

every patient is a

Very Important Person

This is a message to all patients undergoing tests and treatments for cancer from a group of patients who have completed our treatment. We are active participants in research which will lead to improvements in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. You could join with us to help make a difference.

For some people cancer diagnosis and treatment can be a very stressful time. However, we have heard from many patients that they would have liked to have been given more information about current research and to have been given the choice to participate – even if this would only have been of benefit to others.

You could be very influential in improving services and treatments for future patients. You could take part in clinical trials. Or, after your treatment, you could add your unique patient perspective to the design and conduct of clinical trials. Clearly, you could withdraw at any stage and your standard of care would not change.

Breast Cancer is an excellent example of quality clinical research leading to improved treatments and a big increase in survival after treatment. Earlier diagnosis has helped, but the high quality of UK clinical research has been very important. There is now a much greater understanding of the biology of breast cancer and the need to “tailor” treatment for the individual patient.

But, there is so much more to be learned about all cancers. Many more patients need to be offered entry to clinical trials. And, clinical research needs input from the unique patients’ perspective.

how can you become involved?

- 1) Ask your Nurse or Doctor about clinical trials or studies which may be appropriate for you.
- 2) Ask if you can donate some blood or tissue to be used in research.
- 3) Ask about opportunities for patients and carers to participate in improving cancer services and research.

independent cancer patients' voice

www.independentcancerpatientsvoice.org.uk

further information available from:-



www.ncri.org.uk
www.ncrn.org.uk

CANCER RESEARCH UK

www.cancerhelp.org.uk



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