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**The Clatterbridge  
Cancer Centre**  
NHS Foundation Trust



# Research Matters

The newsletter of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre Research  
and Innovation Public and Patient Involvement Forum



## It's your Forum

**The R&I Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Forum has a positive impact and a say on patients' outcomes, experience and journey. It is important that PPI is embedded in Clatterbridge's Research Culture.**

**The Forum meets quarterly to discuss new projects and offer feedback to researchers - giving valuable insight from a patient and public perspective.**

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# Visit to Clatterbridge's Biobank

Last autumn, the PPI Forum requested a visit to the Biobank at Clatterbridge Cancer Centre - Liverpool as members had previously been informed of its work when Jamie Young, CCC Biobank and Laboratory Manager, gave an overview presentation of its activity and purpose.

CCC's Biobank, pictured above, collects samples from patients and healthy volunteers to facilitate high-quality research. Sample collections during patient treatments also help to determine why outcomes vary between different patients. Samples are collected following informed consent.

The PPI group met at CCC-L and were given an in-depth tour of the Biobank and laboratory and told exactly how samples are taken, stored and then logged on the electronic system.

Jamie was on hand to answer any questions the group asked. There was also a wider tour of the CCC-L informing the group of the research activity that takes place there.

The feedback from the group was that the tour was extremely beneficial to their understanding of how the Biobank works and its importance to research and patients at CCC.



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**Video promotes clinical research**

At a meeting of the Forum, Clatterbridge's Communications Manager Paul Ogden presented an animated video and explained that it had been created for a campaign to raise awareness of research with patients across the Trust. Members of the Forum viewed the video - which has been funded by Clatterbridge Cancer Charity - during their meeting.

Paul informed the group that the animation would be supported by leaflets and posters promoting it, which would be displayed across the Trust.

The video was well received and members commented that from a patient's perspective, the animation was clear and to the point, and it would act as an encouragement to many patients in coming forward to participate in clinical research.

You can watch the animation below...



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## Can you help our research partner?

CCC has become an associate partner in a prestigious research collaboration with The Royal Marsden Hospital, in London, and other institutions.

Called a Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), the partnership aims to improve patients outcomes and further the knowledge of cancer treatment and care by working with a group of world-leading research centres, including CCC.

The BRC has an active PPI function and the team is asking for people associated with Clatterbridge to join their forum.

They say: "Would you like to get involved in the Royal Marsden's cancer research and services? Any patient, carer or member of the public can become involved with the work that we are doing at The Royal Marsden Foundation Trust in London, including services and research."



**“As you know involvement and engagement from patients and their carers, friends and family can make service design better and more responsive to the needs of patients and carers, and make research more relevant and impactful. “We want to hear from diverse voices that reflect the communities we serve. You do not need to have used Royal Marsden services before or have a professional background in health or research.”**

Associate partner with

**NIHR** | Biomedical Research Centre at  
The Royal Marsden and the ICR

They add: “There are a number of different ways to get involved, including our Cancer Patients’ Voice digital platform - <https://patients-voice.cancerbrc.org/> - that helps us involve people from all over the UK.

“Register on the platform and you will receive emails every time a new project is added. Projects engage people in different ways – you can contribute to an online discussion or add your idea to an ideas board. Some are looking for a short engagement, others are looking for people to join one-off focus groups, some are looking for a longer term commitment, for example joining a steering group.

Have a look at the Cancer Patients’ Voice digital platform and register to stay in touch.”



**Want to join our Forum?**

**Public and patient involvement is central to all activities of The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre, including research.**

**There are various organisations that support patients and members of the public to get involved.**

**A national advisory group (NIHR-INVOLVE) defines public involvement in research as “research being carried out with or by members of the public rather than to, about or for them”.**

**Anyone who uses health and social care services can be involved in research – patients, carers, parents/guardians and the public.**

**Such involvement provides researchers with valuable insights and takes into consideration their views and experiences to influence research direction and outcomes. This can lead to better research, clearer aims and objectives, and faster uptake of new evidence for better outcomes.**

**There are various ways that patients and the public can get involved in research, such as participating in a clinical trial, donating samples for research, being actively involved in the development of research projects and the dissemination of research findings.**

**If you are interested in joining our PPI Forum, you would be made most welcome and your views would be greatly valued.**

**If you are interested in becoming a public or patient representative for research at CCC please contact David Price for more information at [david.price9@nhs.net](mailto:david.price9@nhs.net)**



**[For more information about CCC's R&I PPI Forum, click here](#)**

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