

NIHR Cancer & Nutrition Collaboration

Research Workstream: Living with and beyond cancer

Strategy 2023-2028

MISSION

The LWBC research work stream will develop a research programme that puts diet and nutrition, physical activity and lifestyle at the heart of clinical research into cancer management and long-term aftercare, for all people affected by cancer and their carers.

OBJECTIVES

Overall scope

- 1.1 To develop collaboratively and obtain funding for nutrition and lifestyle research studies into patient and carer experience of cancer and its treatments, applicable to all stages of cancer from diagnosis, early and long-term management, to survivorship or end of life.
- 1.2 To support the delivery of interventional and observational studies which will enhance the NIHR cancer portfolio, collaborating with all relevant specialties outside cancer.
- 1.3 To work with other workstreams of the NIHR Cancer & Nutrition Collaboration towards one or more major research programmes or a 'grand challenge' project.
- 1.4 To develop research questions to address gaps in published evidence-based guidelines
- 1.5 To collaborate with charities supporting research into individual or multiple cancers, including children and young people and older populations.
- 1.6 To work with industry to develop commercial support for studies of nutritional products, medical devices and measurement tools.

Areas of focus for the workstream

The following are broad areas of focus for the workstream. The workstream may choose to focus on particular areas rather than cover all of these, depending on the interest and skills of the members.

- 2.1 To improve patient and carer resilience and outcomes with all forms of management, including the tolerability of anti-cancer treatments.
- 2.2 To develop research in order to improve nutritional health and wellbeing for people following cancer treatment
- 2.3 To collaborate with the Population Health: Cancer Prevention and Early Detection research work stream to support studies into nutritional and lifestyle determinants of the prevention of recurrence and new primary cancers.
- 2.4 To improve patient and carer resilience and experience in the advanced stages of cancer, including hospice and end of life care, through research in collaboration with relevant stakeholders such as the NIHR Charities Consortium for Hospice & Community-based Research.
- 2.5 To collaborate with other research organisations to develop translational studies of the mechanisms and biomarkers of outcomes in clinical trials.
- 2.6 To ensure that equality and diversity is addressed in all studies and grant applications.

VALUES

The LWBC research subgroup respects the central place of patients and carers in developing peer reviewed and independent research in the management of cancer, its treatments and long-term effects, supported by a multidisciplinary team of consumers and healthcare and other professionals.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the LWBC research subgroup will consist of a balance of consumers, clinicians, allied health professionals and researchers working in cancer and nutrition. The LWBC research subgroup will aim to have a diverse representation amongst members in terms of ethnic diversity.

Collaborations and links:

The LWBC research work stream will collaborate with other groups within and outside of the NIHR Cancer and Nutrition Collaboration. The subgroup will work with institutions and organisations in the UK and beyond, including relevant professional associations, charities, funders, royal colleges, NIHR infrastructure organisations, and others working in the fields of cancer and nutrition.