

Children's brain cancer

Brain cancer is a dangerous and debilitating condition that affects around 400 children across the UK every year. A groundbreaking new research centre in Birmingham is helping hospitals all over the country improve how they diagnose and treat this disease.



Cancer is still the most likely cause of death from disease in children, and among that group, brain cancer is the most common. Even if a child survives the disease, they are likely to be left with a potentially significant disability which can have a major impact on the rest of their life, and that of their family.

New strategies are urgently needed to improve the way in which we diagnose and treat these diseases, particularly those which we consistently fail to cure, including many brain tumours.

Why Birmingham?

The University of Birmingham's efforts to gain a deeper understanding of cancer is reducing the time it takes to bring our advances in medical research from petri-dish to patient. The University's world-class centre for Cancer Sciences combines the talents of our leading academics with the excellent surgeons at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Birmingham Children's Hospital and is improving the lives of people who have been touched by cancer worldwide.

A groundbreaking new research centre in Birmingham is helping others all over the country to improve how they diagnose and treat this disease. Birmingham's new Imaging Research Centre is the only one of its kind in the UK, and research carried out here will have an impact on children with brain cancer across the world.

Located in the world-class Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility at Birmingham's Children's Hospital, the Centre provides an unparalleled opportunity to develop new techniques and translate them rapidly into clinical practice.



Dr Andrew Peet (left), Reader in Paediatric Oncology, is revolutionising treatment for children with brain cancer.

'Children's brains are very fragile when they are developing. Our research provides non-invasive scans to identify the type of tumour and how aggressive it is to enable us to develop the best treatment plan for each child. Ultimately, we are improving treatment for children and if we can cure them, they will have a long life ahead of them', says Dr Peet.

The Centre focuses on using state-of-the-art scanning equipment to better identify the sort of tumour a child has before invasive surgery takes place which means quicker diagnosis, helps identifying aggressive tumours and leads to faster treatment plans.

Find out more about the research below:



(<http://www.adobe.com/go/getflashplayer>)

Inspired?

Your gifts will help the centre fund essential equipment and employ dynamic, bright and innovative researchers to begin to make a step change in diagnosis and treatment that will save lives across the country.

- If 50 people gave just £5 we could pay for a child with brain cancer to have a functional imaging scan.
- A £1,200 gift could fund an workstation for viewing images, an essential piece of laboratory equipment.

Donate [online \(https://bhamalumni.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=210&frcrid=1\)](https://bhamalumni.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=210&frcrid=1) or for more information contact [Laura Fairbanks \(mailto:giving@contacts.bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:giving@contacts.bham.ac.uk) [+44(0)121 414 8894].