

## The patient voice can shape our research. Is your voice being heard?

Did you know that as a patient, carer, family member or a member of the community you could become involved in our cutting-edge cancer research?



### What is patient and public Involvement in Research?

Patient and public involvement (PPI) is where patients, carers, members of family and the community work with researchers to explore new or improved cancer treatments.

PPI input is vital to our research at the Clinical Trials & Statistics Unit at the Institute of Cancer Research, as it provides researchers with valuable lived experience and opinions from a patient's perspective.

### Why get involved in research?

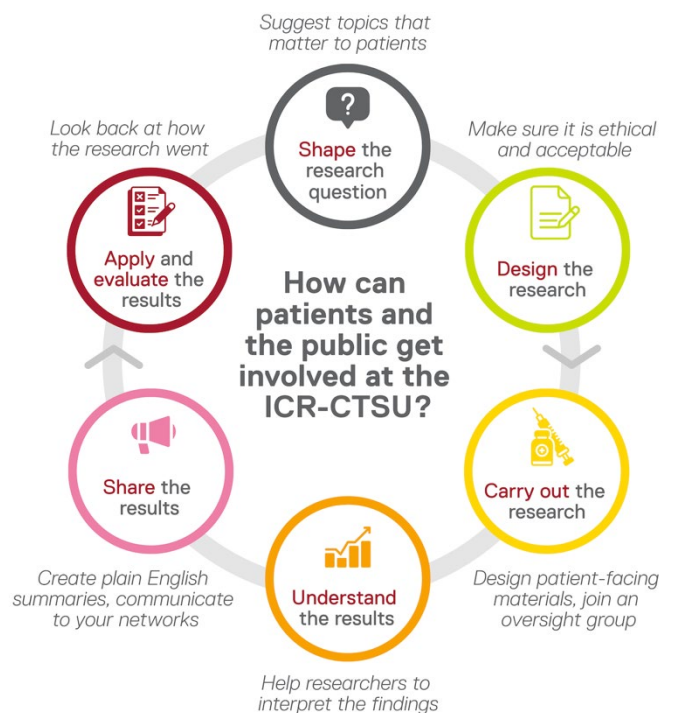
- To work with research teams to advance and improve the understanding and treatment of cancer.
- To add your lived experience of cancer treatment to the science of research.
- To shape the quality of care for people with cancer in the future.
- To join a network of over 50 patients and carers who regularly work with us.



### We are inviting people to give their valuable input on our research

Your input, whatever your age, gender, race, religion, location, or disability can help our research teams to develop new cancer treatments. Your input is valuable to us to help make sure our research is designed to include and benefit all those who will receive future treatments. You can be involved as much or as little as you wish. For instance, you could join us for an online discussion when we are designing new research or work with us when we are running a clinical trial over months and years.

### When and how do we involve members of the public in our research?



### What is a clinical trial?

A clinical trial is used to check whether new treatments are safe and effective. People taking part in these trials should be representative of those affected by the specific cancer in the wider population.

Clinical trials should be designed so that all types of people can join them, as long as it is safe for them to do so.

I became a patient advocate initially because I felt so grateful for the life saving care and treatment I had received that I wanted to give something back, whatever that may be.

*"The more involved I become, the more I see that having been through the 'process' of getting rid of cancer, I am in a good position to offer useful advice to the experts who may not appreciate what it looks like from the patient's point of view. I also feel my contribution is valuable, which helps."*

### Want to find out more?

If you would like to find out more about how you can be involved in our research, please email:

[ppi-icrctsu@icr.ac.uk](mailto:ppi-icrctsu@icr.ac.uk)

### Useful Links

Find out more about involvement at Cancer Research UK:

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/patient-involvement>

National Institute of Health and Care Research:

<https://www.peopleinresearch.org/>

National Institute of Health and Research  
Biomedical Research Centre at The Royal Marsden  
and Institute of Cancer Research:

<https://www.cancerbrc.org/patient-and-public-involvement-and-engagement>

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Will I receive guidance in my role?

Yes. We provide training for patient advocates so that they get the most out of their contributions.

### Can I speak to other patient advocates before I decide to contribute?

Yes. We can arrange this at any time to suit you.

### What if I decide it's not for me?

You can choose how much you would like to take part and how much you would like to contribute. You can change your mind any time.

### Will I be reimbursed for my expenses?

Yes. The level of reimbursement will vary according to your contribution, but all patient advocates should receive reimbursement for their participation and all out-of-pocket expenses will be covered.

### Is it possible for me to contribute if I cannot attend meetings?

Yes. You can join a virtual meeting and/or be contacted by email.



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This leaflet was produced by the Clinical Trials and Statistics Unit at the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR-CTSU), Sutton in collaboration with patient advocate members of the ICR-CTSU PPIE Research Advisory Group.