study Groups (CSGs), leading to some delegates applying for CSG positions.



Topics included: Using tissue in Clinical Trials; Pathology-based testing of tissues in Clinical Trials; Issues in interpretation of pathology tests; Training – What should a Clinical Trial Pathologists know?; and, Funding opportunities for Clinical Trial Pathologists. Breakout discussions at the end of the day facilitated an exchange of information between pathologists actively working in clinical trials and those that are keen to begin their career in research.

CM-Path plans to run an annual workshop, as well as holding more focussed sessions around some of the key issues that were discussed on the day, such as the interpretation of pathology tests.

[Presentations are now available for download](#)

Partner and research news

The Institute for Cancer Vaccines and Immunotherapy will be hosting their 3rd International Symposium on Immunotherapy

The Institute for Cancer Vaccines and Immunotherapy announced the 3rd International Symposium on Immunotherapy will be held at the **Royal Society in London, on 12th & 13th May 2017**. The first two symposia attracted world leading experts to talk about this important and growing field of cancer treatment. This year's symposium will be chaired by Professor Angus Dalgleish, and will include talks from Professor Paul Sondel, Professor Richard Vile, Prof Ignacio Melero and Professor Cornelis Melief, amongst many others.

For more information visit: www.icvis.org.uk

Capital investment in human tissue banking and linked data, in partnership with charities – call for proposals

The MRC will support the establishment of a number of focussed world-class human tissue banks and associated linked-data repositories, which will work in close partnership with research charities to enable new avenues of research into disease mechanisms, diagnosis and treatments.

The deadline for outline proposals is **27th March 2017** and any enquiries should be directed to tissuebanking@headoffice.mrc.ac.uk

[Read more here](#)

Target Ovarian Cancer launches national call for project grant applications

Target Ovarian Cancer has launched a new national call for project grant applications, following a review of their research strategy in 2016. They are inviting bids for Translational Research Awards in ovarian cancer research, which have a particular focus on developing new targeted treatments and optimising existing treatments. Their aim being to accelerate research that delivers patient benefit, projects will optimise and develop more effective and less toxic treatments for ovarian cancer, with a special focus on treatments that will improve overall survival. These awards are not designed for basic or early discovery studies. Outline proposals are invited for submission by **12 noon on Monday 27 March 2017**.

For further information visit: <http://www.targetovariancancer.org.uk/our-research/applying-our-research-grants>

Take part in an innovation workshop

Cancer Research UK has developed innovation workshops to provide a novel approach to funding population research, allowing participants to come together to explore challenges in cancer prevention and early diagnosis. Over three days participants will build new collaborations, think innovatively and develop a pitch for new research ideas that have the potential to be funded on the spot. Successful teams will be awarded seed-funding to conduct pilot and feasibility work over 12 months.

There are two workshops:

Physical activity for cancer prevention, led by Professor Charlie Foster

Application deadline: 12 May 2017

Workshop: 25-28 June 2017, Oxford

[Find out more and apply](#)

Immune homeostasis, led by Professor Adrian Hayday

Application deadline: 3 May 2017

Workshop: 18-20 July 2017, Oxford

[Find our more and apply](#)

International symposium on oesophageal cancer

The CRUK International Symposium on Oesophageal Cancer on 27-28 April 2017 unites basic biologists, translational scientists and clinicians working on both adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma. Hear from experts about the discoveries and developments that are shaping the field.

Register now: <http://l.cmail.news.cancerresearchuk.org/rtsgo2.aspx?h=431186&tp=i-H43-7O-E32-8vx2A-2B-1IU1-1c-8vwj0-1KcdKo&x=54004|132022314>

CRUK reveals four Grand Challenge funded teams

Cancer Research UK recently announced the outcomes of their Grand Challenges international funding scheme. CRUK will be funding four of the shortlisted teams, with an investment of over £70 million across the teams. Each team has combined bold approaches with unique international and multidisciplinary collaborations.

Read more on the Grand Challenge website by visiting: <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/funding-for-researchers/how-we-deliver-research/grand-challenge-award/teams?wssl=1OR>

Publications, Reports and Resources

New Marie Curie Research Impact Report 2015/16

Marie Curie has published its latest research impact report for 2015/16. As the UK's leading charitable funder of palliative and end of life care research, the report highlights the outputs of their investment.

Events and opportunities

Register Now for the Upcoming CM-Path Workshop: Current and Future Challenges for Innovative Biomarker Development

CM-Path is holding a workshop on **12 April 2017** at the **Royal Society of Medicine, London**. The event is the first in a series, which aims to discuss the current and future challenges of innovative biomarker developments, and agree on the barriers for delivery of clinical diagnostics assays.



The first workshop on **April 12th** tackles the following objectives:

- Developing an understanding of various research strategies, study design and their practicality for setting up biomarker discovery and development studies
- With a special focus on emerging technologies for biomarker research using formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) materials
- With an emphasis on biomarker development and validation for immuno-oncology

[Download the agenda and register now](#)

There is a Light: BRIGHTLIGHT - Contact Young Company (CYC) in collaboration with BRIGHTLIGHT

A performance, funded by a Wellcome Trust award and based on results emerging from the BRIGHTLIGHT study, which originated from the NCRI's Teenage and Young Adult CSG (TYA CSG), will launch in **Manchester in March** and is to be performed in **London on 9th April**. Co-directed by Brian Lobel who directed the Pacifists Guide to the War on Cancer, the play, There is a Light features 20 young people from the Contact Youth Theatre and four young people who have had cancer.

Manchester **Wed 8 – Fri 10 Mar 2017, 7.30pm.**

[Click here to book tickets](#)

London **Sun 9 Apr 2017, 4.00pm.**

[Click here to book tickets](#)

Big Data in Medicine - Tools, Transformation and Translation

Human medicine and biology are continuously striving to develop tools and technologies to capture, manage, and process medical, medically-related and health-related Big Data; methods for transforming these data into useable and useful units of information; and processes for translating Big Data science into useable deliverables to change healthcare.

Abstract submission deadline: **1st May 2017**

4th July 2017, 08:30 - 17:15 (followed by networking and a poster session)

Homerton College, Hills Rd, Cambridge CB2 8PH

For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/BigDataMedicine2017>

2nd EACR-OECI Conference: Making it Personal: Cancer Precision Medicine

De Rode Hoed, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Mon 13 – Thu 16 March 2017

[Read more](#)

Palliative Radiotherapy

Courthouse Hotel, Shoreditch, London

Fri 24 March 2017, 08:30–16:50

[Read more](#)

