



# The Christie International Fellowship Programme Newsletter

Issue Four

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# Contents

Welcome from Professor Peter Hoskin	3
The Christie International Fellowships - at a glance	4
Fellow Profile - Dr Zaynab Abid Sohail	6
Fellow Profile - Dr Mariam Shalaby	8
Fellow Profile - Dr Sonia Raj	9
Supervisor Interview - Dr Natalie Cook	10
Alumni Profile - Dr Richa Tiwari	12
Fellow Achievements	13
Supportive Oncology Fellowships	18
Training Opportunities and Events	20



THE CHRISTIE

# Welcome from Professor Peter Hoskin

Hello and welcome to the fourth edition of The Christie International Fellowship Programme's newsletter.

It is my pleasure to present some of the latest profiles from both fellows and alumni across the trust, and celebrate our programme activities which are happening within various specialties both clinical and research.

We were delighted with the success of our academic receptions which took place at ESTRO in Glasgow and ESMO in Barcelona in 2024. Within this issue we also have a new feature with an interview of one of our supervisors, Dr Natalie Cook, who talks about the importance of fellow roles within the Christie and gives some tips for a successful application. You can also hear more from Dr Cook and Professor Fiona Thistlethwaite talking about the importance of fellows in The Christie and the ESMO 2024 conference.

In 2024, we launched our new meet and greet events for all fellows across the hospital. This is an opportunity for fellows to meet their peers but also to engage with other departments who can support their time with us, such as the Clinical Outcomes and Data Unit, Medical Workforce, and the Manchester Cancer Research Centre. We look forward to more of these events in 2025 and encourage all fellows to come along!

It is great to see the continuation of our reciprocal shadowing programme run with the Manchester Cancer Research Centre. This allows our Christie clinical fellows to gain experience in laboratories based just across the road in the Oglesby Cancer Research Building, or the newly-opened Paterson



**Professor Peter Hoskin**  
Fellowship Lead

research building. If you are interested in taking part in this scheme as a current fellow, please do get in touch via [the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net)

Within this issue, we introduce some of the exciting international partnerships linked to our fellowship scheme. This includes fellowships with Hellenic Society of Medical Oncology (HeSMO), and the Peter MacCullum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. I'm really looking forward to the arrival of fellows through these important initiatives with our international colleagues.

We remain keen to hear from you all to capture the great work that is going on within fellowships across the Trust and are very grateful to those who have contributed to this edition. Please send all future submission suggestions to:  
[the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net)

If you are reading this as a potential candidate considering The Christie as the next step in your career, then I hope that this newsletter gives you some insight into what being a fellow with us is like and I encourage you to apply to our future opportunities!

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The Christie International Fellowship Programme is overseen and managed by Professor Peter Hoskin (Fellowship Lead), Rachel Chown (Associate Director, R&I and Education), and Jenny Espin (Education Coordinator).

The success of the fellowship programme is generously enabled through the support of our funders, including The Christie Charity.

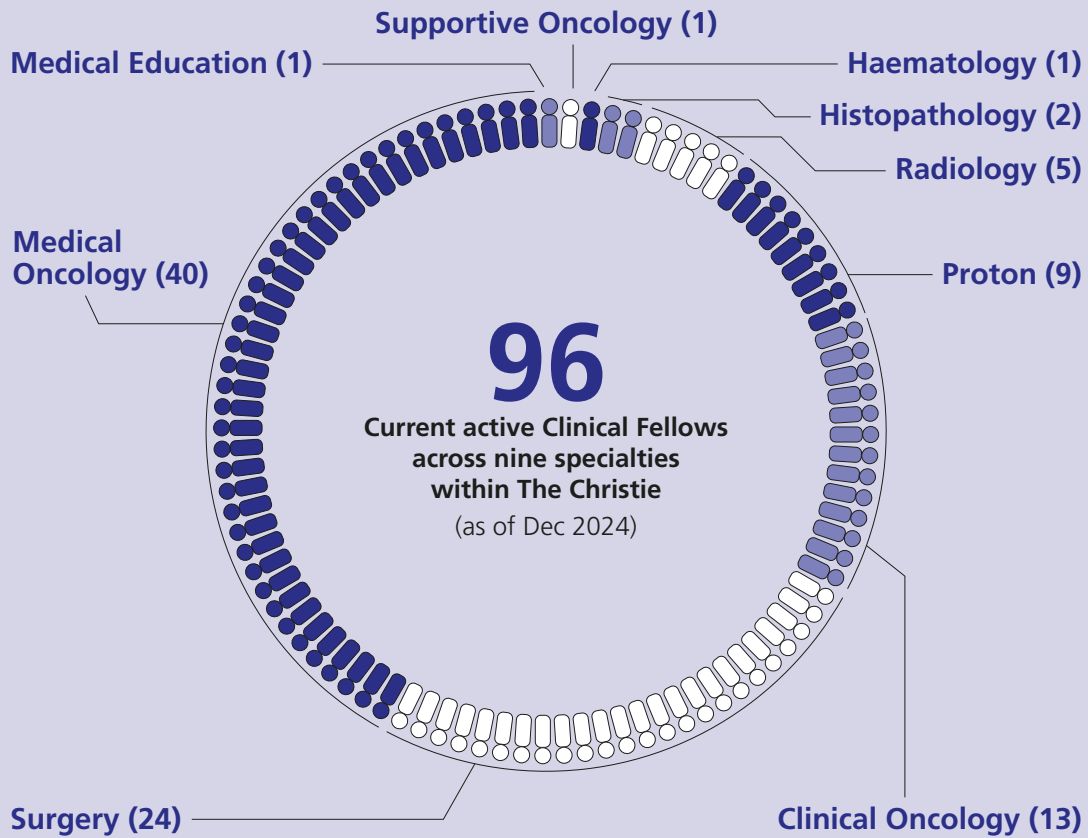


**Rachel Chown**  
Associate Director,  
R&I and Education



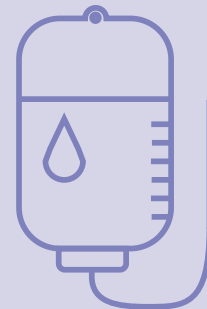
**Jenny Espin**  
Education Coordinator

# The Christie International Fellowship Programme - at a glance



**~97,000**

Over 97,000 chemotherapy treatments are delivered to patients each year.  
One of nine UK Centres to offer advanced CAR-T therapies.



**~87,000**

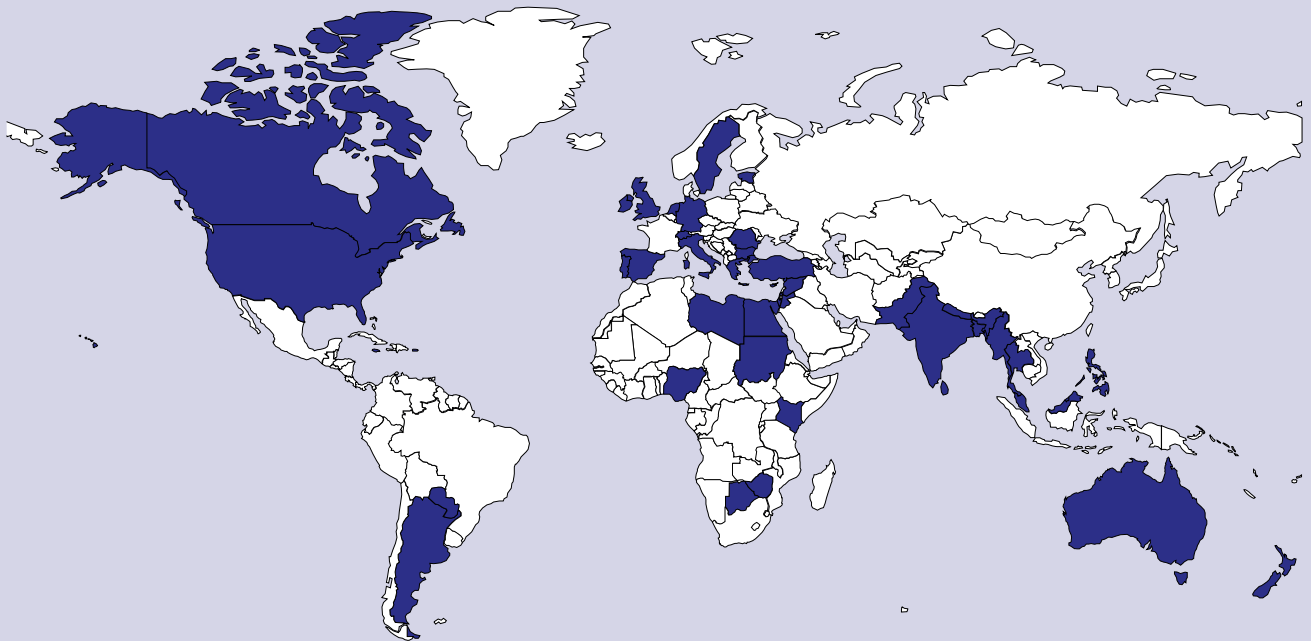
Extensive radiotherapy facilities providing over 87,000 treatments each year in fields including: MR-linac, proton beam therapy, SABR, adaptive radiotherapy.

The Christie is one of only two sites worldwide to offer such advanced radiotherapy treatments. ▶▶

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# We are International

Current and past Christie Fellows have come from across the globe to undertake a fellowship at The Christie, covering 46 countries.



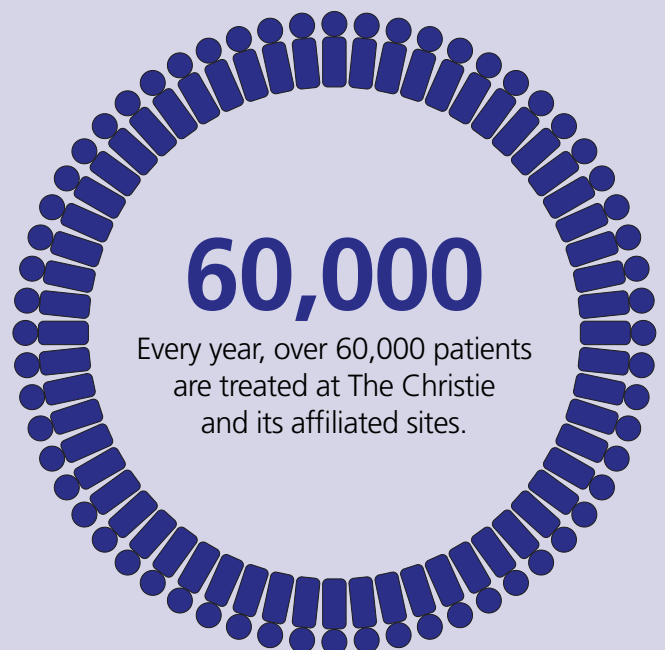
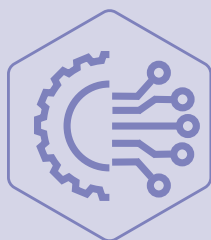
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## 1st

The Christie was the first UK member audited and accredited as a comprehensive cancer centre by the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes.

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The Christie is one of the most **technologically advanced hospitals in the world.**



# Fellow Profile

## Dr Zaynab Abid Sohail

Medical Education Fellow

### What is your fellowship specialism and where were you based before joining The Christie?

I am currently a medical education fellow and I previously worked as a foundation trainee at Royal Lancaster Infirmary.

### What attracted you to The Christie?

I went to Manchester Medical School and one of my most memorable experiences was my placement at The Christie. There is a buzz in the air when you work here, and I have never forgotten how much I learnt from all the people working here and all the patients coming here for their treatments. The Christie is obviously world renowned for the research it contributes to, but I am most proud of being from Manchester and using my skills, past experience, and knowledge to contribute to The Christie at Manchester.

### What have you enjoyed the most about your fellowship so far?

Working with colleagues who love to contribute to research, medicine, education, and patient care. ▶▶▶



I have been given so many opportunities to contribute to research and medical education during my year-long fellowship at the Christie.

## What has been your biggest achievement since the start of your fellowship?

I have been given so many opportunities to contribute to research and medical education during my year-long fellowship at the Christie. Some of my highlights and achievements include:

1. I have developed a mini learning resource on **Radiology in Oncology** for Year 4 Medical students under the supervision of Dr Lubna Bhatt and Dr Damian Mullan. This project is currently being expanded in collaboration with Manchester Medical School to develop a radiology curriculum for Years 3, 4 and 5.
2. I have collaborated with consultant supervisors to create a new face to face session called **Pause, Pull, Reflect** which looks to improving professional responses to emotional experiences at The Christie. This is now a weekly session delivered to Year 4 students and we aim to expand this offering to Year 5 students too.
3. I have collaborated with Dr Dan Anderson to produce **The Paterson Podcasts**, The Christie's postgraduate podcast series exploring wellbeing, navigating conflict in the workplace and organisational dynamics within the NHS.
4. I organised and ran the **Collaboration in Cancer 2024 conference**, a one-day symposium structured around real patients with cancer to highlight their overall journey and interactions with healthcare professionals.
5. I am working with Dr Lubna Bhatt to record and produce multi-professional undergraduate podcasts.

## What advice would you give to other fellows to make the most of their time at The Christie?

Seek opportunities depending on your interests because there are so many and everyone at The Christie is always willing to help!



# Fellow Profile

## Dr Mariam Shalaby

Clinical Fellow in Medical Oncology



### **What is your fellowship specialism and where were you based before joining The Christie?**

I have been a clinical fellow in the department of research and development (Phase 1 trials) since August 2023, working specifically in the area of delivering cell therapies. I moved to the UK from Egypt in October 2022 and was based in Guy's and St Thomas Trust, London during my first NHS role.

### **What attracted you to The Christie?**

The Christie is a very well-known organisation. It has a very good reputation among oncologists as it is one of the biggest, most organised, and most specialised cancer care hospitals in the UK. Furthermore, I was specifically attracted to my current role in cell therapy as at the time, this was a field I wanted to explore and gain more experience in.

### **What have you enjoyed the most about your fellowship so far?**

Overall, I am really happy with my current role, and I am having a very good time working with an amazing team in a lovely work environment. Cell therapy is an amazing field; very scientific, promising, enjoyable and challenging in a positive way.

### **What has been your biggest achievement since the start of your fellowship?**

I have achieved a few things since the start of my fellowship. In November 2023, we released a white paper that addresses Chimeric Antigen Receptors Cell Therapy (CAR-T) Patient Referral Pathways in the UK. As well as this, in May 2024 I finished a retrospective review on Cytokine Release Syndrome (CRS) in patients treated with bispecific antibodies including Bispecific T cell Engagers (BiTEs).

### **What advice would you give to other Fellows to make the most of their time at The Christie?**

The Christie is one of the best places in which you can gain experience in research. The data that can be retrieved and used for research is a treasure. I would advise all fellows to engage in audits, trials and gain as much knowledge in research as they can.



Overall, I am really happy with my current role, and I am having a very good time working with an amazing team in a lovely work environment.



# Fellow Profile

## Dr Sonia Raj

Lymphoma Clinical Trials Fellow

### What is your fellowship specialism and where were you based before joining The Christie?

I was the Lymphoma Clinical Trials Fellow. I completed Haematology training in 2022 in Australia working in Melbourne, then mainly in Tasmania and Australia at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

### What attracted you to The Christie?

In the final years of my training, I developed an interest in Lymphoma and wanted to pursue an international fellowship, especially since a good part of my training was completed during the pandemic and within lockdowns. Several colleagues in Australia who had done fellowships or sabbaticals at The Christie spoke very highly of their experience there. I was attracted by the opportunity to work and develop both clinical and research skills with the early phase clinical trials Lymphoma team. Navigating the GMC and visa process was challenging and lengthy, but well worth the effort, and I moved myself along with my young family to Manchester in August 2023.

### What have you enjoyed the most about your Fellowship so far?

I enjoyed many aspects of my fellowship! Working with the Lymphoma team was a fantastic experience. From my supportive supervisors to colleagues, nursing staff and clinical research assistants, everyone has been so welcoming and has provided me with the support I needed. There is a robust amount of support in clinical research as well as a friendly team-based, compassionate, and patient-centred work culture. I have enjoyed the exposure to highly specialised cases managed at The Christie and have learned a great deal from the experts in the Lymphoma team. On top of the professional aspects, I have enjoyed the friendships I have developed both within and outside the Lymphoma team, travelling around the UK with my family, and Manchester's vibrant and rich culture.



### What has been your biggest achievement since the start of your Fellowship?

Under the supervision of Dr Kim Linton and the Lymphoma team, I initiated clinical audits as well as participated in the Associate Principal Investigator Scheme with the NIHR. Both contributed to my clinical research skills and helped develop my familiarity with running clinical trials. I hope to be able to collaborate with them on future projects.

### What advice would you give to other Fellows to make the most of their time at The Christie?

Taking hold of opportunities as they arise and gathering support professionally and socially from other international fellows. I found my role as a fellow representative allowed me to build more friendships and connections.



# Supervisor Interview

## Dr Natalie Cook

Senior Clinical Lecturer in Experimental Cancer Medicine and Honorary Consultant

### **Tell us a bit about your background and how you ended up working for The Christie.**

I've been at The Christie since September 2015, but I worked in lots of different regions across the UK and in Canada for my training. When I finished my training in Cambridge, I knew I wanted to work in a Phase I trials centre, and as there aren't that many large centres in the UK, The Christie jumped out as a place to work at. I needed to get some extra experience so went out to Canada for a couple of years and then when I came back to the UK, I was lucky enough to be interviewed and get a post at The Christie, a jointly appointed post with the University (as a Clinical Senior Lecturer), specialising in Phase I trials, alongside other related research and teaching.

### **Where did you do your own Fellowship and how was it important to your career?**

When I finished my clinical training in the UK, I wanted to do another two years of specific drug development training, as this is something that isn't routinely covered in UK curriculums. One of my colleagues at Cambridge had worked in Toronto and they put me in contact with the team at the Princess Margaret Hospital. I went out there to visit and thought it would be a great opportunity, so I was awarded a travel fellowship to go out there to complete a drug development fellowship. Having that dedicated time to do a post-training fellowship in an area I wanted to specialise in while in a country and unit that does a lot of Phase I trials helped me to understand different healthcare systems, as well as giving me a global appreciation of early phase drug development. ▶▶▶



I think it's important for people to know what research they are passionate about.

**Do you currently supervise any Christie Fellows? If so, what are their roles here and what projects are they working on as part of their fellowships?**

Yes, I supervise several Christie Fellows at the moment. We usually have around 7 fellows at a time that come to work in our Experimental Cancer Medicine Team to learn how we do early phase cancer clinical trials. These fellows work as lead investigators on clinical trial protocols and help run both our commercial and academic trials portfolio, meaning they get lots of experience in what it's like to set up trials, run trials and then write these trials up. We also encourage our fellows to enrol in the NIHR Associate Principal Investigator scheme, which they get a certification for, and it is a great thing to help them in their onward careers.

In terms of research projects, we have a lot! To give a couple of examples, one of my fellows is currently working on a project looking at patients diagnosed with late stage cancer who are long-term survivors post-immunotherapy to understand whether we can safely stop treatment. Another is working on a project looking at response rates in Phase I trials.

**Why would you recommend a Christie Fellowship?**

I think The Christie is an excellent place to work from a cancer research perspective. We have so many different disease teams covering a variety of subject areas, with drug development, proton beam, radiotherapy research, prevention of cancer, and living with and beyond cancer being just a few examples. If you want to do something, it's almost guaranteed that The Christie will offer it. Gaining hands on experience with patients and doing research at The Christie really helps the fellows move forwards in their careers and will hopefully help them to realise their ambitions and start their own research programmes, or go onto PhDs.

**What are your top tips for those interested in making an application to a Fellowship position?**

I think it's important for people to know what research they are passionate about, and what they want to do in their careers, as this has to come across in the application. When we read applications and interview candidates, we really want to see that they're applying for a fellowship for the right reasons and that they have specific research projects that they want to be involved with. We also want to see that people have really looked into working at The Christie, including who they would want to work with while they're here. A bit of investigative work from the fellow's point of view really does help to see what opportunities might be available, and they need to show us that they have done that. With all that said, it's key to make an application as succinct and to the point as possible!

**How would you advise Christie Fellows to make the most out of their time at the Trust to benefit their onward career?**

The obvious piece of advice is to look at all the different opportunities on offer and make sure you get involved with things that really interest you. Another crucial point is using the fellowship to network with your peers and make new friends, as they are likely to be the senior leaders of the future and colleagues going forward. When I worked in Toronto, I worked with several other clinical fellows and wrote papers and grants together, but we also socialised and became friends. We now meet up at the large conferences like ASCO and ESMO, and many of us continue to work together now we are back in our respective countries. It is so lovely to see them all and how they are doing.

# Alumni Profile

## Dr Richa Tiwari

Clinical Fellow in Proton Beam Therapy

### What was your fellowship specialism and where were you based before joining The Christie?

I was a Proton Beam Therapy (PBT) Clinical Fellow at The Christie and was working as a Consultant Oncologist in Bhopal, India before relocating to Manchester.

### What attracted you to The Christie?

The Christie is one of the largest comprehensive cancer centres in Europe and is an international leader in research and development. The Proton Centre boasts cutting edge technology, expert mentorship, and lots of research opportunities.

### What did you enjoy most about your Fellowship?

I really enjoyed having the opportunity to learn from the leading professionals and experts in the field of PBT. The warm and friendly colleagues and other staff at The Christie also made my time memorable.

### What was your biggest achievement while at The Christie?

My involvement in many research opportunities and to have oral abstracts accepted in international conferences run by societies such as the Paediatric Radiation Oncology Society and the Particle Therapy Co-Operative Group were big highlights of my time at the Trust.

### What are you doing now?

I am currently working as a Locum Consultant Clinical Oncologist at Nottingham University Hospitals.



### How did your Fellowship support your career plans and professional development?

Working at The Christie enhanced my research and academic experience immensely and gave me a great opportunity to network with leading experts and colleagues in Oncology across the country.

### What advice would you give to other Fellows to make the most of their time at The Christie?

The Christie offers loads of career development and educational opportunities to aid with our professional development, including support with the CESR/Portfolio Pathway route. This can be a big help for international doctors.

# Fellow Achievements

## Recent Fellow Achievements

Dr Thitikorn Nuamek (Pao), Clinical Research Fellow in ePROMs, has led over 40 ePROMs-related projects within less than a year. He worked with 12 disease groups to integrate ePROMs into their routine service and has organised patient-facing events, including a focus group and Digi-Fest Pop-up, to enhance engagement. Pao actively supports clinicians and promotes the use of ePROMs through various initiatives, such as delivering grand rounds and teaching sessions, developing ePROMs guides and newsletters, and moderating the ePROMs intranet page.

Pao connects with other international organisations, including the Peter Mac Cancer Centre in Melbourne and the O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Alabama, to share knowledge on running successful ePROMs services. He has led and co-written 10 abstracts accepted by national and international conferences such as ESTRO and MASCC, and published a paper earlier this year in *Frontiers in Oncology*. Beyond his role, he was recently appointed as the Digital and Technology Lead for the UK Early Career Researchers in Cancer (UK ECRC).

Dr Igor Gómez-Randulfe, Lung Cancer Clinical Research Fellow, has published a review entitled **'Recent Advances and Future Strategies in First-Line Treatment of ES-SCLC'** in the *European Journal of Cancer*, which explores the current and evolving treatment landscape for ES-SCLC with a focus on the most promising therapeutic strategies. Additionally, he has had three posters accepted as the first author at both national and international congresses, including ESMO TAT and ELCC. He completed the NIHR Associate PI Scheme in December 2023.

Igor has also recently led the publication of a paper entitled **'Efficacy of carboplatin-etoposide rechallenge after first-line chemotherapy in ES-SCLC: an international multicentric analysis'**. This study has shown that rechallenge with carboplatin and etoposide is a valid second-line option in patients with ES-SCLC whose disease progresses after first-line chemotherapy, filling a gap in the existing literature.



**Dr Thitikorn Nuamek (Pao)**  
Clinical Research Fellow in ePROMs



**Dr Igor Gómez-Randulfe**  
Lung Cancer Clinical Research Fellow

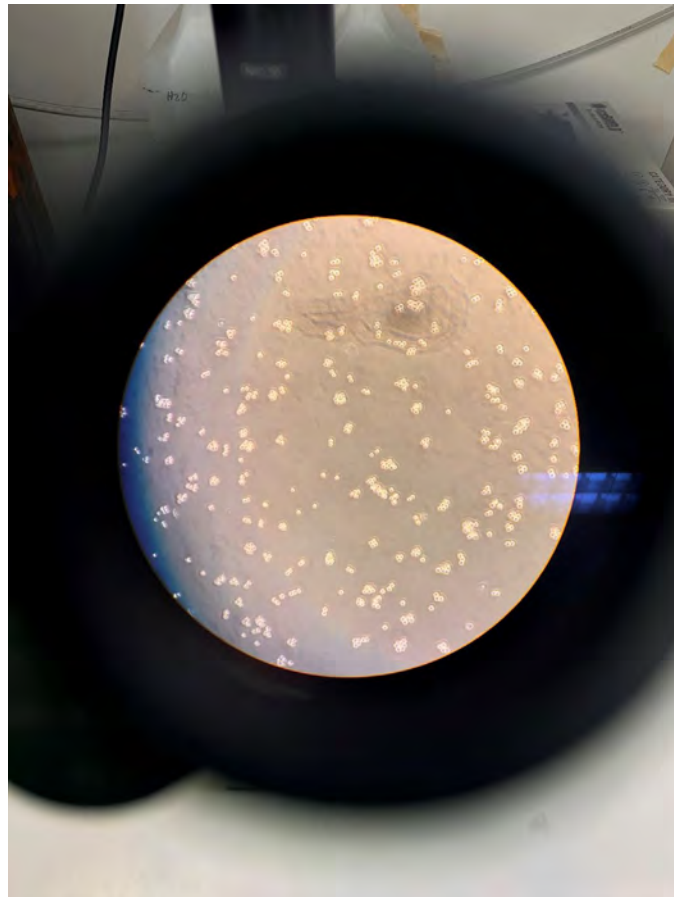
## MCRC Shadowing Experience

Christie Fellows are offered the opportunity to visit Manchester Cancer Research Centre to find out more about the work carried out by scientists, fostering more links between bench and bedside, and back again. These shadowing opportunities allow Fellows to learn about the work of a basic scientist, see how their laboratory work contributes to clinical outcomes, and share experiences of clinical research with them.

Dr Zaynab Abid Sohail, Medical Education Fellow, recently spent some time with an MCRC scientist and details her experience here.

“I was given the opportunity to shadow Mala, a basic research scientist, at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre. Mala is a third year PhD student, whose interest and PhD focus is on understanding the transcriptional dynamics at play in Oesophageal Adenocarcinoma. Following an introductory meeting, Mala showed me her world (!), which included the research centre, the labs, and fellow PhD students. It was my first experience in a lab and whilst the sterility of every experiment reminded me of the preparation of my own procedures as a doctor in a hospital, the rest of it was completely different.

Over the two and a half days we spent together, I learnt and was given the opportunity to practice various wet lab techniques including cell culture, cell passaging, cell counting, siRNA cell transfections, and Western blotting. Whilst working with cancer cells, we worked under a laminar flow hood to protect ourselves and, more importantly, our cancer cells from any contaminants that may impact our experiments. I learnt about how different cancer cell lines require differing medias in order to provide them the optimal environment in which to grow. I never thought that I would be growing cancer cells when treating patients at the Christie means our main aim is to destroy them! Additionally, I learnt about gene expression and how we are



able to manipulate the expression of certain genes to investigate their effects on these cancer cells. Lastly, I attended a lab meeting, where PhD students presented their current findings and allowed the opportunity for discussion, questions, and problem-solving.

Ultimately, I learnt the point of the research at MCRC was to advance cancer treatment and patient prospects through understanding how cancer cells develop and regulate themselves at a molecular level. I began to envision the impact of a cross-disciplinary collaborative approach to research on advancements in cancer research and clinical outcomes. I found the experience enriching and inspiring. It has given me an interest in research that I never had before, and I would highly encourage more doctors to undertake this opportunity.”

## Christie-MCRC Academic Receptions

2024 marked the second year of Christie-MCRC Academic Receptions at the annual ESTRO and ESMO conferences, held in Glasgow and Barcelona respectively. These events are jointly hosted by The Christie and Manchester Cancer Research Centre and are attended by both current and former fellows, PhD students, Christie colleagues and cancer professionals from all over the world. They provide a great opportunity for our colleagues and Manchester alumni to network, reconnect and collaborate with each other.

Our Manchester colleagues were well represented at both conferences, with plenty taking part in talks, debates and poster presentations. Highlights include Professor Marcel van Herk receiving the prestigious Emmanuel van der Schueren Award at ESTRO, in recognition of his continuous commitment to the

education and training of radiotherapy professionals, and Professor Fiona Thistlethwaite's appointment to Investigational Immunotherapy Track Chair at ESMO, for her continuous commitment to previous ESMO Congresses as part of the subcommittee for Immunotherapy.

You can hear more from Dr Natalie Cook and Professor Fiona Thistlethwaite discussing the importance of conferences such as ESMO 2024 and our event, and the role of fellows at The Christie, via our interviews from Barcelona: [ESMO 2024 \[youtube.com\]](#)

We are looking forward to hosting these receptions again at ESTRO 2025 in Vienna and ESMO 2025 in Berlin.



## Fellowships Meet & Greet Event

2024 also marked the introduction of Christie Fellowship Meet & Greet events. The first of these Meet & Greets was held in The Christie's Education Centre on 15th August and was attended by Christie Fellows, their supervisors, and other members of staff from the Trust and Manchester Cancer Research Centre who showcased opportunities available to Fellows during their time at The Christie.

This included stands hosted by Medical Workforce, the Clinical Outcomes and Data Unit, Statistics, and Quality Improvement and Clinical Audit. It was a great way for Fellows to forge connections with their peers and other Christie colleagues and we are looking forward to holding more Meet & Greets in March and August 2025.



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## The Christie Fellowship Alumni Network

The Christie Fellowship Alumni Network aims to continue links with Christie Fellows who have left the Trust. Through this network, we may contact Fellow Alumni for information on success and progress since leaving The Christie, invitations to events, circulation of Christie Newsletters, and any other general alumni communications.

If you are interested in joining this network, please visit [The Christie Fellowship Alumni Network page](#) on The Christie website, or alternatively, email [the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net)



## Fellowship Representatives

Relocating to the Christie NHS Foundation Trust brings both thrilling opportunities and unique challenges for all Clinical Fellows.

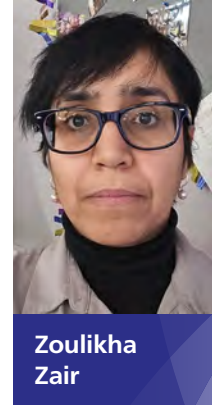
We have a dedicated team of Fellow Representatives - Mariam, Zoulikha and Shweta - who strive to make the transition as smooth as possible by providing guidance and resources as new Fellows settle into their environment. We organise various social events and activities that help connect with peers and integrate them into our team and hospital. These gatherings are a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, share experiences, foster connections, and forge lasting friendships.



Mariam Shalaby



Shweta Sharma



Zoulikha Zair

The idea is to build a safe, approachable, inviting, and inclusive working environment. We welcome you and look forward to meeting you.

## International Partnerships

The Christie International Fellowship Programme is always keen to reach out and collaborate with our international colleagues.



In 2024, The Christie signed a partnership agreement with the Peter MacCullum Cancer Centre, Melbourne, Australia. As part of our collaboration, we have a commitment to facilitating joint fellowship opportunities and we are delighted that the first of these fellowships are planned to be advertised in 2025.

We are also delighted to be working with the Hellenic Society for Medical Oncology in Greece (HeSMO), and have recently conducted interviews for candidates to join us next year. We are excited to welcome them to The Christie, and to celebrate our partnership with HeSMO. This initiative has been spear headed by Dr Konstantinos Kamposioras, Consultant in Medical Oncology, who is pictured here with colleagues from The Christie and HeSMO at the annual HeSMO conference which took place in Thessaloniki in April 2024.

# Supportive Oncology Fellowships

This year, The Christie began offering a new, Supportive Oncology Fellowship as part of a national pilot program aiming to develop core competencies in the new field of supportive oncology among doctors working throughout the whole continuum of cancer care. The aim of these 12-month posts is to equip the Fellow with knowledge and skills in symptom control, management of side effects of cancer treatments, psychological support, complex pain management and research in supportive oncology.

We are pleased to announce that the first of the three supportive oncology fellows to start at The Christie is Dr Ahmed Aboelnaga. He will be joined by Dr Savannah Thirza and Dr Erdem Kolemen by the end of the year.

## Dr Ahmed Aboelnaga said:

“I am thrilled to have been recruited to this new fellowship and to be one of the first of a new type of cancer care doctors working to improve the quality of life for cancer survivors with complex needs.

My initial medical training was in Egypt, but I have worked in several countries and was a GP in Huddersfield most recently. The Christie has a worldwide reputation, so I feel fortunate to be here. While working in oncology in Saudi Arabia, we often asked for a second opinion from The Christie.



Both of my parents in Egypt had cancer, and that has influenced my approach to this role, wanting to do everything possible to support patients to overcome the challenges of treatment throughout their whole cancer journey, not just providing end-of-life care.

I hope I will be able to apply what I have learned as a GP and bring a slightly different perspective to discussions in the team about the best way to care for patients.” ▶▶▶



The Christie has a worldwide reputation, so I feel fortunate to be here.



We are thrilled to have recruited the first-ever supportive oncology doctors worldwide.

**Dr Richard Berman, Consultant in Supportive Oncology and Palliative Medicine at The Christie and a leading international expert who has worked with NHS England to redesign supportive care services, said:**

“There is still a misconception that a cancer diagnosis, and especially an advanced cancer diagnosis, means that there’s no hope, but more and more people are now living good lives with and beyond cancer.

The Christie was the first cancer centre worldwide to launch a supportive oncology service. Our aim is to help patients live well for as long as possible.

Along with our colleagues at Clatterbridge, we are thrilled to have recruited the first-ever supportive oncology doctors worldwide. The three doctors are a strong team with complementary overlapping skill sets, including a GP, a general medic and an oncologist. They already have an excellent understanding of the principles of supportive oncology and are passionate about its role in cancer care now and in the future.

Advances in treatments mean that the number of people surviving cancer will increase. Taking a person-centred and holistic approach to care ensures we’re giving patients the best possible life.

Timely access to supportive oncology not only improves patient care but can save the NHS money.”

The fellowship for each doctor lasts 12 months; during this time, they will do three rotational placements lasting four months. The first placement will cover acute oncology (managing acute problems relating to cancer or cancer treatment), toxicities management (problems caused by cancer treatments), and inpatient care. For the second placement, the fellows will work with the supportive care team, in enhanced supportive care clinics and

with the palliative and end-of-life care team. The third placement will cover psychological medicine, endocrinology, and the senior adult oncology service.

During the first three days of each placement, the fellows will shadow experienced consultants and then work more independently with patients. The fellows will also spend around 20% of their time on a research project.

The fellows will help The Christie deliver higher quality patient care, including staffing a daily pain clinic for patients, supporting the early discharge of patients, and providing ongoing remote care once patients are recovering at home.

The fellowship is part of a national pilot program aiming to develop core competencies in the new field of supportive oncology among doctors working throughout the whole cancer care continuum. Each fellow will develop knowledge and skills in symptom control, management of side effects of cancer treatments, psychological support and complex pain management. The fellows will study a new national supportive oncology curriculum developed by the UK Association of Supportive Care in Cancer (UKASCC) with support from the Royal College of Radiologists.

When the training for the first three fellows is complete, The Christie expects them to spread best practice internationally and plans to recruit three new fellows to take their place.

These fellowship roles are suitable for doctors who have completed Internal Medicine or GP Training particularly for those wishing to gain additional experience in supportive oncology. For anyone interested in finding out more about these opportunities, please get in touch with [the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net)

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# Training Opportunities and Events

There are plenty of training opportunities and events for Christie Fellows to get involved with throughout the course of their Fellowships. Particular highlights to look out for include:

## Training Opportunities and Events

### Fellows' Teaching Programme

An annual programme of teaching sessions delivered by experts covering a variety of topics across different specialties. Calendar invites with joining instructions are sent to Fellows approximately a week before each session. The 2024-25 programme schedule can be found on the Fellowships HIVE page.

### Christie Education Events

The Christie School of Oncology provide a programme of study days and conferences that cover a plethora of topics. Please visit the [Study Days and Conferences webpage](#) on The Christie website to find out more about these opportunities, or alternatively contact the Education Events Team at [the-christie.educationevents@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.educationevents@nhs.net)

Please note you may be required to apply for study funding and/or study leave to attend these events. Further information about this process can be found on the Fellowships HIVE page.

### ESTRO and ESMO MCRC-Christie Academic Receptions

These receptions happen once a year at the renowned European cancer conferences. 2025 reception dates and sign-up links will be emailed to Fellows.

### Fellowship Meet & Greet Events

These meet & greets happen twice per year onsite at The Christie and are a great networking opportunity for Fellows. The dates for the 2025 meet & greet events are: Thursday 6th March and Thursday 14th August.

### MCRC Training Events

Manchester Cancer Research Centre put on regular events each year that Christie Fellows are welcome to attend if of interest. Details of these events are emailed to Fellows.

Please contact [MCRCTraining@Manchester.ac.uk](mailto:MCRCTraining@Manchester.ac.uk) for more information about upcoming events.

For any enquiries about the above, please contact [the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net](mailto:the-christie.fellowships@nhs.net)



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For more information visit:  
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# Engagement

For any enquiries about The Christie International Fellowship Programme or queries on how to apply please visit:



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All content within correct as of 1st January 2025