Professor Alan Jackson
Cancer and Nutrition NIHR Infrastructure Collaboration
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Dear Professor Jackson



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Re: Endorsement of the Cancer and Nutrition NIHR Infrastructure Collaboration

I am writing on behalf of the members of the NCRI Consumer Forum to support and endorse Cancer and Nutrition NIHR Infrastructure Collaboration.

Most of our members are cancer survivors, some still in treatment, and so we are very interested in the overlap between cancer and nutrition, and in establishing a firmer evidence base for recommendations made by clinicians, charities and support groups. Our group also includes carers, some of whom are parents of children with cancer, and the latter point is of particular interest to them.

We also have interests in research into nutrition and cancer prevention, including recurrence or second cancers, and that leads into an interest in nutrition as part of a healthier lifestyle beyond cancer, in particular where the diseases and/or its treatments have produced other conditions or late effects.

We recognise that the collaboration has placed a strong emphasis both on hearing the patient voice, and involving patients in the decision-making of the collaboration. We recall that we were involved in initial discussions at our Dragons Den in 2014, and we are pleased that one of our members, Lesley Turner, has continued her own involvement and sits on the steering committee of the collaboration. She has encouraged several of our members to become involved in the various work streams of the collaboration, now that work is moving beyond the initial phase.

So for all the reasons, our members at the NCRI Consumer Forum meeting in March voted unanimously to endorse the collaboration, and if we can offer any practical support as a group we would be pleased to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Stephens,

Chair, NCRI Consumer Forum