

Our impact on local people



On holiday in Mallorca in August 1999 Andy Anderson from Bangor noticed, while showering, that his right breast area was tender and sore. 'At the time I did nothing about it,' said Andy, 'but in December during a visit to my GP I mentioned this and also that I had noticed a change in my left testicle'.

'Hospital appointments followed with X-ray, scans and tests. By the time the diagnosis of testicular cancer was made, the cancer was seriously advanced - to my abdomen, lungs and neck. I was told I had about six weeks to live!'

'Following surgery I had three months of chemotherapy during which I was given the drug cisplatin.'

'Cancer Research UK scientists helped to develop cisplatin and it's saved many men's lives. Quite simply, without their work, I would not be here to tell my story.'

'Please support the great research they do and help save even more lives.'



It's cancer. You're bound to have questions...

Visit our CancerHelp UK website www.cancerhelp.org.uk or call our team of specialist nurses on freephone 0808 800 4040 (lines open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm)

Be part of it

There are many different ways that you can support our life-saving research in Northern Ireland. If you'd like to join us then please get in touch.

Email belfastcentre@cancer.org.uk or call our fundraising hotline 08701 60 20 40



Karl is a researcher at the Centre for Cancer Research & Cell Biology



Ruth is the Cancer Research UK Senior Research Nurse in the Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Centre



Sarah is an event participant in our Belfast Race for Life



Mervyn is the chair of our Ballymoney local committee



Thelma is the chair of the Ballygawley Relay for Life



Kathleen is a volunteer in our Cregagh Road shop



Allstate Northern Ireland kindly sponsored the production of this leaflet

Fighting cancer in Northern Ireland



Together we will beat cancer

LEADBELF 05.2011 | Registered charity in England and Wales (1089464) and Scotland (SC041666)



Making a difference



Every week in Northern Ireland, more than 140 people are told they have cancer. But more people are beating the disease than ever before, and **Cancer Research UK** is at the heart of this progress.

Belfast is recognised worldwide for groundbreaking cancer research, and we currently spend more than £2 million each year here on our life-saving work.

The Belfast Centre* is part of an exciting network of **Cancer Research UK Centres**, bringing together world-class doctors, scientists and nurses from across the city. By sharing their knowledge and expertise, they are developing discoveries made in the lab into treatments that will benefit cancer patients in Northern Ireland and beyond.



In particular, the Centre is a flagship for research into oesophageal, bowel and breast cancers, and researchers here are also pioneering new techniques to improve radiotherapy.

*The Centre brings together cancer experts from Cancer Research UK, Queen's University Belfast, the HSCNI Research & Development Division of the Public Health Agency, and the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust.

World-class cancer research

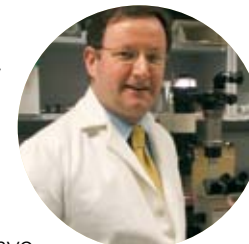


Cancer Research UK supports more than 50 researchers in Belfast - based at the **Centre for Cancer Research & Cell Biology** and the Cancer Centre at **Belfast City Hospital**.

A key focus for our scientists is to develop treatments that target cancer more precisely and are kinder for patients. **Professor Kevin Prise** is studying the effect of radiation on cancer cells in the lab with a view to improving radiotherapy – a treatment that is given to around 4 out of 10 cancer patients.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in Northern Ireland, with around 1,000 cases diagnosed each year. **Professor Paul Harkin** has discovered that faults in a gene called BRCA1 affect the way some patients respond to chemotherapy. His work will lead to more personalised treatment for people with the disease.

Professor Paddy Johnston is finding new ways to treat bowel cancer that has stopped responding to chemotherapy. Each year in Northern Ireland, over 1,000 people are diagnosed with the disease, and this research could help to save many more lives in the future.



Helping cancer patients

Clinical trials are vital for developing new cancer treatments and ways to prevent or detect the disease. Each year, Cancer Research UK supports trials involving over 30,000 volunteers all over the UK. People from across Northern Ireland are helping us to drive forward our research by taking part in a number of these trials.

More than 900 people are diagnosed with lung cancer in Northern Ireland every year. We're funding a trial that is finding the most effective combination of chemotherapy and radiotherapy to treat people with a type of lung cancer called small cell lung cancer. This research could improve the outlook for many people with this common disease.

We also jointly fund the Northern Ireland Cancer Trials Network, which gives cancer patients across the region access to a variety of clinical trials. We're helping support five **research nurses** based at the hospitals in Altnagelvin, Antrim, Belfast, Craigavon and Dundonald. They raise awareness of clinical trials as an option for treatment, and care for people taking part.

Improving survival for children

Our research has helped to transform survival rates for children with cancer. Today, three quarters of children are successfully treated, compared with around a quarter in the 1960s.

Our Children's Cancer Trials Team co-ordinates groundbreaking trials at the **Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children**. These trials offer new treatments to children with cancer, giving them the chance to benefit from the latest research.