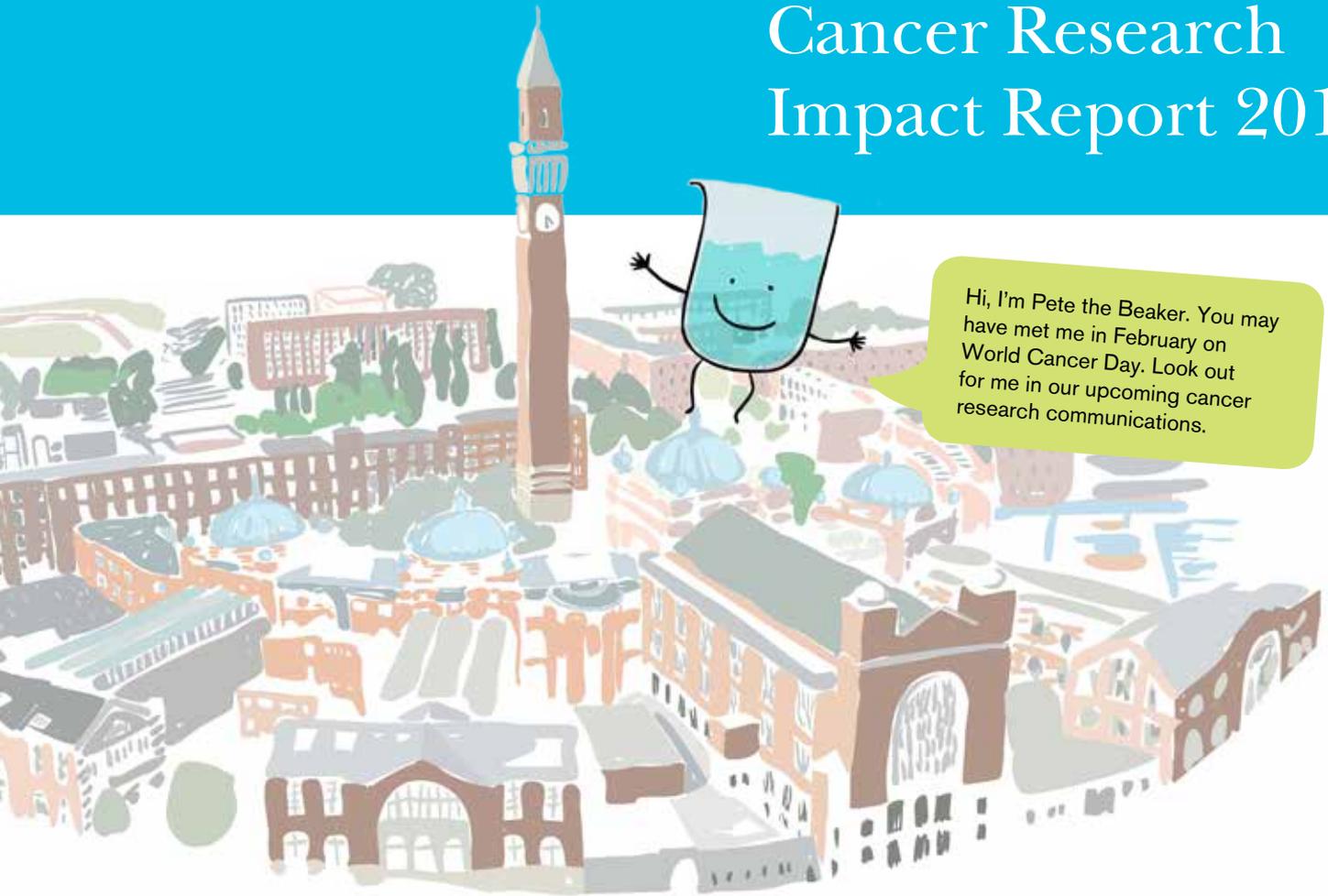


Cancer Research Impact Report 2014



Thank you for your support!



'It is the most incredibly exciting time to be in cancer research right now. There has never been a time like this. We are the first generation that has the ability and the capacity to control this disease; that is my optimistic belief.

'Cancer research at Birmingham has been strong for a few decades now and we have a broad range of interests. Birmingham is particularly strong in the area known as translational research, where we take research right from the laboratory through to patients. Being close to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is a great asset for us. We also have the largest clinical trials unit in Europe and pride ourselves on improving how new interventions and drugs are brought into the clinical arena. It's been particularly exciting for me to see some of our basic research ideas moving through into patient trials – that's one of the most rewarding aspects of our research.

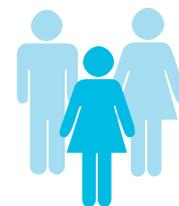
'Your support towards cancer research over the years has been phenomenal. It accelerates our work, attracts the best researchers and optimises what we do. We are making great progress, but none of it would have been achievable without your generosity. Thank you. Every trial we run brings us one step closer to delivering better treatments for cancer sufferers'

Professor Paul Moss, Head of the School of Cancer Sciences

Why cancer research is so important



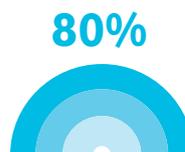
In 2008, **7.6 million** people died of cancer - **13%** of all deaths worldwide



1 in 3 of us will develop cancer in our lifetimes



Tobacco is the single largest preventable cause of cancer in the world - causing **22%** of cancer deaths



The **5 year** survival rate for children with cancer is now at **80%**



There are more than **100** types of cancer. Any part of the body can be affected.



Anyone can develop cancer, but the risk increases with age

Breast Cancer Research



'Philanthropic funding has enabled us to invest in vital highly specialised equipment, enabling us to undertake an ambitious project in breast cancer research. You have

helped to support a researcher dedicated to carrying out our vital work.

'It is our hope that by initialising cell changes and studying the changes that occur as "normal" cells become tumour like, we will be able to identify key "markers" of the way

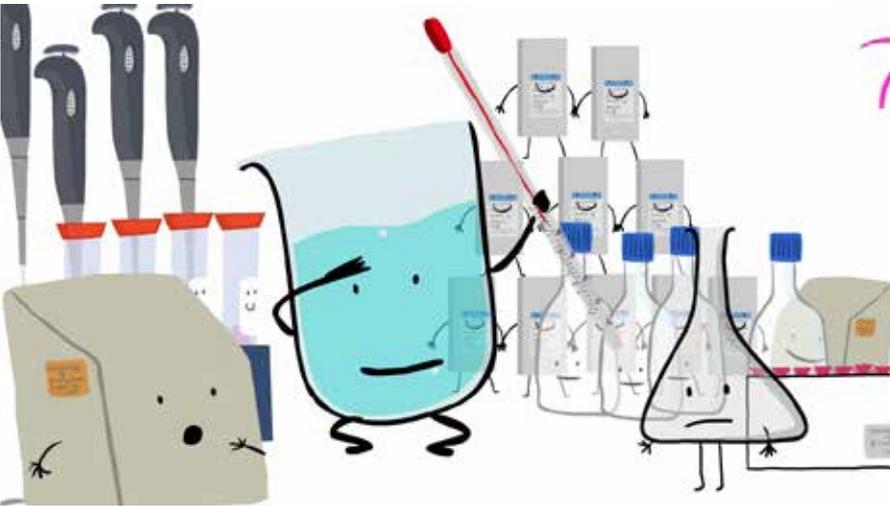
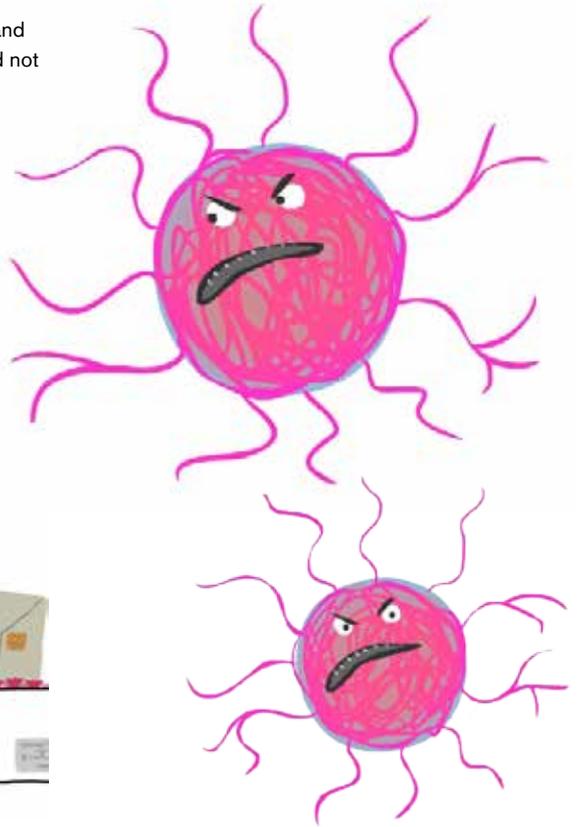
cancers develop. These observations will hopefully provide targets for more effective drug development, and for testing tumours in a more accurate way. All of this will require a team of dedicated researchers, as well as highly specialised equipment and expertise.

'I would like to thank you for your tireless and generous support. Without you, we would not be able to carry out the important and ambitious research that can make a real difference to people living with cancer.'

Dr Jo Morris PhD BSc, Senior Lecturer specialising in breast cancer in the School of Cancer Sciences



£30,000 has been donated by **256** of you for our breast cancer research



Burkitt's Lymphoma Research



'It is difficult to get funding for clinical trials in Africa. Philanthropic support has enabled us to proceed at a pace that means that laboratory findings can be translated

into clinical trials without major delays. Without donor funding we would not have been able to continue with our work in Africa, testing new treatments for Burkitt's Lymphoma, a tumour that accounts for 50% of all cancers in children in Sub-Saharan Africa.

'Our hope is that we will identify an affordable, effective non-toxic combination treatment for Burkitt's Lymphoma that will significantly improve survival rates and quality of life for children affected with this disease.

'I would like to say a huge thank you to our donors. Every single pound matters when we consider that the cost of treating a child in Sub-Saharan Africa is a fraction of what we spend in the developed world.'

Dr Farhat Khanim, researcher in Burkitt's Lymphoma specialising in Sub-Saharan Africa



'I helped to report on the results of a trial into developing new drug treatments for Burkitt's Lymphoma in Malawi.

'The experience helped support my application for an academic foundation post, which I am currently 9 months into.

Birmingham's fantastic staff have been very successful in attracting grants in a challenging economy, and I hope that the research will secure further investor confidence. The University succeeds in getting students involved, training the next generation and creating a lasting legacy.

'I am very grateful that donors continue to pledge money to support this impactful work.'

Dr Blair Merrick, Interc BMedSc, 2011



£98,000 has been donated by **241** of you towards our Burkitt's Lymphoma Research

Prostate Cancer Research



'Eight months on, I am still in awe of the extraordinary series of events that followed my appeal for research funding.

'Before I update you on how things are

moving forward, I first wanted to offer a little background. Clinical trials are frustratingly slow and a lot of that is because of a prolonged fundraising process. In other words, it is raising the money that takes the time.

'When we sent the appeal I hoped we might receive partial funding, but was absolutely astounded to receive the full £240,000 we needed. Your belief in this research, and generosity in making it happen, has opened my eyes to the enormous difference individuals can make when they really get behind something. Almost 2,400 of you made a gift to help fund the trial, a number that still makes me smile.

'So what happens now? The speed with which the money was raised has brought this project forward by about two years, and we will soon have our first patient recruited. The funding is also helping with our laboratory work for the related trial we are currently running, which will



£240,000 has been donated by **2338** of you for our prostate cancer research

further inform and improve the trial you have supported when it begins.

'As a reminder, the trial will pioneer a unique treatment combining an immunotherapy injection and High Intensity Frequency Ultrasound (a heated probe to destroy the tumour), and will offer 20 men with advanced prostate cancer the possibility of extending their life for six months.

'I have already received letters from patients and their loved ones who are just waiting and hoping for a new treatment. Your role in making that happen so much sooner is more meaningful than I can easily explain.

'Thank you once again for your gift, and I look forward to updating you again once the trial is under way.'

Mr Richard Viney, MBChB Medicine, 1995, senior lecturer at the University of Birmingham and consultant urological surgeon at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Brain Cancer in Children Research



'Donor support is essential for our brain cancer in children research. It helps us to start up innovative lines of research and also to underpin some of our core

activities. We are developing ways of diagnosing children's brain tumours earlier and understanding them better using scans. Our entire research programme was only possible because of generous donor support, allowing us to buy essential equipment. We would not be where we are today without your generosity.

'We want to make a difference to people's lives. We have made many discoveries and shown their value but in the end it's the impact that the research has that is so important.

'We would like to say a big thank you to all of our donors, together we can change the world.' **Professor Andrew Peet, Professor in Paediatric Oncology**



£12,000 has been donated by **136** of you towards our brain cancer in children research

What giving means to us



'We hope and believe that work carried out at Birmingham will be ground breaking in the early identification of a variety of cancers which will lead to earlier intervention in treatment.

'Our son Richard was a urology surgeon in the NHS in Birmingham for several years, and cancer was a regular illness that he treated.

During that time his interest in research grew to such an extent that he left the NHS to devote his time to research. As a result of visits to Birmingham, we realised how important the work being carried out there is, and decided to help as donors.' **Trevor and Jenny Bryan, Donors**



'Without the University I would never have had the life that I have had; it has given me my profession and most of my long-term friends. I try to support Circles of Influence projects, always using Gift Aid, as I think I owe Birmingham for the happiness I have had throughout my adult life. This time, I chose to give to the breast and prostate cancer projects as I have friends and relatives who have experienced both problems, and have lost some of them too.'

Godfrey Worsley, Donor (BDS, Dentistry, 1957)



'My father died of bowel cancer in 2005 about six months after being diagnosed. Bereavement makes you take stock of what has happened and what could have been done differently. I wanted to support a programme that was undertaking front line research into cancer cures, in memory of my father given all that he did for me. I put my faith in Birmingham as an outstanding university with an internationally recognised research programme. 100% of what I donate goes directly to that programme, which is very important to me.'

Richard Portman, Donor (BSc, Geography, 1982)



Turn over to read more about our work!

Here at the University of Birmingham, we're also working on:

Bladder Cancer

- The 7th most common cancer in the UK
- On average, 14 people die each day of bladder cancer
- Bladder cancer has the highest lifetime treatment costs per patient of all cancers
- There is a lack of research funding compared to other cancers, receiving just 0.6% of NCRI spending

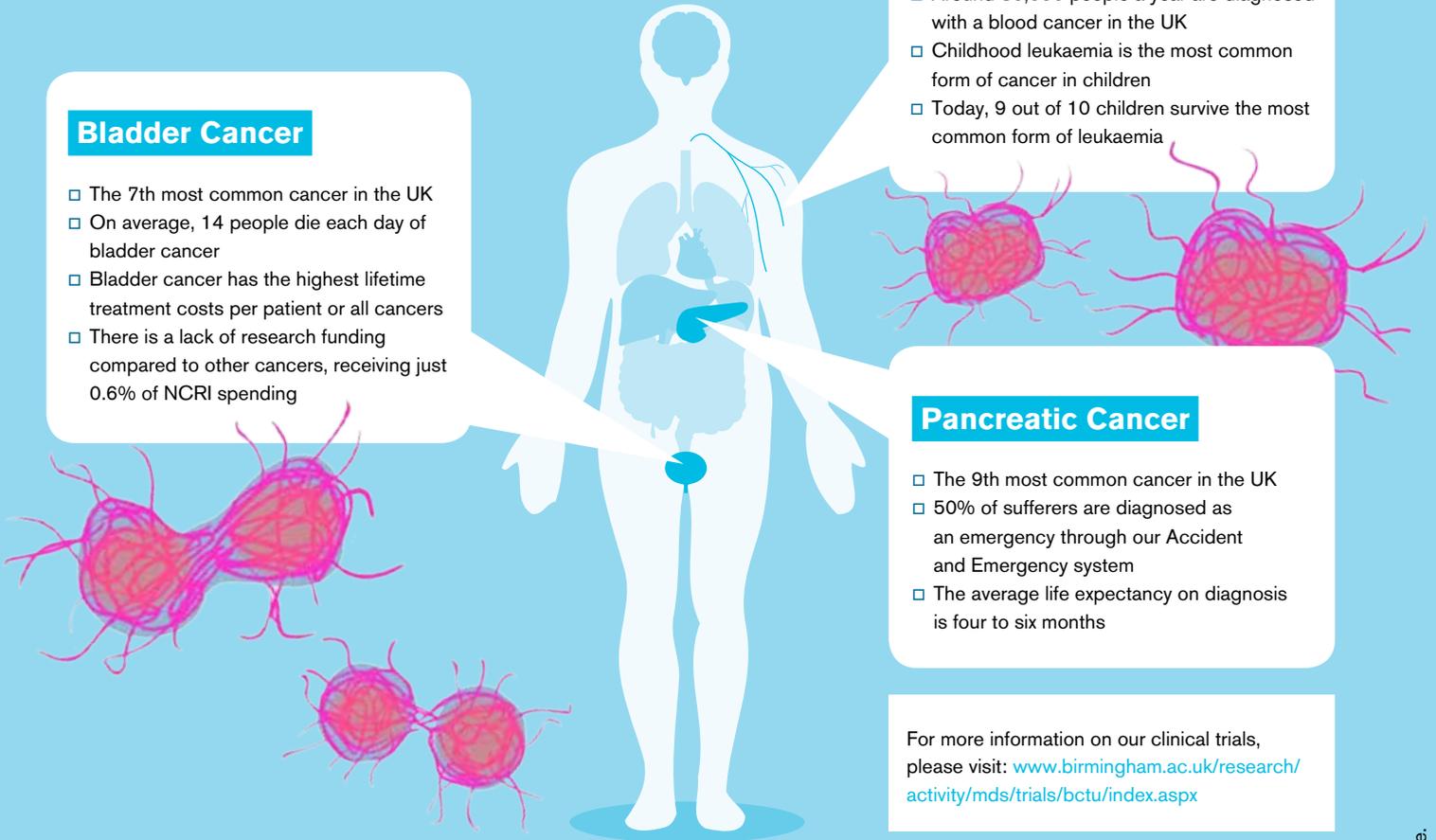
Blood Cancer

- Around 30,000 people a year are diagnosed with a blood cancer in the UK
- Childhood leukaemia is the most common form of cancer in children
- Today, 9 out of 10 children survive the most common form of leukaemia

Pancreatic Cancer

- The 9th most common cancer in the UK
- 50% of sufferers are diagnosed as an emergency through our Accident and Emergency system
- The average life expectancy on diagnosis is four to six months

For more information on our clinical trials, please visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/mds/trials/bctu/index.aspx



Pete the beaker made his debut in February, here is what some of you thought...

'Pete the Beaker is a light-hearted and appealing animation dealing with a serious subject. The University is a centre of excellence in translational research but applying knowledge from the beaker to the bedside is an expensive business. If Pete can raise the visibility of this tremendous work to a different audience and in an innovative way, then he is doing an excellent job!'

Charlotte Wellington, Director of Operations in the College of Social Sciences and Donor

'The Pete the Beaker animation struck me as an innovative way of inviting donations for a worthy cause, it is certainly not something I have come across before. Definitely a worthwhile venture and I hope, likely to attract further support'

Peter Hil, Donor (BDS, Dentistry, 1966)



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

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Do you have an inspirational story to share?

We love planning ahead and we are looking for donors who would like to share their experiences of giving to cancer research at Birmingham, and what has motivated them to give. If you can help, please get in touch: donorrelations@contacts.bham.ac.uk