

Male Genitourinary Cancer

Why we focus on Male GU Cancers

Cancers of the prostate, testis, penis, kidney and bladder account for over 16% of all new cases of cancer and collectively are slightly more common than breast cancer. Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and testicular cancer the most common tumour in young men between the ages of 15 and 35 years.

Despite the high five year survival rates now achieved for testicular (97%) and prostate (80%) cancer, collectively these malignancies account for almost 12% of cancer deaths. Therefore, it remains important to improve our knowledge of the biology of these diseases, and so identify targets for novel therapies, particularly for cases that have become resistant to chemotherapy.

What we do

- Run translational clinical trials investigating novel targeted and immune therapies for prostate, bladder and renal cancer.
- Run clinical trials for optimised chemotherapy of testicular tumours.
- Maintain a male urogenital cancer tissue and data bank.
- Identify genetic and environmental factors causing these cancers.
- Identify critical genes contributing to the development and progression of these cancers and their functional roles.
- Identify key biomarkers for the diagnosis, prognosis and prediction of response of these cancers.
- Develop new targeted and gene therapeutic approaches.

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Key Publications

- Powles *et al.* A prospective evaluation of VEGF-targeted treatment cessation in metastatic clear cell renal cancer. *Ann Oncol.* 2013 Apr 22.
- Shamash *et al.* Whole blood stem cell reinfusion and escalated dose melphalan in castration-resistant prostate cancer: a phase 1 study. *Clin Cancer Res* 2012; 18:2352-9.
- Kote-Jarai *et al.* Seven novel prostate cancer susceptibility loci identified by a multi-stage genome-wide association study. *Nat Genet* 2011; 43:785-91.
- Kayani *et al.* Sequential FDG-PET/CT as a biomarker of response to Sunitinib in metastatic clear cell renal cancer. *Clin Cancer Res* 2011; 17: 6021-8.
- Lorch *et al.* Conventional-dose versus high-dose chemotherapy as first salvage treatment in male patients with metastatic germ cell tumors: evidence from a large international database. *J Clin Oncol* 2011; 29: 2178-84.
- Welte *et al.* Fibroblast growth factor 2 regulates endothelial cell sensitivity to sunitinib. *Oncogene* 2011; 30: 1183-93.

Who does the research

Prof. Dan Berney	Tissue bank & biomarkers
Prof. Thomas Powles	Clinical trials & gene targeted therapy
Prof. Peter Schmidt	Clinical trials
Dr. Gunnel Halldén	Gene therapy
Dr. Yong-Jie Lu	Cancer genetics & biomarkers
Dr. Jonathan Shamash	Clinical trials
Dr. Peter Szlosarek	ASS1 in bladder & renal cancer

Major Funders

- Association for International Cancer Research
- Cancer Research UK
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Orchid Cancer Appeal
- Medical Research Council
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd