

## **All Party Parliamentary Group on Pancreatic Cancer: Terms of reference for an inquiry into pancreatic cancer research**

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### **Introduction**

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Pancreatic Cancer is launching a special inquiry into pancreatic cancer research, looking at the barriers to increasing the level of research into pancreatic cancer. This will build on the report *Time to Change the Story: A Plan of Action for Pancreatic Cancer*, which was published in November 2013, but which did not focus specifically on research. It will also build on work undertaken by organisations within the sector, such as Pancreatic Cancer UK's *A cancer of unmet need: the pancreatic cancer research challenge*.

The inquiry is particularly interested in hearing evidence, views and experiences relating to:

- Increasing the level of funding provided to pancreatic cancer research
- Addressing structural barriers and raising the profile of pancreatic cancer in the research community
- Co-ordination and integration of research (basic, translational and trials) to ensure greatest advancement
- Addressing research resource needs, for example, tissue banks
- Increasing numbers of pancreatic cancer clinical trials - and patient access to trials
- The role of research in improving early diagnosis, including research relating to education of health professionals
- International comparisons, including USA legislative approach to developing research strategy

The inquiry will take evidence from a range of stakeholders including charities, clinicians, officials, researchers and others.

The APPG is calling for written and oral evidence from interested stakeholders, on the four key points outlined above.

### **Terms of reference**

In this inquiry, the APPG will consider, amongst other issues, the following:

#### **Increasing the level of funding provided to pancreatic cancer research**

- Comparisons of levels of pancreatic cancer research with other cancers
- The role of national funding bodies
- The role of the pharmaceutical industry

#### **Addressing structural barriers and raising the profile of pancreatic cancer in the research community**

- The need for a strategy to increase levels of pancreatic cancer research
- The challenges in developing pancreatic cancer researchers
- The role of mentoring in developing younger researchers

- Improving the attractiveness of pancreatic cancer as a research area
- The need to develop a critical mass of pancreatic cancer research
- The role of regional specialist pancreatic cancer centres
- The need for pooled and shared resources, for example, tissue banks, to support research activity
- The coordination and integration of pancreatic cancer research efforts

#### **The role of research in improving early diagnosis**

- The role of research in improving early diagnosis
- The role of primary care in pancreatic cancer research
- The role of research looking at best ways to educate health professionals about pancreatic cancer

#### **International comparisons**

- Comparisons between funding in the UK and the rest of Europe
- Comparisons with Australia, the USA and the rest of the world
- The USA legislative approach (The Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act)

#### **Submission guidelines**

We would appreciate it if the submissions would follow the below guidelines:

- be in Word format
- state clearly who the submission is from, and whether it is sent in a personal capacity or on behalf of an organisation
- be no more than 2,500 words in length;
- comprise a single document attachment to the email;
- begin with a short summary in bullet point form;
- have numbered paragraphs; and
- use footnotes rather than endnotes.

A copy of the submission should be sent by e-mail with the subject “Pancreatic Cancer APPG Research Inquiry” to [pancreaticcanceruk@whitehouseconsulting.co.uk](mailto:pancreaticcanceruk@whitehouseconsulting.co.uk).

Much of the evidence we receive will be made public either as part of oral evidence submissions or in our final written report. If you wish for your submission or parts of your submission to remain private then please note this in the submission, or contact us to discuss this prior to submission.