Dear Colleague,

At the start of this month we hosted another extremely successful NCRI Cancer Conference - many thanks if you attended and contributed to its success. We have summarised some of the key highlights in our blog post.

The week of the Conference was also National Pathology Week, and to coincide our Cellular Molecular Pathology initiative (CM-Path) published two papers highlighting opportunities for a new training programme for pathologists to bring pathology into the genomic era.

Another of our initiatives, the Living With and Beyond Cancer initiative, reached a milestone this month with the closing of its Priority Setting Partnership survey. The survey received responses from nearly 1,500 people: those affected by cancer and health and social care professionals – a big thanks to everyone who completed and shared the survey. Sign up to our mailing list to be kept up to date with the future of the project and to be involved in the next stages.

We also share the latest updates from Partners, and upcoming events and opportunities.

The NCRI Team

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NCRI updates

The 2017 NCRI Cancer Conference: the highlights

The 2017 NCRI Cancer Conference was a huge success. Research presented spanned the whole breadth of cancer research, from basic science, through to translational research, clinical trials and research relevant to living with and beyond cancer. During the Conference we summarised the highlights in a daily email – in this blog post, we have selected the best bits to share.

>>Find out more about the NCRI Cancer Conference 2017

Welcoming a new Partner - Brain Tumour Research

It is through collaboration and coordination that NCRI's activities help maximise the value and benefits of cancer research for patients and the public. We are delighted to welcome Sue Farrington Smith MBE, CEO of Brain Tumour Research, and her team, to our Partnership.

It is the breadth of expertise and perspectives that our Partners contribute to our activities that is one of our unique strengths, and we look forward to working with Brain Tumour Research and all our Partners, to maximise the impact that research can have on improving health and quality of life.
Our CM-Path initiative highlights need for a training evolution in pathology

In two papers published in the British Journal of Cancer and the Journal of Clinical Pathology, the NCRI's CM-Path initiative identified the need for changes in training to enable pathologists to integrate the tissue and molecular approaches that underpin medicine’s genomic revolution, and to fulfil their role in molecular multidisciplinary teams.

>> Find out more about the changes CM-Path is calling for in our press release

Living With and Beyond Cancer Priority Setting Partnership

Our Living With and Beyond Cancer survey has now closed. 1,500 of you responded. Thank you for taking time to tell us what matters to you. Make sure you sign up to hear about the second survey which will help us to prioritise the questions and set the national research priorities.

>>Sign up to be involved in the next stages of the initiative here

Partner news

Cancer Research UK - four early detection schemes now open for applications

Cancer Research UK’s focus on early detection research seeks to enable the detection of cancer, or pre-cancerous states, at the earliest possible time point at which an intervention might be made and they’re calling for innovative applications seeking to make progress in this challenging area of research. Deadlines in January and February 2018.

>>Click here for more details

MRC - The UK Prevention Research Partnership (UK PRP) call for Consortium & Network Awards is live

An alliance of research funders have agreed to commit £50m to support research into the primary prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The vision is to generate new insights into actionable, sustainable and cost-effective ways of preventing NCDs that will improve population health and reduce health inequalities in the UK. The research should address the ‘upstream’ determinants of NCDs and be co-produced with users (e.g. policy makers, practitioners, health providers, the third sector, the public etc.). The ‘upstream’ determinants include, but are not limited to, the built and natural environment; employment, education, welfare, transport, health and social care, and communication systems; and the policies of local and central government and of commercial enterprises.

Deadline for outline applications is 18 January 2018.

>>Click here to read more about the call
NIHR – strategic review of training

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has published a new report *10 Years On: Adapting and Evolving to New Challenges in Developing Tomorrow's Health Research Leaders* which sets out a vision and recommendations for the next 10-15 years.

Over the next year all NIHR's academic training and higher career personal awards will be integrated into a new structure, The NIHR Academy, with an associated academic strategy. The programmes and schemes overseen by the NIHR Academy will also be simplified to become fully flexible to meet the needs of the workforce and a portfolio management approach will be developed to address current and future skills and discipline gaps.

>>Read the report here

NIHR – launch of Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship

Health Education England (HEE) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) are pleased to announce a new pre-doctoral level training scheme to support aspiring non-medical clinical academics.

The Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship (PCAF) scheme will support award holders to split their time equally between clinical service and academic training over a two year period.

The PCAF scheme is anticipated to open for applications in February 2018 and will replace the current ICA Masters in Clinical Research Studentship scheme.

>>Click here to find out more about the scheme

Upcoming events and opportunities

MRC Cancer Research and Global Health Workshop

A one-day workshop has been organised to inform the community about all relevant funding opportunities across the MRC's remit, and it will be an ideal setting for multidisciplinary discussions. The workshop will take place on 22 January 2018.

It will be proceeded later in 2018 by a pump-priming call to lay the grounds for future large scale, multidisciplinary bids addressing important questions relevant to cancer in Low and Middle Income Countries.

>>Click here to find out more

Cancer Research UK Brain Tumour Conference 2018

Registration is now open for Cancer Research UK's inaugural Brain Tumour Conference, coming up in London, 1-3 May 2018.

Register below to secure your place at this flagship event, where we'll be uniting the brightest minds across the breadth of brain tumour research to showcase new discoveries and discuss some of the greatest issues in the field.

>>Click here to find out more and register