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NCRI Newsletter

Dear Colleague,

A very happy new year to you. We've started 2018 with lots of energy and are continuing to make progress towards our strategic aims.

This month, we hosted our Winter Meeting bringing together our Partners and key stakeholders to catch-up on the progress of our collaborative activities – [you can read a summary of the highlights here](#).

We're also pleased to publish our Annual Report for 2016-17, demonstrating our key achievements and successes. [Download your copy here](#).

Finally, at the beginning of this year we're also seeing some changes in the [NCRI Team](#); we'll be saying some goodbyes and also wishing some warm welcomes and congratulations. Find out more in our round-up below.

We also have the latest news from Partners, and events and opportunities.

The NCRI Team
info@ncri.org.uk

NCRI update



Winter Meeting summary

In the middle of the month we hosted our Partners and key stakeholders at our Winter Meeting to hear about the progress of our activities and ambitions for future work.

[>>Read a summary of the key highlights from the meeting here.](#)

NCRI Annual Report 2016-17

As well as reporting the essential information about the organisation, we also provide details on the impact that our work has had and highlights some of our key achievements over the year.

[>>Download our Annual Report here.](#)



Our CM-Path initiative leading the way on digital pathology

Digital pathology is becoming increasingly important in cancer diagnosis and research. Read our blog post

[>>Read more about CM-Path's findings and plan in our new blog post.](#)

Changes to the NCRI Team



Welcome back to Nicola Keat, Head of Clinical Research Groups who returns from maternity leave this month – and congratulations and good luck to Ian Lewis, Nicola's maternity cover, in his not-so-distant move across the NCRI office to his new role as NCRI's Head of Strategy and Initiatives. Goodbye to Stuart Griffiths, who leaves us to take up the role of Director of Research and Services at Yorkshire Cancer Research – we wish him all the best on his exciting move to Yorkshire.

We're pleased to announce that Jessica Lee will be taking on a new role as NCRI's Strategy and Engagement Manager, she will be working with our Partners to enhance engagement and drive forward our ambitious strategy. And last but not least, we say a warm welcome to Christiana Ogunbote who will be joining us as our new CSG coordinator.

[>>Read more about our team here.](#)

Partner news



Cancer Research UK toolkit - how can you involve patients in your research?

Cancer Research UK's Patient Involvement Toolkit for Researchers aims to provide researchers with the tools and resources they need to involve patients and carers meaningfully in their research. It includes the important things to consider when planning how to involve people affected by cancer in research.

[>>Access the toolkit for free here.](#)



NIHR - gastrointestinal side effects in cancer immune checkpoint therapy - funding programme open for stage one applications

Immune checkpoint inhibitor drugs are used to treat cancers such as advanced melanoma, non-small-cell lung cancer and advanced renal cell carcinoma. These drugs can cause a range of immune-related side effects, including diarrhoea and colitis, which can be potentially fatal. The NIHR are funding research into how best to manage these side-effects. Stage one applications are being accepted until 28 March 2018.

[>>Find out more on the NIHR website.](#)

Tenovus Cancer Care KESS funding opportunity

The Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships (KESS) is a European Convergence programme offering collaborative research projects (Research Masters and PhD) linked with a local company partner, supported by European Social Funding across Wales. Tenovus Cancer Care's next KESS call is now open and invites expressions of interest from academic partners across Wales with a deadline of Monday 26 February 2018.

[>>For further information, click here.](#)



Upcoming events and opportunities

NCRI CM-Path workshop – Clinical trial training for the petrified: training a new generation of clinical trial pathologists

9 February 2018.

Together with the NCRI's CM-Path initiative, The Royal College of Pathologists is keen to support both trainees and consultants alike to get more involved in this work. On 9 February, they'll be hosting 'Clinical trials training for the petrified: Training a new generation of clinical trials pathologists' – the second in an annual workshop series. The day's agenda features a series of expert-led sessions on navigating the academic career pathway, getting involved with the NCRI clinical studies groups (CSGs), designing trials, using digital pathology in clinical research and much more.

[>>For more information, click here.](#)

Women in Science fellowship awards programme

The 2018 L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science UK & Ireland Fellowship Awards Programme is open for applications. Five outstanding female early-career scientists will be awarded a bursary of £15,000.

The fellowship awards are open to female early-career researchers working in the field of life and physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and computer sciences.

Applications are open until **16 February 2018**.

[>>Click here to find out more.](#)

NCRI CTRad educational workshop: MRC radiotherapy funding

21 February 2018.

This workshop aims to help radiotherapy researchers understand the various funding streams the MRC has on offer, what the MRC is looking for in their Radiobiology Highlight notice, and to help and improve the chances of radiotherapy researchers successfully applying for funding from the MRC.

The afternoon session will enable delegates to learn together through discussing potential radiotherapy-related projects.

We are very grateful to the MRC Programme Managers for their advice, input to the programme and participation.

[>>Click here to register and find out more.](#)

Pancreatic Cancer UK Annual Summit 2018: inspiring change in care

community, bringing together health professionals, researchers, policy makers, charities and people affected by the disease.

Experts at the forefront of treatment and care, innovative practice, policy and research will share their insights, successes and ambitions to help recognise and embrace opportunities to ensure better pancreatic cancer care for all.

[>>Click here for more information](#)

NCRI and NIHR Clinical Research Network research workshop: in acute oncology and cancer of unknown primary

NCRI and NIHR Clinical Research Network are holding a joint Research in Acute Oncology and Cancer of Unknown Primary Workshop on **Wednesday 7 March 2018** at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London. The free workshop will bring together experts and stakeholders in acute oncology and cancer of unknown primary research to help set the NCRI and NIHR CRN agenda in these areas for the next 3-5 years.

[>>For more information and to register, click here.](#)

NCRI CM-Path workshop – the liquid biopsy: ctDNA, circulating tumour cells and bloodborne biomarkers

8 March 2018.

NCRI's CM-Path biomarker workshop series aims to discuss the current and future challenges of innovative biomarker developments, and agree on the barriers for delivery of clinical diagnostics assays. This is the second symposium in this series, and is organised by the CM-Path Discovery Workstream for the following objectives:

- Circulating tumour cell and ctDNA - where are we now?
- Recent advances in technology - where are we going?
- Applications in research & clinical trials
- Benefits and barriers to widespread adoption in clinical practice.

[>>Click here for more information.](#)

Target Ovarian Cancer translational research awards open for applications

Deadline 13 March 2018

Target Ovarian Cancer are inviting applications for translational research awards investigating new targeted treatments and optimising existing treatments. The aim of the awards is 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.

[>>Click here for more information.](#)

IRCI expression of interest call for new rare cancer working groups 2018

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Past Issues

The International Cancer Initiative (IRCI) is a strategic partnership between international cancer organisations aiming to facilitate the development and delivery of hypothesis-driven interventional clinical

trials for patients with rare cancers.

IRCI is running an expression of interest call for new working groups who wish to develop an international trial in a rare cancer. The deadline for submission of an expression of interest is **5 April 2018**.

[>>For information click here.](#)



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