

Groundbreaking clinical trial provides hope for thousands of men

Posted on Monday 4th February 2013

Prostate cancer affects one in nine men in the UK, making it the most common cancer among the country's men. This World Cancer Day (Monday 4 February), you can help us to beat the disease with support for a pioneering clinical trial.



Richard Viney (MBChB Medicine, 1995), Senior Lecturer in Urology, School of Cancer Sciences and Consultant at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital

The University of Birmingham is at the forefront of developing new treatments to improve the quality of life of thousands of men diagnosed annually with prostate cancer. The trial will use High-Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) treatment which heats and cools the prostate to destroy the tumour, coupled with a powerful immune system stimulant to protect patients from the disease in a minimally invasive procedure.

'Unfortunately prostate cancer is a very common disease with up to 40,000 new cases a year,' says Dr Richard Viney (MBChB Medicine, 1995), Senior Lecturer in Urology, School of Cancer Sciences and Consultant at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital who is leading the trial. 'We hope this new trial will develop a novel way of managing the cancer to improve the lives of thousands of men across the country.'

The treatment is expected to improve life expectancy of advanced sufferers who have exhausted all other options and if successful, will act as an alternative treatment to chemotherapy and radiation for newly diagnosed patients. Richard adds: 'Thanks to advances such as this, patients will live with prostate cancer instead of die because of it.'

It costs just £4,000 to fund a patient through this clinical trial. If 80 people gave just £50, we could fund one patient, offering them the hope of a new treatment.

Watch [this video \(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ls4F8urqQdk&feature=youtu.be\)](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ls4F8urqQdk&feature=youtu.be) to find out more.

As well as launching a groundbreaking clinical trial to improve life expectancy for prostate cancer patients, the University's world-class Centre for Cancer Sciences, supported by [Circles of Influence \(/alumni/giving/index.aspx\)](#), our £160 million fundraising campaign, is revolutionising treatment for children with brain cancer and working on a new way to diagnose breast cancer.

Dr Jo Morris, Senior Lecturer, School of Cancer Sciences, will be taking part in a live from the lab chat on Friday 8 February where she will be answering questions about her research into gene mutations. Join the discussion on Twitter [@JoRMorris \(http://www.twitter.com/JoRMorris\)](http://www.twitter.com/JoRMorris) at 12.30-1.30pm. Questions can be sent in advance to [alumnicommunications@contacts.bham.ac.uk \(mailto:alumnicommunications@contacts.bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:alumnicommunications@contacts.bham.ac.uk), or join the conversation using the hash tag #AskTheExpert.

This World Cancer Day, you could change lives. Each gift, from £2 to millions, enables us to progress our research more rapidly, enabling us to take discoveries from the lab to the patient as quickly as possible. Join us in the fight against cancer by supporting our research.

[Give online:](#)

Set up a direct debit: email [annualfund@contacts.bham.ac.uk \(mailto:annualfund@contacts.bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:annualfund@contacts.bham.ac.uk) to request a donation form.

Text to give: text CIRC05 followed by the amount you wish to donate to 70070 (e.g. CIRC05 £5 will donate £5 to this research)

Fundraise for our research: Host a bake sale, run a marathon or abseil for cancer research at Birmingham. [Find out more \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/getinvolved/FundraisingforBirmingham.aspx\)](#).

Notes to Editors

[Circles of influence](#)

affect us all, to open the University to talented students regardless of their financial circumstances, and to develop the University's beautiful campus to provide world-class facilities for our students, staff, and the people of Birmingham. Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, the campaign is now in its second phase, working towards a combined total of £160m.

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