



OUR RESEARCH IN BIRMINGHAM

HOW WE ARE BEATING CANCER SOONER NEAR YOU

OUR RESEARCH

'Going through cancer gave me a change in perspective'

Cancer survivor Louise shares her story

BEATING CANCER

400

people every day will survive more than 10 years – thanks to research.

LATEST NEWS

- New treatment hope for one of the deadliest childhood cancers.
- New clinical trial aiming to improve the treatment of throat cancers.

MEET OUR RESEARCHERS

Dr Sim Gill
Research Fellow

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR LOCAL RESEARCH



OUR RESEARCH

THANKS TO YOU WE'RE SAVING MORE LIVES

Every moment counts for survivor Louise

Terrible back pain first led Louise from Sedgley to her GP. "I was 19 years old, and couldn't get out of bed at night with the pain. I put my hand on my back, and felt a lump the size of a fist."

The lump turned out to be Ewings sarcoma – a type of bone cancer. Louise underwent 14 doses of chemotherapy over a year on the Young Person's Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The treatment was gruelling, though Louise tried to focus on the positive. "I had a really great wig, and I also remember winning the lottery on the same day I went for my first biopsy. It was only £10, but it was something!"

A year after successfully completing her treatment, Louise celebrated by doing a skydive. "My mum had said 'if you get through this, I'll give you some money to go on holiday' – so I took full advantage and did a skydive in Australia. Going through cancer gave me a change in perspective – life's too short."

Today, there is ongoing research to improve the treatment of Ewings sarcoma and other types of childhood cancer. The University of Birmingham – where Louise now works – is home to the Cancer Research UK Children's Cancer Trials Team, who coordinate groundbreaking clinical trials to continue to improve cancer treatments.

Louise works on an EU-funded project called DECIDE, which aims to find milder cancer treatments. <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/decide/index.aspx>



UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact birminghamresearch@cancer.org.uk for more information

Cancer: Up Close & Personal
Weds 19th March
<http://bit.ly/1fopg90>

Relay for Life Aston
5th-6th April
<http://bit.ly/1bn6pZy>

Relay for Life Evesham
28th-29th June
<http://bit.ly/1fXlt2U>

British Science Festival
6th – 11th Sept
<http://bit.ly/1ioqrl0>

BEATING CANCER

NEW TREATMENT HOPE FOR NEUROBLASTOMA

The Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Birmingham is running a new clinical trial which offers a new type of molecular radiotherapy – never before tested in children – for one of the deadliest childhood cancers.



The new treatment for neuroblastoma uses radiotherapy which piggy-backs on a drug that naturally attaches itself to neuroblastoma cells. Neuroblastoma is usually diagnosed in children aged five and under, and the aggressive form of the disease remains very difficult to treat successfully.

Around 24 patients between 18 months and 18 years will be treated in the LuDO neuroblastoma trial, at University College London, with the trial monitored and managed by the team in Birmingham.

LATEST NEWS

NEW FUNDING

Prof Hisham Mehanna at the University of Birmingham is leading an important new clinical trial called COMPARE for throat cancer patients. Throat cancer is increasing at a considerable rate in Western countries, due to the increase in Human Papilloma Virus.



This late phase trial is aiming to recruit 650 patients, at hospitals across the West Midlands and the UK. The trial will test different combinations of chemotherapy and radiotherapy and surgery, aiming to work out the best standard of care for people with medium and high-risk throat cancers.

If this trial is successful, it could lead to improved survival rates and quality of life for these cancer patients.

Prof Mehanna is Chair of Head and Neck Surgery and Director of the Institute of Head and Neck Studies and Education. Find out more about this work at: www.inhanse.org

SNAPSHOT OF OUR RESEARCH

PROGRESS



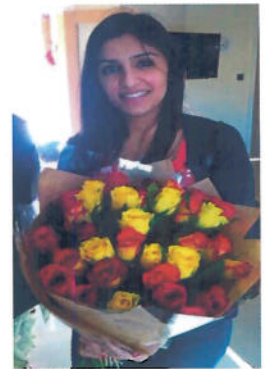
Cancer Research UK has saved millions of lives by discovering new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer and, with our help, survival has doubled over the past 40 years.

Every day in the UK there are more than 400 people diagnosed with cancer that will survive the disease for more than 10 years, thanks to research. We fund research into more than 200 types of cancer, including the one that's most important to you.

Find out more about the progress we're making, visit www.cruk.org or call 0300 123 1022.

MEET OUR LOCAL RESEARCHERS

DR SIM GILL



"After losing both of my granddads to cancer, I knew I wanted to do something that made a real difference." Sim Gill recently became a doctor at the University of Birmingham after passing her PhD under the supervision of one of our fantastic researchers, Prof Andrew Peet. Her research has focused on improving the imaging of brain tumours in children. "The best thing

about my work? I can really input into clinical practice with what I find. It's a slow process, but knowing that we are helping to beat childhood cancers sooner is very rewarding."

GET INVOLVED

RACE IS BACK



Race for Life is coming to a town near you. Cancer Research UK's Race for Life is a series of 5k & 10k women-only fundraising events, which are raising money for research to help beat all 200 types of cancer sooner. Register early before events fill up. **Cancer, we are coming to get you. Run, Walk, Dance or Get Pretty Muddy.** Enter raceforlife.org