



VOICE 2025 Graduates and Lab Team

VOICE: 'Science for Advocates' Residential Study Week **Sunday 6th – Friday 11th September 2026** **Barts Cancer Institute, Charterhouse Square, London**

Independent Cancer Patients' Voice is a patient advocate group led by patients for patients. We bring the views and experience of cancer patients, their family and carers, to the cancer research community. We believe clinical research is improved by patients being partners with clinicians and researchers, rather than passive recipients of health care

Members of ICPV are actively involved in many areas of research. To facilitate and enhance our role in these activities, we aim to understand the fundamentals of cancer, study design and current areas of controversy and research.

Much of this is gained through experience. For twelve years we have worked with Barts Cancer Institute to develop a tailor-made course which provides intensive training in basic cancer biology, hands-on laboratory experience, an introduction to research terminology and study design, and critical evaluation of research proposals and scientific papers. This is VOICE (Vision on Information, Confidence and Engagement), a Science Course for patient advocates. VOICE is unique, the only course of this type in the UK.



**Barts
Cancer
Institute**



VOICE aims to give participants:

An introduction to basic cancer biology

This will include sessions on what cancer is, how it is caused, how it develops and how it is detected and treated. Course participants will spend time in the research laboratories to help them to build their understanding.

An understanding of different types of cancers

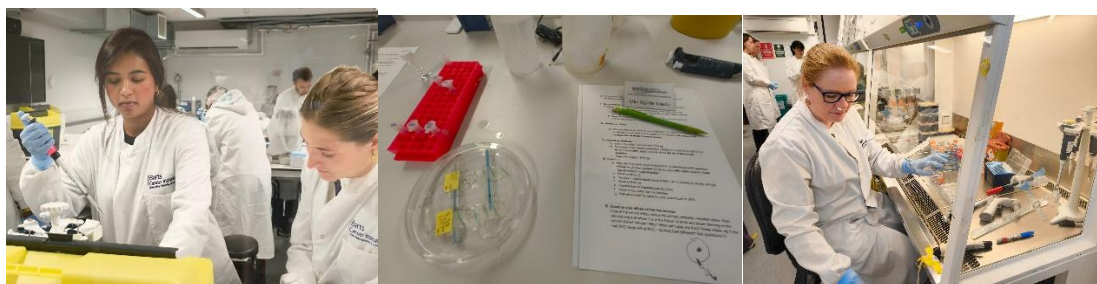
This will include sessions on current understanding, new research technologies and the biology of different cancers. Students will also learn how to read and interpret scientific papers.

Who can take part?

The course is open to anyone who has personal experience of cancer, either because they have had cancer themselves, or because a partner, close friend or family member has had cancer, or works for a cancer charity AND is already actively involved in cancer research (for example as a member of a trial management group or a clinical studies group). Participants do not need to have any understanding of cancer biology or have a science background.

Anyone who wishes to take part would be expected to attend all five days of the course.

What



Quotes:

"What a week from a fantastic team. Great presentations in a language we understand. Patients and carers need good researchers like you."

"By the end of the week my confidence had been bolstered. This will enable me to provide useful input into clinical trials and research."

"Asked what I found most rewarding – Everything! from the lessons that became discussions, the lab experience that became our lab research, connecting with other patient advocates and professionals, learning about biology and seeing pathology in the lab"

Find out more...

For more information about previous VOICE courses, please check the ICPV website

www.independentcancerpatientsvoice.org.uk

For more information about ICPV please contact info@icpv.org.uk

For more information about VOICE 2026 please contact voice@icpv.org.uk

Fees...

There are fees to cover accommodation, food and lab materials which will be announced shortly.