# PLACING THE PRIMARY BONE CANCER COMMUNITY AT THE HEART OF THE BONE CANCER RESEARCH TRUST

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#### INFORMATION

We are committed to providing our community with **high-quality**, **evidence-based** and **up to date information**, across all sub-types of primary bone cancer and tumour, to ensure that patients, their families & loved ones feel informed and supported as they navigate the journey through diagnosis and treatment.

In January 2023, the quality of our information was recognised by the **Patient Information Forum**, who awarded us the 'PIF tick', the UK's only assessed quality mark for health information.

Patients & members of the primary bone cancer community are actively involved in **the development and review** of our resources, ensuring that their voices & lived experiences guide the information we share.





#### RESEARCH

Since 2006, the Bone Cancer Research Trust has committed over **£8.4 million** to primary bone cancer research, with

the aim of improving our understanding of this disease, developing kinder and more effective treatments for patients and, ultimately, achieving a cure.

Thanks to our **Patient & Public Involvement Panel (PPIP)**, the primary

bone cancer community are not only the motivation driving this research, but they are also actively involved **in identifying key research priorities**, **shaping projects** 



ENSURING PATIENT AND PUBLIC NEEDS ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR RESEARCH



We also pride ourselves on gathering, collating and reporting the **latest available statistics** across all primary bone cancer types.



Without this vital information, our ability to identify sub-type specific clinical and research priorities and to advocate for patients' individual needs remains limited. Patient Information Forum

and guiding funding decisions.

Here at the **Bone Cancer Research Trust**, we advocate for the primary bone cancer community in everything we do, through the **research** we fund, the wide-ranging **support & information** we provide, and the **awareness** we raise. Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) aims to ensure that research is carried out collaboratively **'with' patients and members of the public**, rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them.

Through PPIP, **lived experiences** are brought to the forefront of the research we fund.

These four key pillars are the foundation upon which the Bone Cancer Research Trust is built, with **patients**, **families & their support networks placed at the very heart**, guiding our core values and activities.



*"I feel it is important that all those touched by primary bone cancer have a representative that will give them a voice, especially as outcomes have improved so little for so many years.* 

Through PPIP, I can make a contribution that might improve the outcome for others."

**PPIP member & parent** 

together, to drive forwards change which will lead to improved outcomes for patients.

TAKING STEPS TOWARDS CHANGE, TOGETHER.

We not only **advocate for our community**, but also **empower** 

them to self-advocate, to feel heard and represented, and,

#### SUPPORT

In 2019, we launched our dedicated Support & Information Service, providing a diverse range of support to the primary bone cancer community, regardless of their age, background or geographical location.

Whether through our **support line**, **virtual & digital support groups**, **'get-togethers'** or opportunities to **share stories** and experiences of primary bone cancer, we aim to advocate for and address the needs of patients & families at all stages of their journey.

### AWARENESS

We know that, for far too many members of the primary bone cancer community, diagnosis is delayed due to a lack of understanding and awareness.

We strive to raise awareness amongst the healthcare professionals of today and of the future, whether through sharing our **dedicated information & resources** with nurses, clinicians, GPs, radiologists & allied healthcare professionals, or through our partnership with the University of Sheffield, which has raised vital awareness amongst **medical students** committed to learning from and supporting the primary bone cancer community.

#### The **Bone Cancer Conference** is our award-winning, flagship support event, bringing together the primary bone cancer community and



providing a supportive space to connect with others, share experiences and hear the latest research updates.

We also recognise the significant financial challenges which patients & families can face throughout diagnosis, treatment and beyond. We therefore offer several non-means tested **financial assistance grants** to help with the expenses associated with hospital visits & treatment, and with travel costs for UK patients undergoing Proton Beam Therapy or enrolled in a clinical trial.

#### **OUR FUTURE**

Our latest 10-year strategy, 'More patients surviving. More patients thriving', was shaped in response to the needs & priorities voiced by our community, placing renewed focus on ensuring that patients are not only able to survive their diagnosis, but also live well beyond it.

## FIND OUT MORE

Please contact us for more information: **PPIP@bcrt.org.uk** 





