

About the ICR At a glance



We provided the first convincing evidence that DNA damage is the basic cause of cancer, and discovered many of the early chemotherapies. Today, we are world leaders at identifying cancer-related genes and discovering new therapies for personalised cancer treatment.

EVIDENCE



The ICR is a world-leading cancer research institute

The Institute of Cancer Research, London, is one of the world's most influential cancer research organisations with an outstanding record of achievement dating back more than 100 years. Our mission is to make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

DEFEATING
CANCER



We carry out fundamental research into the molecular causes of cancer, and translational research, working with our hospital partner The Royal Marsden to advance early-stage innovations to the point where they can be assessed in patients. We also work with The Royal Marsden to deliver an extensive programme of clinical trials.

CLINICAL
TRIALS



The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) came second in the UK for research quality, according to the Times Higher Education league table compiled from the most recent Research Excellence Framework.

TOP-
RANKED
ACADEMIC
INSTITUTE

No.2

Together with The Royal Marsden, we are ranked in the top 10 institutions in the UK for its research in clinical medicine.

TOP FOUR
CENTRE
WORLD-
WIDE



The ICR is a higher education institution

The ICR is a higher education institution, and a postgraduate member institution of the University of London. We offer globally recognised degrees designed for the very best scientific and medical graduates.

We aim to educate and train the next generation of cancer researchers and clinicians, by:

- offering high-quality postgraduate research training for the most promising PhD students
- providing research-led education to clinicians specialising in oncology
- supporting the career development of postdoctoral researchers with tailored training opportunities.

EDUCATE
AND TRAIN



We provide postgraduate courses for scientists and clinicians, including fully funded PhD studentships (for both non-clinical and clinical students) and two-year MD(Res) degrees for clinicians. Our postgraduate research students conduct world-class research projects. Over the 2021/22 academic year there were 264 students registered on research degrees – PhD, MPhil or MD(Res).

264
RESEARCH
STUDENTS



The ICR also offers an MSc in Oncology – a day-release programme for medically qualified candidates who intend to pursue a professional career in clinical or medical oncology which teaches about the latest developments in clinical practice. The course currently attracts the majority of London-based medical oncology trainees and about half of all clinical oncology trainees in the UK. Our MSc in Oncology course had 177 enrolled students over the 2021/22 year.

About the ICR Continued

The ICR is a charity

The ICR is a charity and relies on support from partner organisations, donors and the public. In 2021/22 the ICR charity raised £21.1 million in charitable funding.



The Development Office is responsible for all philanthropic fundraising across the ICR. With expertise in a number of areas, the main fundraising activities are:

- Major gifts from private philanthropists
- Grants from Trusts and Foundations
- Corporate partnerships
- Appeals to individuals (direct mail, online, etc.) to encourage regular giving and one-off donations
- Legacies (including Will for Free)
- Ticketed social events such as Carols from Chelsea
- Sports and challenges (e.g. London Marathon).

As well as securing unrestricted funds, our fundraising priorities include new start up initiatives and teams, buildings and equipment, and training the next generation of cancer scientists.



Around 94 per cent of our total expenditure was spent on research activity. Only 6 per cent of our total expenditure was spent on generating funds through donations and investments.

The ICR is an exempt charity, which means we're exempt from registration and regulation by the Charity Commission. We are exempt for historical reasons because the ICR is a part of the University of London, which like other universities was exempt when the 1960 Charities Act was passed.



Exempt charities do not have a registered charity number, but we do fall under the Third Schedule of the Charities Act 2011, with the reference number X90004.

The ICR has the same rights and responsibilities as a registered charity, and as a matter of policy we comply with all the requirements of charity law and good practice, but we report to the Office for Students rather than the Charity Commissioner.

The exclusively charitable objects of the ICR are:

- the study of disease and particularly the disease of cancer and allied diseases
- to initiate, encourage, support and carry out research into the causes, prevention, diagnosis and methods of treatment of such diseases
- to assist in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of such diseases
- to provide for education and practical training in subjects relevant to the study of cancer and allied diseases and the alleviation of suffering.



About the ICR Continued

The ICR is a company limited by guarantee

The ICR is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in 1954. Like many companies that are limited by guarantee, the ICR does not have shareholders, but instead has members who act as guarantors. The ICR aims to acquire and manage resources to finance cancer research to the highest international standards both today and in the future.

The overall governing body of the ICR is its Board of Trustees. Its Trustees are also the company directors. The 18 members of the board carry the overall responsibility for ensuring that the ICR pursues its charitable objects, complies with its constitution and relevant regulations, applies its resources exclusively to its objects, and enacts cancer research of the highest international standard.

18
TRUSTEES



The Board of Trustees includes representatives nominated by The Royal Marsden and Cancer Research UK, members co-opted by the Board of Trustees itself and one member elected by the Academic Board. There are also ex officio members (the Chief Executive and the Academic Dean of the ICR) and a student nominee.

The Board determines the ICR's strategies, approves its scientific and financial plans, annual report and accounts and governance structure, makes key appointments and monitors the ICR's strategic performance. It also approves major new initiatives and non-recurrent expenditure of £1 million or more.

ACADEMIC
RESEARCH
GRANTS

