



# CLINICAL TRIALS ADVISORY AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (CTAAC) AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN CLINICAL TRIALS (TRICC) NEWSLETTER

The NCRI Cancer Conference 2006 • UK Cancer Trials Units – Areas of Expertise • CTAAC Applications Funded in Principle • CRUK Press Office keen to help publicise trials • FSC Applications Funded in Principle • The CRUK Translational Research Team • Experimental Cancer Medical Centres • The NCRI Translational Clinical Study Group • TRICC Applications Funded in Principle

## CTAAC News in Brief

### CTAAC Members who Stepped Down in October 2006

On behalf of the office we would like to thank you once again for all your hard work and invaluable contribution to CTAAC:  
Professor Hilary Calvert  
Ms Sally Stenning  
Professor Arnie Purushotham  
Dr Paul Ellis

### New CTAAC Members

We would like to welcome the following new CTAAC members:  
Professor Duncan Jodrell  
Dr Chris Gallagher  
Dr Alison Jones  
Professor Nigel Bundred  
Dr Alan Hackshaw

### For the October 2006 meeting of CTAAC we had...

12 Full Applications and 17 Outline Applications

The next CTAAC deadlines are:  
Outline Applications and Endorsements – 23rd March 2007

Full Applications – 30th March 2007

For more information on CTAAC, including application forms and closing dates, please visit our web page:  
<http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/clinicaltrialsfund/cta/>

## The NCRI Cancer Conference 2006

The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Cancer Conference presents the chance for cancer researchers from a wide range of disciplines and at various stages in their careers to come together with internationally renowned speakers and patients affected by the disease and explore the recent research advances in cancer.

The meeting is held over four days and mixes high quality plenary and parallel sessions based on various types of cancer with focused satellite meetings and workshops from 'Grant-writing' to 'Women in Science'.

After the success of the 2005 conference with over 1400 participants, last year's conference

would surely have been a hard act to follow, however expectations were surpassed when the total number of delegates attending reached almost 2000 and the conference dinner and party was an even bigger hit than last year!

We thought it would be interesting to hear from those who attended the conference, to hear their experiences and what they got out of it. We asked a patient, a scientist and one of our own staff members to tell us how it was for them.

### Shirley Harrison (Patient) said:

"I think it is very important that consumers attend this conference, not only to keep themselves up to date but also because their

*continued page 2*



Mike Richards, National Cancer Director  
Photograph by Shaun Neaves & Bill Bessant

presence and contributions reminds scientists and clinicians what their work is all about: the patients and carers.

This directly applies to my attendance at the conference and it is also a very useful occasion to meet and talk to other patients and carers about issues of mutual interest."

**Dr Tracy Robson (Scientist) said:**

"One of the main reasons I attended the conference this year was because I enjoyed last year's NCRI meeting immensely.

The scientific programme was excellent and just as varied as last year's - it had something for everyone and the calibre of the international speakers was extremely high. It was also a great chance to meet and catch up with collaborators old and new, because everyone working in the field of cancer research was there!

The highlights for me, as well as the band at the conference dinner, were Scott Lowe's and Tyler Jack's talks on mouse models of cancer. Both were excellent speakers and demonstrated the power of genetically engineered mouse

models in the understanding of genes associated with tumourigenesis. More importantly, it became quite clear that xenografts models, which we all use when evaluating our favourite anti-cancer drug, are probably inadequate. This is an issue that the scientific community obviously needs to address as matter of urgency. It's good to know that CR-UK are aware of this and are planning recruitment/funding in this area."

**Ms Tracy Carey (Scientific Events & Filing Administrator at CRUK) said:**

"I attended the NCRI conference as part of my job and after enjoying the atmosphere at last year's conference, had no reservations about going again this year.

The staff that work on organising the conference almost all year round are a great team and do an excellent job that is not easy.

There is a strong team spirit from all the staff that help out at the conference, even from those that volunteer to come and help and although the hours are long and tiring, it can be fun and very rewarding to know that you have contributed to an event that so many people gain something from."

Work is now set to begin for next year's National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Cancer Conference – 30th September 2007 – 3rd October 2007.

Ms Helen Thomas  
(Science Funding Clerical Assistant)



## UK Cancer Trials Units - Areas of Expertise

We have recently asked the key UK cancer trials units to send us information on their areas of interest and expertise. The summary table is illustrated on page 3 with the first 9 Units listed being NCRI accredited.

This table is designed to be a useful starting point for clinicians looking for

advice/support who are not already in regular contact with a Unit or for when there may be capacity issues for Units. It is not in any way claiming to be completely comprehensive or a guarantee that any unit will necessarily have the capacity to provide support. If you do have any specific questions please contact the

Trials Units directly rather than CR-UK/NCRI or NCRN.

If any other Unit that is coordinating trials would like to be included we would be happy to update the table as requested. Please send details to [katelaw@cancer.org.uk](mailto:katelaw@cancer.org.uk).

**CTAAC Members:** JOHN COHEN (CHAIR) • ROGER A'HERN • DEREK ALDERSON • NIGEL BUNDRED • NEIL BURNET • LAURENCE COLLETTE • DAVID DODWELL • STEPHEN FALK • CHRIS GALLAGHER • ALLAN HACKSHAW • DUNCAN JODRELL • ALISON JONES • STAN KAYE • MARK MIDDLETON • GARETH MORGAN • MARIANNE NICOLSON • CHRIS POOLE • KATHY PRITCHARD-JONES • JIM PAUL • HEATHER PAYNE • JOHN RADFORD • MATT SEYMOUR

## Clinical Trial Units - Areas of Interest or Expertise

CTU	Tumour Site												
	Sarcoma	Breast	Colorectal	Lung/ Meso	Brain	Gynae	Upper GI	Haem	Urology	Melanoma	Head and Neck		
ICR													
UCL		Genetic					Lymph						
Birmingham													
CACTUS **													
UKCCSG													
WCTN													
MRC	Bone							*					
Leeds													
Bristol													
Liverpool													
Belfast							Pancreas		Testis	Ocular			
Southampton													
Barts		Genetic					Hepatobill		Lymph				
Warwick													
Oxford ***							Stomach	Myeloma					
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>		

\* Testis, Renal and Prostate

\*\* CACTUS is a collaboration between Glasgow CTU and ISD (Edinburgh)

\*\*\* Oxford is a collaboration between OCTO (trial management, clinical support) and CSM (Stats)

CTU	Research Area						
	Primary Care	Supportive & Palliative Care	Psychosocial	Oncology	Translational Research	Methodology	Screening/ Prevention
ICR						Phase II	
UCL							
Birmingham							
CACTUS **						Phase II	
UKCCSG							
WCTN							
MRC							
Leeds		Complim					
Bristol						*	**
Liverpool							
Belfast						Phase II	
Southampton							
Barts							
Warwick						***	****
Oxford						***	****
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>

\* In particular, methodologically challenging trials

\*\* epidemiology

\*\*\* In particular, complex interventions

\*\*\*\* Ethnic minority uptake

# Clinical Trials Advisory and Awards Committee (CTAAC) Applications Funded in Principle\*

\*Applications pending feedback from applicants and final approval from CTAAC

## October 2006 Meeting

### APPLICATIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator	Trial Acronym and Title
Dr C Faivre-Finn	CONVERT: A 2-arm randomised controlled trial of concurrent chemo-radiotherapy comparing twice-daily and high dose once-daily radiotherapy in patients with limited disease small cell lung cancer
Professor S Kehoe	CHORUS: A randomised trial to determine the impact of timing of surgery and chemotherapy in newly diagnosed patients with advanced epithelial ovarian, primary peritoneal or fallopian tube carcinoma
Dr P Brock	SIOPEL 6: A randomised phase III trial of the efficacy of sodium thiosulphate in reducing ototoxicity in patients receiving cisplatin chemotherapy for hepatoblastoma
Mr D Morton	FOxTROT: Fluoropyrimidine, Oxaliplatin and Targeted Receptor pre-Operative Therapy: a controlled trial in high-risk operable colon cancer
Mr R Kennedy	EnROL: Conventional versus laparoscopic surgery for colorectal cancer within an Enhanced Recovery Programme

### EXTENSIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator	Trial Acronym and Title
Dr I Lewis	Ewing Tumour Studies 1999
Dr P Brock	High Risk Neuroblastoma Study 1 of SIOP - Europe (Extension)
Professor J Neoptolemos	ESPAC 3 (v2): Adjuvant Chemotherapies in Resectable Pancreatic Cancer
Professor P Hoskin	Randomised trial of radical radiotherapy with carbogen in the radical treatment of locally advanced bladder cancer

## CRUK Press Office keen to help publicise trials

Cancer Research UK is one of the leading funders of research and clinical trials in the United Kingdom. Working with national and local media is vital for communicating new work to the general public, our supporters and volunteers. It can also assist recruitment for new trials.

The national press office, based in London's Lincoln's Inn Fields, can help publicise Cancer Research UK funded trials. If you would like to enquire about the possibility of media involvement in your trial, the press office is available to help and advise. In addition to helping raise the profile of a trial to aid in recruitment they are keen to publicise trial results or even highlight new trial centres or research partners

Success in raising the profile of a trial does depend on local case studies and spokespeople – so clinicians need to be able to offer time to the

project. Publicity has helped to boost recruitment for several trials. The press office is there to ensure all relationships with the media are handled carefully. It will help make sure relevant centres have all the information they need to handle enquiries from the public raised through such publicity and ensure the

relevant local hospital or university press offices are notified. Lead researchers are always given the opportunity to approve press releases before they are issued.

Please call Mr Paul Thorne in the press office on 0207 061 8352 for more information or advise.



## FSC News in Brief

For both the September and November FSC Meetings there were ... 8 applications

The next FSC deadlines are:

1 April 2007, 1 July 2007

For more information on FSC,

including application forms and closing dates please visit our web page:

<http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/clinicaltrialsfund/fsc/>

**FSC Members:** PETER JOHNSON (CHAIR) • JUDITH BLISS • PETER BRENNAN • JULIA BROWN • JEFF EVANS • JOHN GRIBBEN • RICHARD GRUNDY • BARRY HANCOCK • IRENE HIGGINSON • GORDON JAYSON • IAN JUDSON • MALCOLM MASON • DION MORTON • POULAM PATEL • JANET RICHARDSON • MALCOLM RANSON • RICHARD SAINSBURY • DAVID SEBAG-MONTEFIORE • PAUL SMITH • RICHARDS STEPHENS • CHRIS TWELVES • PENELLA WOLL • JOHN YARNOLD

## Feasibility Study Committee (FSC)

### Applications Funded in Principle\*

\*Applications pending feedback from applicants and final approval from FSC

#### September 2006 Meeting

##### APPLICATIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator

Trial Acronym and Title

Professor P Hoskin

SCORAD: A randomised feasibility study of single fraction radiotherapy compared to multi-fraction radiotherapy in patients with metastatic spinal cord compression

Professor T Illidge

SCHRIFT: Phase II study of abbreviated immuno-chemotherapy followed by 90Y Ibritumomab tiuxetan in relapsed follicular lymphoma

Professor R Coombes

LPS: Lapatinib Pre-Surgical Phase II Study in Primary Breast

#### November 2006 Meeting

##### APPLICATIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator

Trial Acronym and Title

Dr K Ardeshta

The 18-30 Study: Phase II study evaluating the toxicity and efficacy of a modified German Paediatric Hodgkin's lymphoma protocol (HD95) in young adults (aged 18-30 years) with Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Dr M Gaze

MATIN: Phase II Studies of I311-mIBG in combination with topotecan and peripheral blood stem cell rescue for primary resistant high risk neuroblastoma and relapsed stage 4 neuroblastoma

Dr E Hall

ProSTART: A pilot study for a Phase III clinical trial in patients with favourable risk prostate cancer comparing active surveillance therapy against radical treatment

Dr R Johnson

Phase I Trial of escalating high dose methotrexate supported by glucarpidase to treat patients with primary central nervous system lymphoma (PCNSL)

Professor S Johnston

MAPLE: A double blind short term presurgical study to assess the Molecular Antiproliferative Predictors of Lapatinib's Effects in Primary Breast Cancer

## The CRUK Translational Research Team

The Translational Research Team within the Clinical and Translational Research Directorate is responsible for developing and implementing Cancer Research UK strategy for translational research, including infrastructure, strategic and response mode activities.

The team is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing Cancer Research UK strategy for translational research through the Science Plans for Drug Discovery, Tissue Resources, Imaging and Biomarkers.

- Operating the response mode Discovery (formerly Development) and Translational Research in Clinical Trials funding Committees.

- Establishing and administering the new Experimental Cancer Medicine Network.

*continued page 6*

The Translational Research Team was established with the appointment of Professor Herbie Newell as the Director of Translational Research in February 2006. The team had initially three other members; a Research Officer (Ms Heather Slade) and two Research Managers (Dr Alison John and Dr Maria Lioumi). Alison John is responsible for the Discovery Committee and the implementation of the Drug Discovery science plan review, while Maria Lioumi has responsibility for the Translational Research in Clinical Trials Committee (TRICC) and the Biomarker and Imaging science plan reviews.

The Translational Team has expanded over the past 8 months

to meet the needs of Cancer Research UK in its mission to improve the prevention and management of cancer by translating the results on basic cancer research into patient benefit.

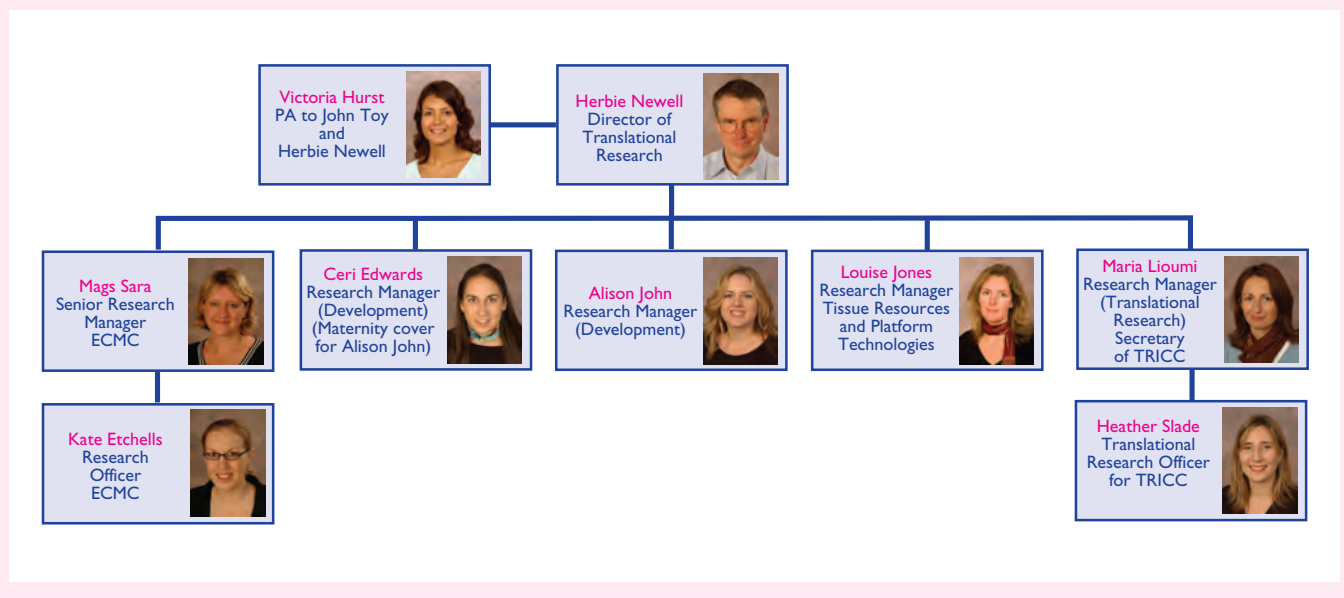
In addition to Dr Ceri Edwards, maternity cover for Alison John, the following four members have recently joined the team:

- Ms Victoria Hurst – PA for Herbie Newell
- Dr Louise Jones - responsible for Tissue Resources and Translational Research Platform Technologies. The area of tissue resources is not a new one for the Translational Research team and we continue to work with OnCore UK to ensure a

coordinated approach to cancer biosample provision.

- Dr Mags Sara and Ms Kate Etchells - responsible for supporting the newly established network of Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres (ECMC).

We are currently updating our website but if you would like more information including submission deadlines for the Discovery Committee (DC) please refer to: [http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/bbctrfunding/developmentcomm\\_grants/](http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/bbctrfunding/developmentcomm_grants/) and the Translational Research in Clinical Trials Committee (TRICC) <http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/clinicaltrialsfund/tricc/>.



## Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres

A network of Experimental Cancer Medicine Centres (ECMC) across the UK was formally launched in October. This is a joint initiative between Cancer Research UK and the Departments of Health in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland investing £35 million in Experimental Medicine Centres (ECMC) over the next 5 years. The aim of the ECMC network is to bring together laboratory and clinical patient-based research to speed up the development of new therapies by evaluating new drugs

and individualising patient treatment.

The review process has been completed and full ECMC status and funding have been awarded to 17 centres of scientific and clinical excellence in translational research. Two further centres have been awarded an Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre in Development award. The funding will commence in April 2007. The successful awards are detailed on page 7.

A small secretariat (Dr Mags Sara and

Ms Kate Etchells) has been established within the Clinical and Translational Research Directorate at Cancer Research UK to support the network, help with developing links, arranging specialist meetings and workshops and administering the finances of the network. The first meeting of the ECMC network took place on 6 December 2006 and this was followed by the Early Clinical Trials Forum on 7 December 2006. Further information on the ECMC network is available from Mags Sara ([mags.sara@cancer.org.uk](mailto:mags.sara@cancer.org.uk)).

## TRICC News in Brief

For the September 2006 meeting of TRICC there were...

4 Full Applications, 6 Sample Collection Applications and 9 Outline Applications

Closing dates for the 21st June 2007 TRICC meeting are:

**Outline Applications**

– 29th March 2007

**Full Applications**

– 22nd March 2007

**Sample Collections**

– 10th May 2007

For more information on TRICC, including application forms and closing dates please visit our web page:

<http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/gapp/clinicaltrialsfund/tricc/>

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>CENTRE LEAD</b>
Barts	Prof John Gribben
Belfast	Prof Paddy Johnson
Birmingham	Prof Paul Moss
Cambridge	Prof Carlos Caldas
Cardiff	Prof Alan Burnett
Edinburgh	Prof David Harrison
Glasgow	Prof Jim Cassidy
ICR	Prof Stan Kaye
Imperial	Prof Charles Coombes
KCL	Prof Arnie Purushotham and Prof Peter Parker
Leeds/Bradford/Hull/York	Prof Peter Selby
Leicester	Prof William Steward
Liverpool*	Prof Kevin Park & Prof John Neoptolemos
Manchester	Dr Malcolm Ranson
Newcastle	Prof Hilary Calvert and Dr Ruth Plummer
Oxford	Prof Adrian Harris
Sheffield*	Prof Penella Woll
Southampton	Prof Peter Johnson
UCL	Prof Richard Begent

\* Liverpool and Sheffield were awarded 'centres in development' status.

## The NCRI Translational Clinical Study Group

The NCRI Translational Clinical Study Group (NCRI TCSG) continues to meet twice a year to provide a co-ordinating role between the 22 NCRI Clinical Study Groups and the numerous agencies that have a role/interest in translational research in Phase III clinical trials.

Among the initiatives in 2006 were the creation, in collaboration with TRICC, of 2 meetings dealing with key translational issues. The first was held in Oxford in May with the help of Professors Doug Altman and Janusz Jankowski. It considered the numerous issues relating to Design of Translational Research Studies in Clinical Trials. It was deemed successful enough to warrant considering this as an annual training meeting. The second will provide an

update on Translational Research Technologies at the Royal Marsden Hospital and promises to satisfy an unmet need being heavily oversubscribed 2 months before the event.

At the most recent NCRI TCSG Dr Anthony Walker from Onyvax provided an informative account of the interactions with academic groups that matter to biotechnology companies with a major emphasis on the requirement for accredited processes and facilities. Reports from Dr Brian Clark (OnCore UK) on the Human Tissue Act and recent developments at COREC provided important information for the members. Feedback from the members in relation to the CTAAC/TRICC review process will provide important steerage for the

up-coming strategic review by TRICC. Consent for tissue collection remains high on the group's agenda with a subgroup being chaired by Prof Peter Collins (Cambridge) aiming to liaise closely with other agencies to seek a common approach to this issue of fundamental importance to successful translational research. An update by the individual groups revealed the welcome establishment by many of the CSGs of their own Translational subgroup.

At the first TCSG meeting of 2007 the group will discuss developments in the NCRI Information Initiative.

Mitch Dowsett  
(NCRI TCSG Chairman)

**TRICC Members:** PETER PARKER (CHAIR) • CINDY BILLINGHAM • JAMES BRENTON • ROBERT BROWN • MITCH DOWSETT • ADRIAN HARRIS • GARETH MORGAN • KARIN OIEN • JOHN PRIMROSE • MATT SEYMOUR • CATHERINE WEST • BRYAN YOUNG

## Translational Research In Clinical Trials Committee (TRICC)

### Applications Funded in Principle\*

\*Applications pending feedback from applicants and final approval from TRICC

#### September 2006 Meeting

##### APPLICATIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator	Trial Acronym and Title
Dr G Jayson	Initial Phase of Translational Biomarker studies for ICON7
Dr H Wasan	Molecular classification of carcinomas of unknown primary (CUP): Diagnostic validation and correlation with clinical outcomes with epirubicin, cisplatin, capecitabine with and without Erlotinib (ECX-Er)
Dr S Johnston	Trans TACT – determining whether the molecular phenotype of primary breast cancer can predict clinical benefit from adjuvant taxoids

##### SAMPLE COLLECTIONS FUNDED

Lead investigator	Trial Acronym and Title
Professor J Kelly	Bladder Cancer Cox-2 Inhibition Translation Trial (BOXIT-T)
Professor A Green	A DNA and bone marrow sample bank from patients with essential thrombocythaemia enrolled in the PT-1 trials

## Clinical Trials Toolkit

On this site you will find practical help when trying to meet the requirements of the UK Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004. These regulations implement the EU Clinical Trials Directive in the UK:  
<http://www.ct-toolkit.ac.uk/>

If you are a patient looking for information about clinical trials, please look at the clinical trials database on CancerHelp UK, the patient information website of Cancer Research UK –  
<http://www.cancerhelp.org.uk>



## CTAAC and TRICC Contacts

\*\*\*Please note change of telephone numbers\*\*\*

\*\*\*Postal address has NOT changed\*\*\*

Dr Daljit Kaur  
Research Manager (Clinical Trials)  
Secretary of CTAAC  
[daljit.kaur@cancer.org.uk](mailto:daljit.kaur@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5391

Ms Julie Hearn  
Senior Research Manager  
Secretary of FSC and CTCRC  
[julie.hearn@cancer.org.uk](mailto:julie.hearn@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5393

Dr Maria Lioumi  
Research Manager (Translational Trials)  
Secretary of TRICC  
[maria.lioumi@cancer.org.uk](mailto:maria.lioumi@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5383

Miss Nicola Keat  
Research Officer (Clinical Trials)  
[nicola.keat@cancer.org.uk](mailto:nicola.keat@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5392

Mr Matthew Freegard  
Research Officer (FSC and CTCRC)  
[matthew.freegard@cancer.org.uk](mailto:matthew.freegard@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5394

Ms Heather Slade  
Translational Research Officer (TRICC)  
[heather.slade@cancer.org.uk](mailto:heather.slade@cancer.org.uk)  
(020) 7438 5385

### Editorial Team

**Editor** Miss Nicola Keat **Editorial Team** Ms Kate Law, Dr Daljit Kaur, Ms Julie Hearn, Mr Matthew Freegard, Dr Maria Lioumi, Ms Heather Slade, Dr Mags Sara