

- [Twitter](#) [1]
- [Facebook](#) [2]
- [LinkedIn](#) [3]

## Related articles

Image not found

[Our research](#) [5]

## [Our research](#) [5]

Image not found

[BRC Training Hub](#) [6]

[6]

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Image not found

[Patient and public involvement and engagement](#) [7]

[7]

## [Patient and public involvement and engagement](#) [7]

## Our collaborations

Multidisciplinary and collaborative research is a key UK policy driver with cancer identified as a particular area to benefit from multidisciplinary collaboration.



We are working with partners from across the public sector (including other parts of the NIHR infrastructure), charities and industry to increase the speed and scale at which innovations will reach patients and improve the UK economy.

### **Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre**

The [Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre \(AHSC\)](#) [8] is a partnership between Imperial College London, The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, the Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust and The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust. The AHSC has been designated by the Department of Health and Social Care as one of the six strategic University?NHS alliances that aims to accelerate the translation of scientific breakthroughs into innovative ways of providing patient care.

Under the AHSC umbrella, we contribute to the [NIHR Health Informatics Collaborative \(HIC\)](#) [9] aiming to establish catalogued, comparable, comprehensive flows of patient data and a governance framework at a number of NHS trusts through the delivery of a number of exemplar research studies. We are contributing data to three NIHR Health Informatics Collaborative (HIC) themes: lung cancer, colorectal cancer and critical care.

### **Health Data Research Hub for Cancer**

The Royal Marsden is part of the [Health Data Research Hub for Cancer \(DATA?CAN\)](#) [10]. DATA-CAN was founded by researchers in London, Belfast and Leeds, and involving collaboration between seven BRCs. DATA?CAN aims to transform the ability of researchers to use high-quality cancer data by bringing the data together to help develop improved cancer treatments and ultimately inform how NHS cancer services can be improved.

## **RM Partners**

The Royal Marsden is the host and founder of [RM Partners](#) [11], one of 19 Cancer Alliances tasked with trialling and rolling out new models of care and reducing variation in outcomes following the recommendations of NHS England's National Cancer Strategy.

The Royal Marsden and RM Partners are pioneering new models of care, rapidly translating clinical research into clinical practice. Its focus is on reducing variation in outcomes, transforming early diagnosis to improve cancer survival and improving and enhancing experience and quality of life for those living with and beyond cancer.

## **CRUK Accelerator Network**

We lead and participate in CRUK Accelerator Network initiatives that enable us to develop and lead large scale research:

- We lead a UK network to develop, assess and implement advanced radiotherapy technologies based on stereotactic ablative radiotherapy, magnetic?resonance image?guided radiotherapy (MR Linac) and proton?beam therapy with four other centres of excellence, University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH) BRC, Oxford BRC, Manchester BRC and the University of Leeds.
- We are part of CRUK?supported collaboration with UCLH BRC, Guy's and St Thomas' BRC, the Francis Crick Institute and the Barts Cancer Institute to advance cancer immunotherapy.
- We are part of a wider collaboration across BRCs (UCLH, GSTT/KCL, Imperial, Oxford, Cambridge, and Manchester) to establish a fast and robust cross?institutional pipeline and to produce quality assured locked down Imaging Biomarkers (IB). This programme of work is funded by the CRUK National Cancer Imaging Translational Accelerator aiming to establish the infrastructure to enable the coordination between complementary local structures and providing a unified mechanism for ?route to market? for IBs.
- Another CRUK Accelerator Network initiative enables us to collaborate internationally to deliver tools and devices that could be promptly implemented in a clinical setting, to pre?emptively intercept treatment resistance in individual cancer patients. Our team (together with colleagues in Italy) is combining cancer evolution modelling, new single?cell approaches and novel microfluidic devices, and new data integration techniques to study the evolutionary trajectories of cell clones in cancer tissues and in patient?derived organoids. This will define effective and data?driven personalised therapeutic strategies

- An additional national and international initiative focuses on generating a series of innovative tools and resources to drive the development of precision medicine approaches for neoadjuvant therapy in high-risk sarcoma patients.

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[6] <https://www.cancerbrc.org/brc-training-hub>

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