



EMOTIONAL HEALTH IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED CANCER: A JOINT PROJECT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITIES OF LIVERPOOL AND LANCASTER, SUPPORTED BY ST LUKE'S HOSPICE, SHEFFIELD



Welcome to this third edition of the newsletter which is designed to keep everyone who is involved with the Emotional Health in Advanced Cancer study informed of what we are doing and where we are up to. In June we welcomed **Claire Keogh** to our team from the University of Maynooth in County Kildare, Ireland. Also **Lorna Higgins** has joined the team from Wirral PCT where she was working as a graduate mental health worker and has previously been based with APSCSG part-time as part of the CeCo scholarship programme. **Laura Hope-Stone** has joined us for a year working three days a week. Laura previously worked in London and has extensive experience in clinical trials.

Sadly **Claire Chandler** has left the team - she and her husband have gone travelling for a year and we wish her well and thank her for all her hard work in the initial stages of the study. We are pleased to welcome back **Tom Lynch** at Lancaster and also say a very big thank you to **Zephyrine Barbarachild** who has helped out and done sterling work while Tom was ill.

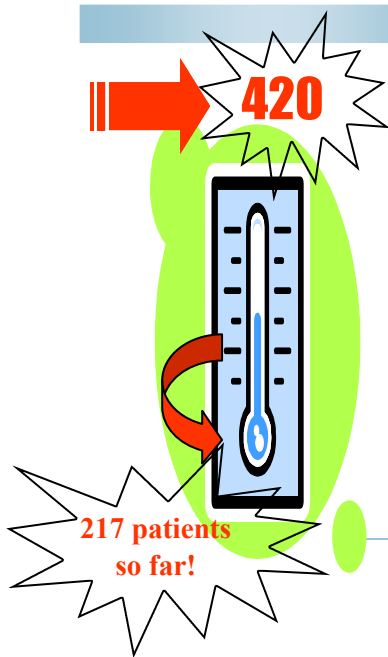
Congratulations to **Vida Kennedy** on the birth of a daughter!

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Special points of interest

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TARGETS

We will be asking patients attending hospice day care units across the North West of England and Wales if they want to take part in our research. So far 217 people have agreed to help us—we are very grateful to everyone who has given us their time and shared their experiences

We need **420** people to help us with this study.

We need to interview 420 patients about how cancer affects them

In a nutshell...

THE STUDY INVOLVES MEETING WITH ONE OF OUR RESEARCHERS FOR A FIRST INTERVIEW, FOLLOWED BY 3 SHORT QUESTIONNAIRES WHICH ARE USUALLY COMPLETED BY POST OR ON THE TELEPHONE

What Are We Doing?

One of the studies we are currently working on is about emotional health in advanced cancer. We know that being ill can affect your mood and that sometimes people can get depressed. We want to learn more about why some people get depressed and what helps people feel better or worse.

Who will be taking part?

We will be talking to lots of different people with cancer. If you are attending your hospice day-care unit or complementary therapy clinic, or other clinics you are eligible to take part.

Ask your nurse for more details.

The research

The research is funded by the **BIG Lottery**. Patients who give their consent to take part will be interviewed and asked to complete three short questionnaires on three separate occasions. This is to see how things change over time.

CECo

Cancer Experiences Collaborative is a partnership between the Universities of Liverpool, Manchester, Southampton, Lancaster and Nottingham to provide research in palliative and supportive care. On April 11th 2008 a conference was held at the University of Liverpool and hospices who are involved in the study were invited to attend to learn more about palliative and supportive care research.

Research Partners

We have been working closely with a number of hospices across the region. The staff and patients at these units have made us feel very welcome. Look at the column on the right for a list of all the hospices that have been helping us so far. If you see us in your hospice, please feel free to have a chat with us.

Patients have been directly involved with this study from the design of the initial research proposal and are key partners in the steering group for this research. We wish to thank Mrs. April Matthews, Ms. Sue Kernaghan and Mrs. Tina O'Connor who are involved in our project management and project advisory groups for all their help.

Current Research Partners

- **[St Luke's Hospice, Sheffield](http://www.stlukeshospice.org.uk/)**

<http://www.stlukeshospice.org.uk/>

- **[St John's Hospice, Lancaster](http://www.sjhospice.org.uk/)**

<http://www.sjhospice.org.uk/>

- **[Hospice of the Good Shepherd, Chester](http://www.hospiceofthegoodshepherd.com/)**

<http://www.hospiceofthegoodshepherd.com/>

- **[Hospice of St Mary of Furness, Ulverston](http://www.stmaryshospice.org/)**

<http://www.stmaryshospice.org/>

- **[St Luke's Hospice, Winsford](http://www.stlukeshospice.co.uk/)**

<http://www.stlukeshospice.co.uk/>

- **[East Cheshire Hospice, Macclesfield](http://www.eastcheshirehospice.org.uk/)**

<http://www.eastcheshirehospice.org.uk/>

- **[East Lancashire Hospice, Blackburn](http://www.eastlancashirehospice.co.uk/)**

<http://www.eastlancashirehospice.co.uk/>

- **[St Catherine's Hospice, Preston](http://www.stcatherines.co.uk/)**

<http://www.stcatherines.co.uk/>

- **[St Rocco's Hospice, Warrington](http://www.stroccos.org.uk/)**

<http://www.stroccos.org.uk/>

- **[St Kentigern Hospice, St Asaph, Denbighshire](http://www.stkentighnospice.org.uk/)**

<http://www.stkentighnospice.org.uk/>

- **[Nightingale House Hospice, Wrexham](http://nightingaleappeal.co.uk/)**

<http://nightingaleappeal.co.uk/>

[University of Lancaster](http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/ihr/research/ioelc/)

<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/ihr/research/ioelc/>

[University of Liverpool](http://www.liv.ac.uk/primarycare)

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/primarycare>

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Recruitment Successes

With the help of our research partners, we have been recruiting patients to take part in this study since the beginning of October 2007 and 217 patients have helped us so far.

We still have a long way to go before we reach our target of 420, and we can't do it without your help.

So a **VERY BIG THANK YOU** to all the hospice staff and patients who are making this research possible.

*From all the
Research Team*

Current Research Partners (Continued)

- [Halton Haven Hospice, Runcorn](http://www.haltonhaven.co.uk/)
<http://www.haltonhaven.co.uk/>
- [Willowbrook Hospice, St Helens](http://www.willowbrook.org.uk/)
<http://www.willowbrook.org.uk/>
- [Dr Kershaw's Hospice, Oldham](http://www.drkershawshospice.org.uk/)
<http://www.drkershawshospice.org.uk/>
- [Bolton Hospice](http://www.boltonhospice.org.uk/)
<http://www.boltonhospice.org.uk/>
- [Springhill Hospice, Rochdale](http://www.springhill.org.uk/)
<http://www.springhill.org.uk/>
- [Trinity Hospice, Blackpool](http://www.trinitythehospice.inthefylde.org.uk/)
www.trinitythehospice.inthefylde.org.uk/
- [Lyndale Cancer Support Drop In Centre](http://www.knowsley-cancer-support.co.uk/)
www.knowsley-cancer-support.co.uk/
- [Wigan & Leigh](http://www.wiganandleighhospice.org.uk/)
www.wiganandleighhospice.org.uk/

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