MANCHESTER
CANCER
RESEARCH
CENTRE

Training in Manchester

Contents

www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk

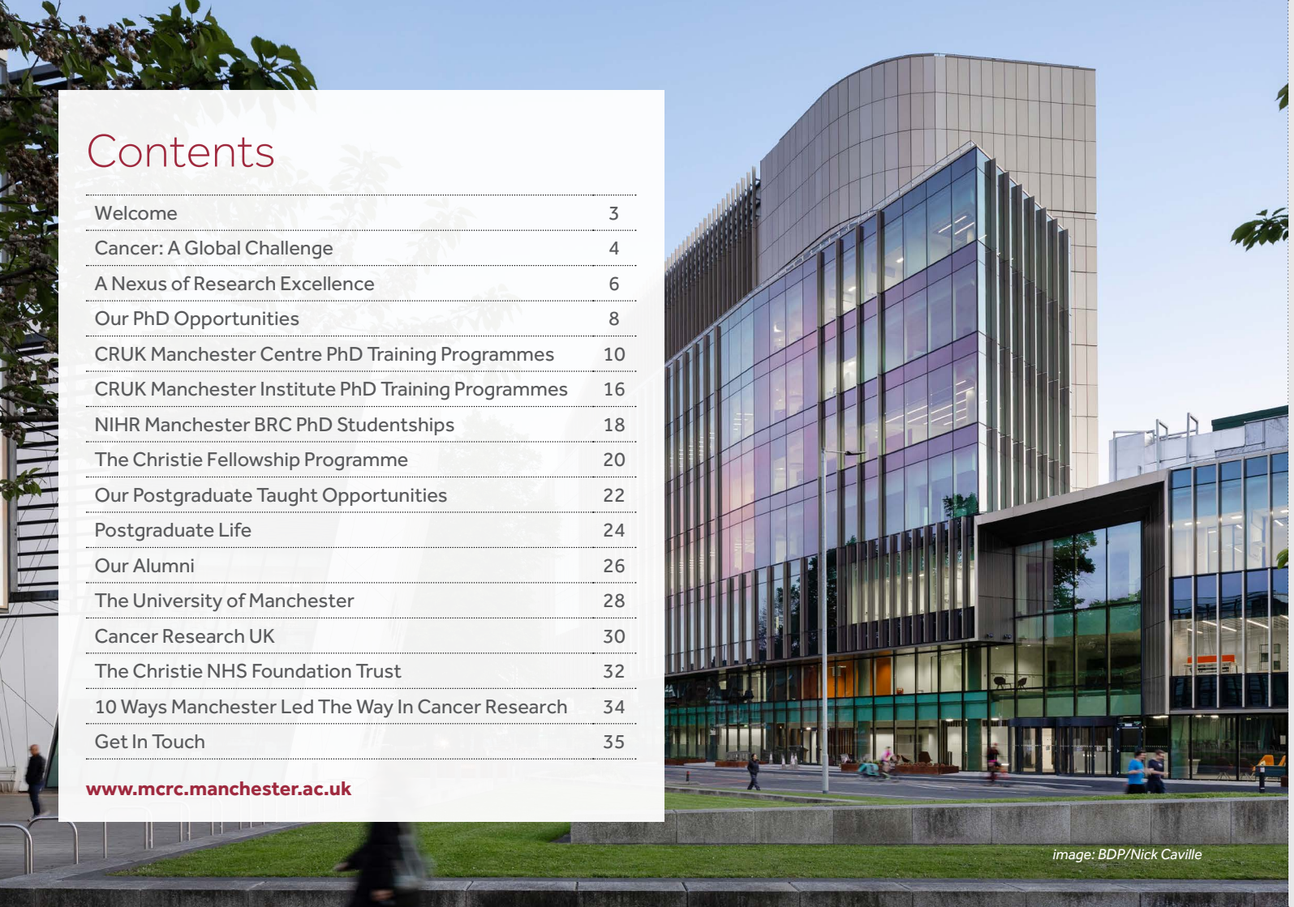


image: BDP/Nick Caville

Welcome

The Manchester Cancer Research Centre (MCRC) is a unique research partnership between The University of Manchester, Cancer Research UK and The Christie NHS Foundation Trust.

Based primarily on the Withington Cancer Campus in south Manchester, our students benefit from access to state-of-the-art facilities at the Oglesby Cancer Research Building and £150 million Paterson Research Building and learn alongside leading research and clinical staff at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, one of Europe's leading cancer centres.

There are numerous outstanding training and development opportunities available in Manchester across all of our partner organisations.

In this guide, we'll walk you through the different training programmes we provide and show you why Manchester is the ideal place to start the next phase of your cancer research academic career.

Professor Robert Bristow
Director, Manchester Cancer Research Centre and Cancer Research UK Manchester Centre

MANCHESTER CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE

A partnership founded by:

MANCHESTER 1824 The University of Manchester

CANCER RESEARCH UK

NHS The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

Cancer:
A Global Challenge

One in two of us born since 1960 will be diagnosed with cancer in our lifetime. This stark reality means that cancer affects us all in some way.

Through research, we can better understand the mechanisms of cancer, pioneer new treatments, and ultimately give hope to people affected by this complex disease. But to do this, we need you: the next generation of cancer scientists and researchers.

Study with us in Manchester and you'll learn from world-leading cancer researchers, have access to cutting-edge facilities, and pioneer your own research discoveries to help advance the global response to cancer.

We offer a suite of PhD projects in specialist fields, including radiotherapy, molecular biology, genomics and many more. Explore our courses in this guide and see how you can help us realise our vision of creating a future free from the burden of cancer.

1 in 2
people will receive a cancer diagnosis at some point during their lifetime

385,000+
new cases of cancer in the UK each year

1/4
of all deaths in the UK are from cancer

200+
different types of cancer and each is diagnosed and treated in a particular way

50%
of people diagnosed with cancer in England and Wales survive their disease for ten years or more

29%
of patients diagnosed with cancer in England have radiotherapy as part of their treatment

For more information, visit: www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics-for-the-uk

A Nexus of **Research Excellence**

The cancer research environment in Manchester is truly unique. Our research is interconnected, collaborative, world-leading and impactful.

As a student, you'll have access to the latest academic research, clinical facilities and professional networks across our various Centres of Excellence, Research Institutes and partnerships.

www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/research

Our PhD **Opportunities**

Manchester has a wide range of PhD opportunities across various cancer disciplines.

Our PhD projects are open to applications throughout the year, with the majority advertised from early October with a start date of Autumn the following year.

The core funded schemes that are available through the MCRC and our partners include:

- **Non-Clinical PhD Studentships**
- **CRUK Black Leaders in Cancer Scholarships**
- **Clinical Research Training Fellowships**
- **MB-PhDs**

A summary of all our funded opportunities is available on the Manchester Cancer Research Centre's Study webpages: **www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/study**

If you are an international applicant with your own funding or have been awarded a scholarship, please email our Training Team to discuss your research interests and potential opportunities at: **MCRCTraining@manchester.ac.uk**

Training at Manchester cornerstones

Manchester offers a flexible and diverse array of training, all with top quality standards across the following areas.

Environment

Enjoy access to cutting edge laboratories co-located with one of Europe's largest single site cancer treatment centres, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, enabling the translation of discoveries from the bench to the bedside.

Networking and Engagement

Collaborate with researchers and develop key research skills through our links with multiple international programmes across leading global cancer centres.

Support

Access to workshops, seminars and coaching, plus dedicated training officers at The University of Manchester, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust and CRUK Manchester Institute and Centre.

Mentorship

Learn under the supervision of clinical and scientific experts and gain career mentoring throughout your programme from global experts and peers.

CRUK Manchester Centre
PhD Training Programmes

Clinical Research Training Fellowships

Clinical research is critical to accelerating discoveries from the laboratory into clinical practice. That's why we're committed to training the next generation of clinical researchers so they're equipped with the skills and expertise they need to succeed.

Our Clinical Research Training Fellowships (CRTFs) are open to clinicians looking to undertake a period of PhD training in a cancer-relevant field.

Our CRTFs are usually funded for three years and the fellowship covers:

- project running costs;
- university tuition fees (at the UK rate, with some scholarships available for high-performing EU and International candidates);
- an appropriate salary in line with the candidate's current salary.

All applicants must be post-registration clinicians and ideally have a specialist post in a related subject. It is generally expected that CRTFs will return to a training programme in the UK upon completion of their research degree.

You should contact any supervisors who you are interested in working with before applying.

For more information, visit the CRUK Manchester Centre website:
www.crukcentre.manchester.ac.uk/training/clinical-research-training-fellowships

Spotlight on...

"My research focuses on endometrial cancer, which is the most common gynaecological cancer in the UK. The overarching aim of my research is to develop ways of predicting which individuals are most likely to develop endometrial cancer in the future, so that we can plan and assess effective, targeted prevention strategies.

A key part of my PhD project involves working with Black and South Asian communities to ensure that any future interventions are both acceptable and impactful for groups who have historically been underrepresented in research.

I feel incredibly lucky because this project combines everything I care about: prevention, health equity, public health, and meaningful engagement with communities.

The endometrial cancer research team in Manchester produces impactful research that shapes national clinical guidelines and policy. Their reputation, combined with the supportive and collaborative culture, made my decision to study in Manchester very easy."

Dr Eleanor Richards is a second year Clinical Research Training Fellow, supervised by Dr Sarah Kitson.

Read Eleanor's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/eleanor-richards

Leeds-Manchester Clinical Research Training Fellowships

As part of our CRUK Manchester Centre Clinical Academic Training Programme Award, we've formed a strategic partnership with The University of Leeds to offer collaborative Leeds-Manchester Clinical Research Training Fellowships.

Through this partnership, you will benefit from the research expertise and facilities at both institutions and work to develop joint research ambitions in academic pathology, cancer therapies, imaging biomarkers and clinical trials.

Spotlight on...

"My research focuses on the complex relationship between obesity and cancer, specifically investigating whether weight loss interventions can help reverse obesity-related cancer risk.

After my Master's in Surgical Innovation, I knew I wanted an academic element to my career as a clinician and began to network and presented my research at different conferences. I was eventually introduced to Professor Andrew Renahan at the Manchester Cancer Research Centre. I visited Professor Renahan's lab and learnt more about his research which then led me to applying to a Clinical PhD project in his group three years ago.

The MCRC offers a unique Team Science environment. It brings together The Christie, The University of Manchester, and The Cancer Research UK Manchester Centre, allowing for collaboration across basic science and data science. My project is also cross-supervised by experts in Leeds and Manchester, which has been a fantastic way to bridge different disciplines like surgery, statistics, and behavioural intervention.

After my PhD, I plan to apply for an Academic Clinical Lectureship. This will provide protected, funded time to continue my PhD research with The University of Manchester, with the ultimate goal of becoming a clinician scientist."

Dr Matthew Harris is a Leeds-Manchester CRUK Clinical Research Training Fellow, currently studying at The University of Leeds and The University of Manchester with primary supervisor Professor Andrew Renahan

Read Matthew's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/matthew-harris

MB-PhD Studentships

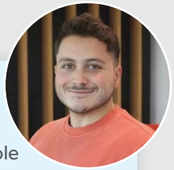
Our MB-PhD scheme allows aspiring clinician scientists and academics to intercalate with a PhD in Cancer Sciences, leading to the joint award of an MBChB and PhD.

The PhD component of the MB-PhD studentship is funded for three years. The studentship includes funding for:

- project running costs;
- university tuition fees (at the UK rate, with some scholarships available for high-performing EU and International candidates);
- an annual stipend to help with living costs;
- a bursary towards undergraduate medical tuition fees (at the UK rate).

You must currently be an MBChB student at The University of Manchester or The University of Leeds, or be studying on the University of St Andrews-Manchester medical school pathway, to apply for our MB-PhD studentships.

Spotlight on...



"I knew I wanted to expand on my existing knowledge of oncology so decided to intercalate during my medical training and pursue a Master's degree at Barts Cancer Institute. I found my Master's fascinating and it only strengthened my passion for cancer research and inspired me to pursue a career in academic medicine. I then heard about the Leeds-Manchester MB-PhD pathway. This seemed like the perfect programme to allow me to bridge the gap between scientific research and clinical practice.

My MB-PhD project focuses on glioblastoma, a type of brain cancer. I am trying to understand how small proteins and molecules of our immune system play a role in shaping the cancerous environment and how to exploit them therapeutically.

My project involves various standard laboratory experiments and computational methods. I am responsible for maintaining and growing cancerous cells and tissue cultures so I can carry out in vitro, and later on, in vivo experiments. The most exciting part of being an MB-PhD student is that every week is different!"

Vlasios is a second year MB-PhD student, supervised by Professor Kevin Couper

Read Vlasios's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/vlasios-gourgiotis

Visit the CRUK Manchester Centre website for more information:
www.crukcentre.manchester.ac.uk/training/mb-phd-programme

Non-Clinical PhD Studentships

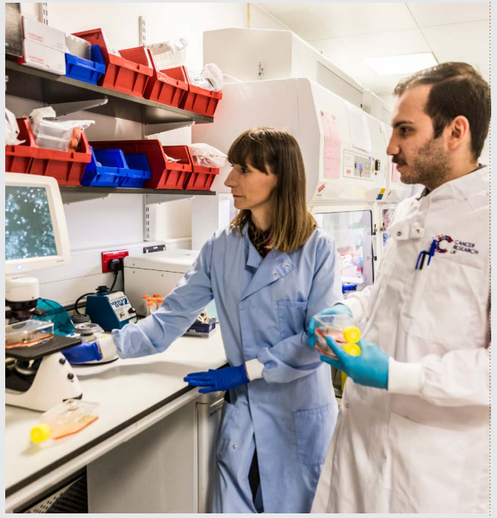
Our Non-Clinical PhD Studentships are open to recent graduates or final year undergraduates who have, or expect to achieve, a First or Upper Second-class honours degree in a relevant subject. A related Master's degree is also an advantage.

Our studentships are highly interdisciplinary and we welcome applicants whose background isn't necessarily in a scientific field but who have the ambition and motivation to develop a career in cancer-related research.

These studentships last for four years, with funding covering:

- project running costs;
- university tuition fees (at the UK rate, with some scholarships available for high-performing EU and International candidates);
- an annual stipend to help with living costs.

You should contact any supervisors who you are interested in working with before applying for our Non-Clinical PhD Studentships.



Find out more about the programme on the CRUK Manchester Centre website:
www.crukcentre.manchester.ac.uk/training/non-clinical-phd-studentships

Spotlight on...

"My research project is focused on understanding how radiotherapy affects cancer cells and their ability to respond to killing certain immune cells. We normally give radiotherapy in combination with other immunotherapy treatments, but little is known about how radiotherapy may impact the interaction between immune cells and cancer cells.

Building on previous research carried out by my lab and supervisory team, I'm exploring how radiotherapy may lead to cancer cells developing a transient resistance to immune cell killing and what this looks like in in-vivo models. My ultimate aim is to explore how this might impact radiotherapy-immunotherapy treatment protocols and to help guide future clinical trial designs.

I'm based in the Targeted Therapy group and work with other PhD students, postdocs and technicians. My supervisor, Dr Jamie Honeychurch, is very supportive and we meet regularly to discuss my research project. As a PhD student, I tend to work quite independently and the onus is on me to direct the path of my research but there are always people around in my lab group that I can bounce ideas off and ask for help if I'm unsure about certain methods or techniques that I need for my experiments.

Having my research published in an impactful journal and getting the chance to present and discuss my data at conferences would be an amazing outcome for my PhD. But really my end goal is to help generate new knowledge and do research that has a positive impact."

Adesewa Adebisi is a final year Non-Clinical PhD student, supervised by Dr Jamie Honeychurch

Read Adesewa's full story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/adesewa-adebisi

CRUK Manchester Institute
PhD Training Programmes

The CRUK Manchester Institute (CRUK MI) is a leading cancer research institute within The University of Manchester and one of only four Cancer Research UK core-funded institutes across the country.

The Institute has an active postgraduate programme, designed to train the next generation of cancer-related scientists and clinical scientists, and offers students and clinical research fellows the opportunity to study a cancer-related PhD.

The Institute's PhD training programmes are open to talented and motivated graduates with a background in biological sciences, mathematics, computer science or chemistry who are interested in pursuing scientific research careers.

PhD studentships are funded for four years. You'll study in one of the institute's research groups but will collaborate, and learn alongside, students across different disciplines.

Studentships are advertised in Autumn each year, with interviews typically taking place the following January, however additional opportunities may be advertised throughout the year on the CRUK MI website:
www.cruk.manchester.ac.uk

16
group leaders

1 of 4
core-funded Cancer Research UK institutes across the country

95%
of students continue in academia or pursue careers in industry or healthcare across the UK, Europe and USA

Access to state-of-the-art cancer research facilities
including a world-leading National Biomarker Centre, in the new Paterson Research Building

NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) **PhD Studentships**

NIHR | Manchester Biomedical Research Centre

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) is driving health improvements and lasting change for all through creative, inclusive and proactive research that identifies and bridges gaps between new discoveries and individualised care.

Awarded £64.1m from 2022-28 by the NIHR, Manchester BRC translates scientific discoveries into new treatments, diagnostic tests, and medical technologies to improve patients' lives in Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Manchester is the largest BRC in the north of England and brings together world-leading academic researchers based at The University of Manchester and six NHS Trusts:

- **Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**
- **The Christie NHS Foundation Trust**
- **Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust**
- **Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**
- **Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust**
- **Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust**

Among its 13 research themes, Manchester BRC delivers pioneering cancer research encompassing: Prevention and Early Detection, Advanced Radiotherapy, Precision Medicine and Living With and Beyond Cancer, grouped within its Cancer Cluster.

Manchester BRC offers a range of clinical and non-clinical PhD studentships to develop the next generation of cancer researchers with the knowledge and skills to undertake high-quality experimental medicine and translational research.

Entry requirements vary for non-clinical and clinical projects and eligibility criteria apply for studentships for non-UK applicants.

Please visit the Manchester BRC website for the latest programme information:
www.manchesterbrc.nihr.ac.uk

1 of 20

Biomedical Research Centres across England, and the largest outside of the southeast

Awarded £64m

to translate scientific discoveries into new treatments, diagnostic tests, and medical technologies to improve patients' lives in Greater Manchester and beyond

The Christie **Fellowship Programme**

Christie Fellowship are fixed-term position for medical professionals, offering the opportunity to work with and learn from world-leading oncology experts.

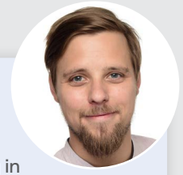
As a fellow at The Christie, you can expect:

- Unparalleled access to clinical and technical experts with a wealth of experience in their specialist fields
- Opportunities to participate in one of the largest and most well-respected cancer research communities in the world
- Experience and support to become a clinical educator

Fellowship positions are open to both UK and internationally-based doctors. Where possible, The Christie ensures fellowships are bespoke to each candidate's needs and interests.

For more information on the courses available, visit:
www.christie.nhs.uk/christie-institute-for-cancer-education/international-education/the-christie-fellowship-programme

Spotlight on...



Before joining The Christie, I worked at The University Medical Centre Hamburg-Eppendorf in Germany as a clinical academic. My main clinical focus was on testicular cancer and my research focus was on DNA repair and treatment resistance in testicular and prostate cancers.

As Europe's largest cancer centre, I was drawn to The Christie because of its unique facilities and the chance to work with leaders in various research fields, including Professor Robert Bristow, Director of the MCRC, a world-expert in prostate cancer.

After exploring various fellowship opportunities, I was awarded a European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) translational research fellowship. My research project explored the role of tissue hypoxia and genomic instability in the development of bone metastases in prostate cancer. As part of the fellowship, I set up the translational HYPROGEN trial, co-founded the Manchester Penile Cancer Research Institute and did clinical research in the genitourinary cancer trial group.

The fellowship helped inform my future career planning.

I really enjoyed working in such a collaborative, multidisciplinary environment and, after completing my fellowship, have recently started a new post as a clinical academic at The University of Newcastle and the Northern Centre for Cancer Care where I'm hoping to establish a Northern England collaborative prostate cancer research project with the MCRC.

Dr Christoph Oing was a Clinical Research Fellow at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust in 2018-2022, supervised by Prof. Robert Bristow, Prof. Silke Gillessen and Dr Tony Elliott

Read Christoph's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/christoph-oing

Our Postgraduate **Taught Opportunities**

Master's Programmes

The University of Manchester offers a range of cancer and oncology-related Master's courses. Below is a summary of some of the courses available. Visit the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health website for more information and for the full list of Master's courses:
www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk

MSc Medical Physics in Cancer Radiation Therapy

This MSc provides you with the skills you need to become a multidisciplinary scientist within the field of medical physics. The programme focuses on the radiation therapy treatment pathway: plan creation, radiation delivery, radiobiology and imaging. You'll gain in-demand specialist skills in data science and AI applied to medical physics and will learn about translation research and methods for evaluation of novel techniques in cancer treatment. You will have opportunities to access state-of-the-art technologies, including MR-Linac and proton therapy research facilities at The Christie to undertake unique research projects.

MSc Molecular Pathology of Cancer

On this Master's course, you'll develop the expertise, practical skills and professional mindset needed for a career in cancer detection, diagnosis and research. You'll build an in-depth understanding of cancer pathology, tissue-based investigations and molecular techniques, and explore how these approaches underpin accurate diagnosis, guide treatment decisions and enable personalised medicine. You'll also gain three months of hands-on research experience, working alongside sector-leading researchers in our state-of-the-art facilities.

MSc Oncology Research

Through the MSc Oncology Research, you'll develop the specialist knowledge, skills and expertise required to pursue a career in cancer research. You will gain a broad knowledge of cancer therapy including the biological basis of current treatments and specialised clinical practice. You will undertake a six month research project in discovery, translational or clinical science, developing practical training and key skills in data analysis, interpretation and communication.

MSc Transformative Oncology

The MSc in Transformative Oncology is a part-time, online programme designed for clinical and scientific professionals who want to study flexibly alongside their working schedules. You'll gain an enhanced understanding of the synergy between science and medicine needed to advance the field of precision oncology and transform outcomes for patients with cancer, whether from the bench or the bedside.

Postgraduate life

The University of Manchester offers a range of funded clinical and non-clinical studentships, including structured doctoral training programmes (DTPs) and individually funded opportunities.

Our postgraduate research students are embedded in world-leading research groups and have access to training and skills development to complement their research project.

www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research

International and EU students

The University of Manchester is one of the most international universities in the UK and welcomes students from over 170 different countries each year.

Before you start your course, you'll have the chance to meet other international students and take part in a series of induction activities to help you settle in and feel at home. You'll also receive an invite to a special event to welcome you to the University, hosted by the Lead for International Postgraduate Students.

The University's International Society currently has more than 6,000 members and organises a range of trips, activities, classes and events throughout the year for new international students.

www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international

Researcher Development

Through the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health's Doctoral Academy you can access a wide range of professional, personal and career development training and support to help develop the necessary skills to complete your research degree and successfully transition to the next stage of your career.

www.doctoral-academy.bmh.manchester.ac.uk

The University of Manchester's Research Development Team also provide training tailored to the different stages of your postgraduate research journey – from writing your literature review and planning your project to proofreading your thesis and preparing for your VIVA.

www.researcherdevelopment.manchester.ac.uk/researcher-development-for-pgrs

FBMH Fellowship Academy

The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health's Fellowship Academy helps researchers gain externally funded fellowships, from doctoral level through to senior research positions. They offer clinic appointments to discuss funding opportunities, as well as the chance to practice interview skills, pick up tips for grant writing and advice on application timelines.

www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/research/support/fellowships

Our Alumni

From forming world-leading research groups to undertaking practice-changing clinical studies, alumni from the Manchester Cancer Research Centre go on to accomplish incredible things.

www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/alumni-stories

Spotlight on...

"My Non-Clinical PhD was focused on the role of osteoblasts in prostate cancer bone metastasis. My project investigated the link between bone and prostate cancer cells and found that bone cells induce a process called autophagy in prostate cancer cells as a survival mechanism.

I'd previously completed my MRes in Translational Medicine at The University of Manchester and spent six months working on a project in Professor Caroline Dive's lab at the CRUK Manchester Institute. I thoroughly enjoyed this project and it inspired me to apply for my PhD. I chose to stay in Manchester due to its reputation in cancer research. I knew how strong the connections were with The Christie and Cancer Research UK, and that Manchester was the place to be for cancer research.

I'm now working as a Senior Editor at Communications Medicine, a medical journal from the Nature Portfolio publishing research across all areas of clinical and translational medicine, epidemiology and public health. I handle most of our journal's cancer-related content. I still feel involved in scientific research, even though I am no longer in the lab, and the knowledge and skills I gained during my PhD have been instrumental to my work."

Dr Ben Abbott completed a Non-Clinical PhD in 2020, under the supervision of Professor Paul Townsend. Ben is now a Executive Editor at The Lancet, a medical journal.

Read Ben's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/ben-abbott

Spotlight on...

"My research project involved examining circulating tumour DNA to find early recurrence of melanoma and understanding resistance mechanisms to therapy which can ultimately help improve survival rates for patients.

My PhD helped me decide that I wanted a career as a clinician scientist. I went from never having touched a pipette to performing extensive laboratory work which I found fascinating.

Since finishing my PhD I'm now a Senior Lecturer in Medical Oncology and split my time between The University of Manchester, University College London, The Francis Crick Institute and The Christie.

I am currently investigating mechanisms of immune tolerance in liver metastasis which is funded by a Wellcome Trust Early Career Investigator Award. I am also running a number of clinical trials to assess how circulating tumour DNA could be used as a tool to improve outcomes to standard melanoma treatment. As part of this research programme, I have been awarded funding for my first PhD student through the CRUK Manchester Centre PhD training scheme to understand the dynamics of tumour evolution in order to develop new strategies to treat melanoma."

Dr Rebecca Lee completed a Clinical Research Training Fellowship in 2018, under the supervision of Professor Richard Marais and Professor Paul Lorigan. Rebecca is now a Wellcome Trust Early Career Investigator and Senior Lecturer in Medical Oncology working across The University of Manchester, The Christie, The Francis Crick Institute and University College London.

Read Rebecca's story: www.mcrc.manchester.ac.uk/rebecca-lee

The University of Manchester

MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

www.manchester.ac.uk

The University of Manchester is one of the largest and most successful research-intensive institutions in the UK.

The University is recognised as a global research powerhouse, with 93% of research activity rated 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent' in the Research Excellence Framework 2021.

Division of Cancer Sciences

Cancer research activity at The University of Manchester is overseen by the dedicated Division of Cancer Sciences in the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health. The Division is one of the largest clinical cancer services in the UK and has a world-leading academic reputation. Research in the Division covers many aspects of cancer biology and biomarker discovery, pathology, imaging, and cancer treatment including experimental therapeutics, immunotherapy and radiotherapy.

As a researcher, you'll benefit from the thriving research community at The University of Manchester, where you'll study at the frontier of research and make your own contribution to our knowledge of cancer.

Top for employability

The University of Manchester is amongst the top ten universities in the UK for employability, meaning our graduates are highly sought after by employers

(Times Higher Education Global University Employability Ranking 2025)

5th in the UK

for research power, making the University one of the best in Europe for academic and social impact

(Research Excellence Framework 2021)

No. 1

Manchester was voted the top UK city to live in, thanks in part to our thriving nightlife, live music scene and sports venues

(The Economist Global Liveability Index 2025)

1st in Europe

for social and environmental impact

(Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2025)

Cancer Research UK

CANCER RESEARCH UK

www.cancerresearchuk.org

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) is the world's largest charitable funder of cancer research. Its work into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer has been at the heart of the progress that has already seen survival rates in the UK double in the last forty years.

CRUK supports research into all aspects of cancer through the work of more than 4,000 scientists, doctors and nurses nationwide. Together with its partners and supporters, Cancer Research UK's vision is to beat cancer sooner.

If you choose to study with us, you'll benefit from the funding CRUK has invested into various research projects, programmes and initiatives across Manchester in recent years.

You'll learn from, and work alongside, researchers at the CRUK Manchester Centre and CRUK Manchester Institute and have access to a global network of conferences, events and a plethora of funding opportunities.

CRUK supports scientists throughout their academic journey – from PhD funding and early career development funds, through to programme grants supporting the establishment of research laboratories.

CANCER RESEARCH UK | Manchester Institute

The CRUK Manchester Institute

The CRUK Manchester Institute (CRUK MI) is a leading cancer research institute within The University of Manchester, covering the whole spectrum of cancer research – from investigating the molecular and cellular basis of cancer, to translational research and the development of therapeutics.

The Institute supports several investigative programmes, spanning both basic and translational cancer research. It has state-of-the-art laboratory facilities and outstanding core services, including genomic sequencing, high-resolution microscopy, bioinformatics, histology, and mass-spectrometry based proteomics.

The Institute is made up of over 350 Postdoctoral Scientists, Clinical Fellows, Scientific Officers, Operational and Technical staff, Postgraduate Research Students and Visiting Fellows.

www.cruk.manchester.ac.uk

CANCER RESEARCH UK | Manchester Centre

The CRUK Manchester Centre

Manchester is also home to the CRUK Manchester Centre, part of a network of seven dedicated cancer centres across the UK.

The Centre benefits from strong partnerships across Manchester and works collaboratively to improve the translation of science from the lab to the clinic and to ultimately improve outcomes for patients with cancer.

The Centre supports ground-breaking research across five core cross-cutting research themes: cancer biomarkers, integrative pathology, experimental cancer medicine, radiotherapy bio-adaption and cancer early detection.

www.crukcentre.manchester.ac.uk

The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

NHS
The Christie
NHS Foundation Trust

www.christie.nhs.uk

The Christie is one of Europe's leading cancer centres and the first in the UK to gain Comprehensive Cancer Centre accreditation.

The Christie's close location to the Oglesby Cancer Research Building and Paterson Research Building creates the perfect environment for collaboration.

We work across subject boundaries and so it's common for our clinicians and scientists to work together and share ideas to develop new innovations and help improve best practice and care for cancer patients.

As a researcher in Manchester, you'll have access to The Christie's state-of-the-art facilities. This includes the use of biological samples from cancer patients for your laboratory experiments and access to dedicated radiotherapy research rooms and proton beam therapy equipment.

About The Christie

- Serves a population of 3.2 million across Greater Manchester and Cheshire and receives a quarter of patient referrals from outside the city region
- One of the biggest clinical trials units in Europe, with more than 750 clinical trials and studies currently open
- A specialist surgical centre concentrating on rare cancers and complex procedures

800+
clinical studies
active during 2021/22, including open and follow-up studies and clinical trials

4,400+
patients
involved in Christie research projects in 2021/22

£150m
cancer research facility
Access to a new comprehensive cancer research facility, the Paterson Research Building, which is the largest concentration of scientists, doctors and nurses in Europe

1 of only 2
sites in the world to offer both high-energy proton beam therapy and MR-Linac technologies

10 ways Manchester **led the way in cancer research**

1. Ernest Rutherford changed the world in 1917 when he split the atom at The University of Manchester – a breakthrough that resulted in the development of cancer-fighting radiotherapy.

2. Ralston Paterson, Herbert Parker and others developed the Manchester Method in 1932, the first international standard for determining the most effective dose of radium therapy.

3. The world's first randomised trial to treat ovarian ablation in breast cancer patients was carried out at The Christie Hospital in 1948.

4. In 1970, Dr Moya Cole and Dr Ian Todd conducted the first clinical use of tamoxifen (Nolvadex) to treat breast cancer.

5. The MCRC Biobank was set up in 2008 to collect and store biological samples from cancer patients in Greater Manchester to use in cancer research projects.

6. The first clinical trials in Europe for a pioneering new radioimmunotherapy cancer treatment took place in Manchester in 2009.

7. In 2017 the first UK pilot for a mobile cancer screening unit invited smokers and ex-smokers to a lung health check in convenient locations near to their homes.

8. Manchester hosts one of two NHS high-energy proton beam centres at The Christie, which opened in 2018.

9. The Christie began treating patients with a new MR-guided radiotherapy machine in 2019, making Manchester one of only two sites in the world to offer both MR-Linac and proton beam therapy treatments and research.

10. The Paterson Research Building, a new £150 million cancer research facility, opened its doors in 2023 and brings together the largest concentration of scientists, doctors and nurses in Europe.

Get in **touch**

Please contact us to find out more about any of the training opportunities included in this guide:
MCRCtraining@manchester.ac.uk

BEFORE YOU GO...

Why not listen to our podcast '**One in Two: A Manchester Cancer Research Podcast**' and explore some of the discoveries that are shaping the cancer research landscape.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

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Royal Charter Number RC000797 | DW.4040.02.26

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