



Press release

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NCRI and Cancer52 publish report on research spend

A new report from the National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) and Cancer52, published on 4th November 2013, shows for the first time the level and type of research investment in rare and less common cancers by members of Cancer52.

The report *Research into less common cancers*, shows that research spend on less common cancers by members of Cancer52 totals c£6.3 million and accounts for 5.1 % of the total investment by NCRI Partners and Cancer52 members combined in these cancers. The spend was from a total of 17 member charities who had active research in April 2012.

The highest percentage of spend from within Cancer52 is on treatment research (47.01%), and the best funded cancer group is blood cancers (41.8%).

Chair of Cancer52 Allyson Kaye says, "We very much welcome the investment made by the NCRI in analysing the investment in research by our members. Results demonstrate an investment of £6.3 million in 2012 and although spend by Cancer52 members is small compared to the bigger charities and government funders of cancer research, strategically placed investment can inform not only the rarer cancer but the bigger picture, too."

"We look forward to receiving ongoing support from the NCRI in advising members on how best to make their research investments count on the wider platform."

Eric Low, OBE, CEO of Myeloma UK and a member of the NCRI board says, "Rare cancer charities make a significant financial contribution to cancer research but this often goes under the radar. This report, for the first time, quantifies the amount of research funded in hard cash. The next step will be to determine what the return on this investment has been in terms of patient benefit and how does this stack up pound for pound with investment in more common cancers. This work will take a long way to determining what an optimal research funding model might look like in rare cancers."

Dr Karen Groot, Head of Programmes & Evaluation at the NCRI says "Our analysis of the spend on research by Cancer52 members highlights the important contribution these organisations make to research in less common cancers. The analysis also identified a number of examples of co-funding of research awards between Cancer52 members and NCRI Partners meaning Cancer52 member funds go further, increasing their potential to make a real difference to patients."

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Notes to editors

1. Full report and key findings summary available at www.cancer52.org.uk/reports/
2. Cancer52 is an alliance of 70 organisations working together to address the inequalities that exist in policy, services and research for the rare and less common cancers, in order to improve the outcomes for patients with these challenging diseases. Cancer52 members focus on a wide variety of rare and less common cancers with their activities ranging from patient support and advocacy to influencing policy and conducting research. More information can be found at <http://www.cancer52.org.uk/>
3. The charities who submitted their data for analysis were as follows and Cancer52 joins the NCRI in thanking them for their participation.

AMMF – The Cholangiocarcinoma Charity, Bone Cancer Research Trust (BCRT), Brainstrust, British Thyroid Foundation, Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP) Foundation – Jo’s friends, Childhood Eye Cancer Trust, The Children’s Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG), Children with Cancer UK, Chris Lucas Trust, CORE, Debbie Fund, Guy Francis Bone Cancer Research Fund, Myeloma UK, Myrovlytis Trust, NET Patient Foundation, Neuroblastoma Society, Orchid Cancer Appeal, Ovarian Cancer Action, Pancreatic Cancer UK, Sarcoma UK, Target Ovarian Cancer, Teenage Cancer Trust, The Brain Tumour Charity, The Eve Appeal, Wellbeing of Women

For more information visit www.cancer52.org.uk

4. About the NCRI

The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) was established in 2001. It is a UK-wide partnership between the government, charity and industry which promotes cooperation in cancer research. 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 Cancer UK; 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); Prostate Cancer UK; Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation; Scottish Government Health Directorates (Chief Scientist Office); Tenovus; Welsh Government (National Institute for Social Care and Health Research); The Wellcome Trust; and Yorkshire Cancer Research.

For more information visit www.ncri.org.uk