Summer Edition 2022

MESOTHELIOMA UK

MESOTHELIOMA MATTERS

Cover Feature | Page 24

Fundraising success at London Landmarks Half Marathon

Inside Mesothelioma Matters

Page 3 | Launch of Project Northern Ireland

Page 11 | New Head of Nursing

Page 21 | Learn more about RSO-021 clinical trial

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NEWS

Scottish Mesothelioma Network news

After being set up as a project in 2019 with support from Mesothelioma UK, the Scottish Mesothelioma Network (SMN) has recently achieved long term sustainability by moving over to the Scottish Cancer Network, commissioned by National Services Scotland.

The SMN comprises a team of clinicians dedicated to improving outcomes for patients affected by mesothelioma. Scotland has amongst the highest incidence of mesothelioma in the world – a legacy of the country's industrial past and historical use of asbestos.

Mesothelioma UK and Macmillan Cancer Support have worked with local NHS boards across Scotland to fund the service for the last three years. Now, the SMN will now become formally embedded in NHS Scotland, as part of the new Scottish Cancer Network (SCN).

The SMN will include representatives from all of NHS Scotland's health boards and will involve close collaboration with the three regional cancer networks in Scotland.

SMN members will span the full range of specialties involved in mesothelioma care, including respiratory medicine, radiology, pathology, clinical and medical oncology, thoracic surgery and palliative care.

The network will also continue to receive input from patients and carers, and charity partners involved in supporting mesothelioma patients, including Mesothelioma UK, Macmillan Cancer Support, Action on Asbestos, Clydebank Asbestos Group, Tayside Action on Asbestos.

The SMN aims to enable equitable access to clinical trials. This will be supported by the SMN through its multi-disciplinary team meetings which provide a weekly expert forum to discuss new diagnoses, generate accurate staging and provide local teams with the full range of management options, including any available clinical trials.

Do It For Yourself campaign wins at HSJ Partnership Awards

The Do It For Yourself (DIFY) campaign emerged as the winner in the Best Pharmaceutical Partnership category at this year's HSJ Partnership Awards.

Judges noted the enthusiasm and active participation of all the partners which led to their decision to pick the DIFY campaign as the winner. This was echoed by the team at Merck, Sharp and Dohme (MSD), which funded the campaign.

The campaign was first launched on Monday 30 November 2020 and it aimed to address the impact that Covid-19 has had on people with possible lung cancer symptoms in a bid to encourage them to contact their GPs. It was developed in collaboration with lung cancer charities including Mesothelioma UK and the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation, along with Lung Cancer Nursing UK, the UK Lung Cancer Coalition, Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance and the NHS Northern Care Alliance.

MSD has published an evaluation report on the DIFY campaign which you can read at www.msd-uk.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/43/2022/02/Do-It-For-Yourself-Campaign-Evaluation-Report-Jan-2022.pdf while winners of this year's HSJ Partnership Awards can be viewed at www.partnership.hsj.co.uk/winners-2022

Launch of Project Northern Ireland

In the last edition of Mesothelioma Matters, we featured an article after being contacted by the family of a mesothelioma patient, Tony who sadly passed away on the 1 January 2022 following a four-and-a-half-year battle with pleural mesothelioma. We said that we 'hoped to work with the family to raise awareness of mesothelioma and improve services for patients in Northern Ireland'.

So, we're delighted to say that we've since set up a Project Northern Ireland Group with family members and Macmillan Cancer Support's team, and we are busy engaging with healthcare professionals across Northern Ireland. Our aim is to mobilise interest across the country and support NHS providers in establishing a more coordinated and supportive approach to meeting the needs of people diagnosed and living with mesothelioma.

The Rodgers family and Mesothelioma UK supporters in Northern Ireland have also embarked on a number of fundraising initiatives and have established a Northern Ireland fund to support the work.

Ladies' Luncheon 2022

In March this year, to mark International Women's Day, Mesothelioma UK hosted a special ladies' luncheon. The event was held at the MacDonald Hotel in Manchester where guests spent an elegant and fun-filled afternoon.

The festivities began with a drinks reception where guests chatted and mingled, after which, they heard from Lorraine Creech, our Head of Nursing, who extended a warm welcome. She provided an overview of the day's agenda and then guests watched a special screening of the Margaret Portman video. This served as a poignant reminder of why fundraising is so vital to Mesothelioma UK and it underlined how research can change lives and make mesothelioma a manageable disease.

Once the screening ended, guests were treated to a three-course meal. This was followed by another screening of an animated video that explained how Mesothelioma UK had co-funded a study (GEMS) to explore gender differences in patients with mesothelioma. The study was conducted by University of Sheffield's Mesothelioma UK Research Centre and you can read the full report at www.mesothelioma.uk.com/new-report-on-gender-differences-in-the-experience-of-asbestos-related-cancer/

The main event of the day was the panel session where host, Lorraine, interacted with our keynote speakers, Caroline Twist, Mavis Nye, Barbara Murray and Colette Willoughby. Panel members fielded questions and shared details of their greatest achievements along with their own experiences of gender discrimination.

The end of the luncheon was marked by a special raffle where the winner received a Swarovski necklace and musician, John Jones, serenaded our guests with a rendition of popular tunes on his accordion.

We are grateful for the help of our sponsors and supporters who enabled us to raise a total of £4,350.00 on the day.

Look out for Patient and Carer Day 2022

Each year, Mesothelioma UK holds its annual Patient and Carer Day - a day of learning, shared experiences and a chance to come together.

The event hosts a number of key speakers discussing surgery, new treatment and trials, and many other concerns or questions that mesothelioma patients may have.

Join us (in person) this year as we host our annual Patient and Carer Day on Thursday 6 October at the Belfry Hotel, Nottingham.

It's a chance to learn, share and meet others. Learn about the latest on mesothelioma clinical trials, treatments and research from clinical experts and hear personal stories from patients.

There will also be three question and answer panel sessions with the speakers on the day.

This event is free for all to attend although a donation to support Mesothelioma UK would be greatly appreciated.

You can find out more and reserve your place at www.mesothelioma.uk.com/patient-carer-day/

Time to Go Blue for Meso

'Go Blue for Meso' is a national campaign to raise awareness of mesothelioma and the dangers of asbestos.

This year, for Action Mesothelioma Day on 1 July 2022, people are being asked to get involved by lighting up their home or contacting a prominent landmark in their local area to light up blue on this day.

Lighting buildings blue is a way to remember those affected by mesothelioma and raise awareness of the disease.

The campaign is part of the UK Mesothelioma Alliance's ActionMeso campaign, which brings together the diverse mesothelioma community with a single voice.

All of the information about how to get involved, including a letter template for local landmarks, is available at www.actionmeso.org/goblue

Mesothelioma UK will be hosting an afternoon tea to mark Action Mesothelioma Day. Spaces will be restricted but if you'd like to attend, please email fundraising@mesothelioma.uk.com

Loughborough MP visits Mesothelioma UK

L-R: Liz Darlison, Mesothelioma UK CEO, Chris Emmett, volunteer ambassador for Mesothelioma UK; Louise Nelson, Mesothelioma UK Clinical Nurse Specialist; Essivi Kossi (Loughborough University student on work experience with Jane); Jane Hunt MP

Mesothelioma UK welcomed Loughborough MP Jane Hunt to its headquarters in Mountsorrel, Leicestershire recently. Jane visited to find out more about the important work of the charity. Jane was given a tour of the new office and discussed the charity's work and future plans with Mesothelioma UK Chief Executive, Liz Darlison.

Jane commented: "I'd like to thank the team at Mesothelioma UK for inviting me to their new headquarters, and for taking the time to share with me the important work they are doing for mesothelioma patients and their carers.

"I am delighted that they have chosen Mountsorrel for their new base, which is an area already known for its kind-heartedness and charitable work. I know that they will feel right at home here as they continue to offer vital support to those affected by this awful disease."

Liz Darlison added: "Recognising the important work that we do to support cancer patients and carers across the UK, we received tremendous help from local businesses to get our new premises in shape. So we were truly delighted to show Jane our new office and really appreciate her interest in our work.

"We are grateful to have had the opportunity to discuss the very serious problems posed by asbestos, especially the challenges faced by mesothelioma patients and their carers."

Support groups

There are local support groups across the UK that can offer help and support locally to patients, carers and family members. Some of these groups are patient support groups, where patients and family members come together to meet, offer support and often listen to invited speakers on topics such as diet and mesothelioma.

For younger people affected by mesothelioma and for those caring for someone with mesothelioma, there are specific groups you can attend to connect with others going through the same experience.

Mesothelioma UK provides a dedicated carers' hour each month for people who care for someone with mesothelioma. It gives people an opportunity to connect with others going through the same experience as well as getting advice and information. It's free to join and held every second Wednesday of the month at 2pm on Zoom.

The Mesothelioma UK Younger Persons Group is designed specifically to support mesothelioma patients and carers under 55. Meetings are facilitated by Mesothelioma UK Clinical Nurse Specialist Simon Bolton and provide people with an opportunity to share experiences and ask questions. Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month at 1pm on Zoom.

Please email support@mesothelioma.uk.com for a link to the meetings.

Access to immunotherapy update

On 7 February, the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) approved Ipilimumab and Nivolumab for first line treatment of pleural mesothelioma. We congratulate and thank our nurses and colleagues in Scotland who participated in this process. It is understood that the treatment will also be available in Northern Ireland in light of this approval.

This combination immunotherapy treatment is currently under consideration in England by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). The decision about whether this treatment would be recommended and therefore available on the NHS was expected at the end of April. Unfortunately, NICE has put this on hold to allow for commercial negotiations to take place.

A single immunotherapy has been available on the NHS in England and Wales for second line treatment of mesothelioma since summer 2020 as part of a response to Covid-19. This is kept under regular review and we anticipate it will be reviewed again in June; it is unclear whether this access will continue and whether it will be affected by the outcome of the NICE appraisal for first line treatment. We understand that people being treated with Nivolumab will be able to continue the treatment as long as it is effective, even if it is withdrawn.

We will update through our social media channels on Facebook and Twitter when further information is available.

Response to Select Committee recommendation on asbestos removal from public buildings

Mesothelioma UK welcomes the Work & Pensions Select Committee's recent recommendation calling for a cross government strategy for the removal of asbestos from public buildings.

The report stated that the Government must commit to a strategy to remove all asbestos from public and commercial buildings within 40 years, with the risk to health only likely to increase as buildings are adapted with the move to net zero. You can read more at www.committees.parliament.uk/committee/164/work-and-pensions-committee/news/165978/set-40-year-deadline-for-nondomestic-building-asbestos-removal-mps-say/

Liz Darlison, Chief Executive of Mesothelioma UK commented: "The Committee has made the right call to prevent unnecessary death in our country. It is scandalous that we have an annual asbestos related death toll of 5,000 people that is preventable. We are seeing teachers, doctors and nurses being diagnosed with cancer from working in buildings with asbestos.

"We currently have no cure for mesothelioma cancer. Up to 2,700 people are diagnosed annually with 60 per cent of people dying in the first year. We need the Government to urgently commit to a cross government strategy to remove asbestos from all our buildings and ensure the necessary standard of care in the NHS. As a charity, Mesothelioma UK funds over 30 specialist nurses, each embedded in the NHS, doing all they can to provide the necessary standard of care to patients and carers.

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"We look forward to the day when our country is rid of our shameful, widespread asbestos legacy. Mesothelioma UK will press the Government to resource the HSE to deliver sustainable inspection and enforcement targeted at compliance with Control of Asbestos Regulations."

Court documents show UK asbestos maker withheld information on material risks

Documents saved from destruction as part of legal action taken by the Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum UK (the Forum), have revealed the company hsj Intermediate Holdings Limited (Cape), knew of the high risk of fatal cancer caused by the use and handling of Asbestos Insulation Board, also known as Asbestolux.

The documents originate from litigation brought against Cape on behalf of insurers by who had settled employers' liability claims resulting from workers' exposure to asbestos, and who wanted to recoup some of their outlay.

The documents state that "a caution label on our products and none on [our competitors'] would make our selling efforts most difficult". This showed that Cape, an asbestos products manufacturer, dismissed the idea of a warning label due to concerns about profitability.

They also state that in 1969, Cape's group medical adviser accepted that mesothelioma could be caused by "short and possibly small" exposure and that "no type of asbestos proved innocent".

The case was settled before judgment, but Graham Dring, the then Chair of the Forum, successfully fought a three-year battle for the Forum to access the court documents.

Cape resisted disclosure, taking the case to the Supreme Court, but Dring succeeded in setting a legal precedent allowing written material placed before a court to be seen by a non-party.

In light of the information in the documents, the Forum is demanding that Cape apologise and make a £10m donation towards mesothelioma research.

Joanne Gordon, Chair of the Forum said: "The Forum is now demanding Cape donate £10 million towards mesothelioma research. We believe victims and their families deserve this by way of an apology from Cape for their deliberate deception and shamelessly causing deaths, adding insult by vehemently defending cases."

The Forum has now launched the Cape Must Pay campaign - details of how you can support this campaign can be found at www.asbestosforum.org.uk/cape-case/

To view the Cape documents, visit www.asbestosforum.org.uk/cape-documents/

Working towards equity of access for care and treatment for Mesothelioma in Wales

By Mesothelioma UK Senior Nurse Specialist and Project Lead for Wales, Sarah Morgan

Sarah Morgan

We are very excited to report that we now have confirmation from the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) for the inclusion of mesothelioma as part of the Specialist and Tertiary commissioned services in Wales. WHSSC has agreed funding to establish a single multidisciplinary team for mesothelioma in Wales, to ensure a single national approach to mesothelioma management.

WHSSC was established in 2010 by the seven Health Boards in Wales to ensure that the population of Wales has fair and equitable access to the full range of specialised services. In establishing WHSSC to work on their behalf, the seven Health Boards recognised that the most efficient and effective way of planning these services was to work together to reduce duplication and ensure consistency and quality of services.

Mesothelioma is a rare cancer, with around 100 new cases diagnosed each year in Wales. NHS Wales does not have the appropriate safeguards in place as seen in NHS England and NHS Scotland, such as national service specifications, optimal pathways, and quality performance indicators for the diagnosis, treatment and management of mesothelioma.

I have tirelessly raised awareness of mesothelioma throughout Wales and have emphasised the need of an all-Wales approach. Mesothelioma UK Project Cymru has prioritised engagement with those affected by mesothelioma, as well as all those involved in the management of mesothelioma, to advocate a voice for change in Wales. The project identified the need for increased knowledge and awareness of the disease, as well as the importance of national guidelines to ensure all patients in Wales receive appropriate access to the best diagnostics, treatments, trials and care available to all.

The establishment of a specialist mesothelioma multidisciplinary team for Wales will facilitate a single national approach to diagnosis, treatment and management for mesothelioma. The example of the Scottish Mesothelioma Network has been inspirational for us in Wales and we look forward to using a hub and spoke model, such as in Scotland, to achieve a single nation approach in Wales.

The recent delay by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in consideration of approval for first line immunotherapy with Ipiliminab and Nivolumab for use in the NHS has caused great distress for many patients in Wales - Scotland has agreed this treatment as an independent devolved nation. Wales will have a strong voice as a single multidisciplinary team approach to mesothelioma management and will ensure the best decisions are made for the best interests of patients in Wales.

One Welsh patient commented: “We are aware that immunotherapy is being used in the NHS and were hopeful that NICE would add it as a first line treatment option for mesothelioma. We knew this was up for discussion on 28 April (that was postponed). Scotland approved immunotherapy as first line treatment available via NHS for mesothelioma on 22 February. Why can [we] not have this in Wales? We feel crushed, confused and upset at the delay from NICE.

“We were able to fund the first few treatments ourselves but without selling our house we will be unable to fund any further immunotherapy.

“The optimistic future we were beginning to see has now been snatched away from us. I cannot understand why immunotherapy treatment for this dreadful disease is not a priority, this treatment [which] is clearly working for [Patient X].”

We are hugely optimistic about the potential to improve services and support for patients and their families across Wales. Ensuring a single national approach to mesothelioma management, with support from WHSSC, is critical to providing equitable, quality services for mesothelioma patients in Wales.

New Mesothelioma UK appointments

Mesothelioma UK appoints new Head of Nursing

Leah Taylor has been appointed as the new Head of Nursing for Mesothelioma UK. In this role, Leah will work closely with the charity's operational team and trustees, and will provide strategic leadership of the charity's UK network of 34 Clinical Nurse Specialists.

Leah Taylor

Leah steps up from her previous position as a Mesothelioma UK Team Leader for the North of England, and is based at the Wansbeck General Hospital, part of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The appointment of Leah, who has worked for Mesothelioma UK for seven years, follows the retirement of former UK Head of Nursing, Lorraine Creech, who leaves the charity after eight years.

Commenting on her new role, Leah Taylor said: "I am honoured to take up the role of Head of Nursing at Mesothelioma UK, I would like to celebrate the contribution of my predecessor Lorraine Creech who set out our first vision and strategy for mesothelioma nursing and look forward to building on this inspiring work. We continue to have a strong nursing presence in England and Scotland, and have ongoing, exciting projects in Wales and Northern Ireland which are essential to ensure our nursing expertise is available throughout the UK.

"I am keen to ensure our nurses have opportunities for learning and development to enable them to provide continuous clinical excellence to patients with mesothelioma, their families and the NHS.

"Leading a UK wide team of dedicated clinical nurse specialists is a once in a career opportunity and I would like to thank Mesothelioma UK and Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for supporting me in this role."

Former Head of Nursing, Lorraine Creech added: "I have been a nurse for 46 years and the time is right for me to have a little time for myself now. I have worked with the most amazing people and Mesothelioma UK now has 34 mesothelioma nurse specialists who demonstrate their expertise every day and are so supportive to each other. Every one of them makes me proud.

"I wish them all the best for the future and it has been a pleasure to know them.

"Passing the proverbial baton to Leah Taylor is a pleasure and I know she will continue to develop the and strengthen the Mesothelioma UK nursing service."

Mesothelioma UK Chief Executive, Liz Darlison added: "Leah has all the right skills, expertise and experience to step into the Head of Nursing role, which has been developed so effectively by Lorraine. We wish Lorraine a long and happy retirement and are delighted that Leah has accepted the promotion to continue the work to further our vision for mesothelioma nursing."

Dr Laura Mackay, Northumbria Healthcare's Head of Respiratory Service, said: "This is a great honour for the trust. But more importantly, it's a real endorsement of how hard Leah works to make a difference to patients here at Northumbria Healthcare and under her leadership we know that care for patients with mesothelioma and their families will continue to improve."

New trustee joins the board

Kevin Blyth

Mesothelioma UK is delighted to welcome Professor Kevin Blyth to its Board of Trustees. Kevin is Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the University of Glasgow. He has a wealth of experience and knowledge of mesothelioma treatment and research, and will make a fantastic addition to the board.

Kevin is a group leader at the CRUK Beatson Institute and leads the Glasgow Pleural Disease Unit based at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital. He founded and is Director of the Macmillan Scottish Mesothelioma Network, which coordinates clinical care and trials for mesothelioma patients in Scotland. He is an NHS Scotland Research (NRS) Senior Research Fellow and leads a translational research programme focused on pleural disease, and in particular, mesothelioma.

He was Chief Investigator of the DIAPHRAGM study, which was the largest prospective biomarker study ever performed in mesothelioma. He is also Chief Investigator of the PREDICT-Meso (Pre-malignant drivers combined with target-drug validation in mesothelioma) International Accelerator Network which brings together expert centres from the UK, Spain, Italy, Belgium, US and Canada to deliver five integrated work-packages, generate new knowledge, new pre-clinical and clinical tools and ultimately new therapies ready for human trials.

Kevin has recently been elected Chair of the European Respiratory Society Pleural Malignancy Group and has excellent clinical and translational research links.

In addition to his years of experience, Kevin already has a well established and productive working relationship with Mesothelioma UK and will be an asset to the board, helping the charity to reach its goals of improving treatment and care for mesothelioma patients.

RESEARCH

Virginia Sherbourne PhD

Virginia Sherbourne

Mesothelioma UK would like to congratulate Dr Virginia Sherbourne on achieving her PhD which explored the psychological effects of mesothelioma on those living with the condition, in particular those with a military connection. Virginia, a researcher at the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre, used data from the Mesothelioma UK-funded MiMES study which looked at

the experiences of, and support required for, armed forces personnel and military veterans with asbestos-related cancer.

Virginia commented: "It was a great relief to pass my viva exam in February 2022 without needing to make any corrections. The University of Sheffield then granted me a three-month scholarship to write two articles from my thesis.

"I have recently submitted these for publication, one to an academic journal and one to a more practical journal for cancer nurses. I've also presented summaries of my findings at four conferences.

"The support I received from the team at Mesothelioma UK and from my colleagues at the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre in Sheffield has been amazing throughout my PhD journey. This was especially important to me as I was diagnosed with lung cancer soon after I began my studentship. Three and a half years on, I am well and incredibly lucky to be employed now as a staff member at the Research Centre. This means I can continue to join in their efforts to help improve the care and support offered to people living with mesothelioma."

New research sheds light on patients' and carers' experiences of living with mesothelioma

New research published in the European Journal of Oncology Nursing has reviewed 25 studies to learn more about patients' and carers' experiences of living with mesothelioma. The research was conducted by academics from the University of Sheffield's Division of Nursing and Midwifery in the Health Sciences School, including Drs Stephanie Ejegi-Memeh, Virginia Sherborne, Madeleine Harrison, Bethany Taylor and Michaela Senek, with Professors Angela Tod and Clare Gardiner. The study revealed that treatment options for mesothelioma remain limited, while patients experience a high level of physical and psychological burden, and carers experience high levels of depression and trauma.

To address these and other issues, the study's authors have recommended conducting further research into a number of areas. They include learning how interventions that focus on nutrition, exercise and mental health may be beneficial for patients and carers living with mesothelioma, evaluating interventions that can alleviate physical and psychological symptoms of mesothelioma, and looking into the psychological experience of the carer, amongst other recommendations.

The authors concluded that improving the patient and carer experience of living with mesothelioma is the best way to improve patient outcomes. To this end, healthcare professionals who are compassionate, honest and supportive can positively influence the experience of patients and carers living with mesothelioma by providing them with good information. There is potential to continue developing training, and organising systems which can provide benefits to patients and their carers.

You can read the details of the study at www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1462388922000308?dgcid=coauthor

Research project funded by North West Cancer Research & Mesothelioma UK

North West Cancer Research is the only independent cancer research charity funding quality research to benefit local people in the North West of England and North Wales. It funds pioneering research to tackle the cause, improve the care and find the cure for cancer.

Together, North West Cancer Research and Mesothelioma UK wish to work together to jointly fund a treatment, care or support focused research study that is based across the North West of England and North Wales. The study must be mesothelioma specific and have the potential to be generalised to the wider UK mesothelioma community.

The expectation is that this project would last 12-months and all costs would be fully covered by the proposed budget of up to £30,000.

Applications must be submitted in line with call guidance and appendix A if required. All applications will undergo rigorous external peer and scientific review. Panel members will be available to view once confirmed.

If you have any queries, please contact research@nwcr.org and this will be discussed between both North West Cancer Research and Mesothelioma UK.

Applications must be submitted by 5pm on Monday 18 July 2022.

New poster promotes best practice in follow-up care

A new poster has been produced by a multidisciplinary team of academics led by Dr Cathy Henshall, a clinical academic nurse from the Department of Nursing at Oxford Brookes University, which promotes best practice in follow-up care for mesothelioma patients.

The poster draws on the findings from the study, Mesothelioma Patients' Experiences of Follow-up Care Across Three NHS Trusts, more details of which can be found on the research section of the Mesothelioma UK website.

The study explored patients' experiences in a series of interviews. These, along with an analysis of key policy documents, identified five themes relating to people, processes, places, purpose and perception of care.

The study found that the mesothelioma follow-up care pathway should focus on continuity and joined up care, where mesothelioma patients should access consistent, specialist, streamlined mesothelioma care provided by specialist mesothelioma nurses and respiratory consultants, with inputs from the wider multidisciplinary team. This would improve both the consistency and quality of care received by patients with mesothelioma.

Living beyond expectations

By Dr Matt Johnson, Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Sheffield

Mesothelioma UK has funded this piece of research into the experience of those people who have lived with mesothelioma for three or more years...

Matthew Johnson

Although pleural mesothelioma still has no known cure and all too often has a poor outlook, there is a group of people who exceed expectations and go on to live well beyond these predictions. So far, most research on the experience of being diagnosed with mesothelioma has concentrated on the period around and just after diagnosis, and so little is known about the experiences of those who go on to live with this disease, sometimes for many years.

In this study, which was supported with a Mesothelioma UK grant, Dr Matt Johnson and colleagues set out to find out in detail what it is like to live with pleural mesothelioma long-term from both the patient and their carer's point of view. Ultimately, they wanted to understand more about the care and support needs of this group of patients and their carers.

The team recruited 15 people who had been diagnosed with pleural mesothelioma three or more years ago and invited their main carer to join the study as well. These people were interviewed in detail about their experiences. The patient and their carer were interviewed together unless they chose to have separate interviews. Recordings were transcribed and any material that would identify an individual was removed. These were then rigorously analysed and key themes developed using a method called Framework.

Living beyond expectations
People in the study generally felt lucky to have lived well beyond the original predictions for their condition, but with the knowledge that this was still an incurable condition. Although they had developed good strategies to deal with this, they found times when scan results were unfavourable or treatment came to an end very uncertain and emotionally difficult to manage.

Accessing treatment
Some people felt the treatment they might receive could differ widely depending on the hospital they were initially referred to. Many participants became experts in mesothelioma and wanted to learn about available treatments and trials, so they could ensure they were receiving the best available treatment. Several ended up travelling long distances to get the care they wanted. Nevertheless, having treatment was often tough and took its toll on people.

Support needs
Participants valued the support from their specialist teams very highly. Many found support groups and asbestos charities extremely valuable, especially around financial and legal guidance. These groups also helped to keep people up to date with treatment advances. Having a good social network was very important in helping patients and carers cope with their mesothelioma. There was little specific support aimed at the carers of those diagnosed with mesothelioma.

This is the first study specifically looking at long-term survivors of pleural mesothelioma and their carers, and generates important insight into the needs of this group, and the care and support received. The study has highlighted how people cope with living beyond expectations with this incurable condition. It has identified the times when people need more support due to the uncertainty of treatments and scans.

It has also highlighted the costs of pursuing treatment in terms of side effects and the emotional burden of seeking new treatments or clinical trials. The study supports the move to develop specialist regional mesothelioma teams to oversee the care of all patients with mesothelioma, ensuring equal access to treatment and clinical trials.

The team is very grateful to the people who gave up their time and took part in the study, and to Mesothelioma UK for the support to undertake the study.

Testing a new immunotherapy drug to treat mesothelioma

By Dr Katie Finegan, Senior Lecturer in Cancer Biology and Therapy at the University of Manchester tells us about her new research project, looking at the development of new drug treatments.

Katie Finegan

There is an urgent need to develop novel treatments for mesothelioma. Our research has shown that targeting a key protein in cells called ERK5 could be a novel way to treat mesothelioma. Our lab studies show ERK5 promotes growth and spread (metastases) of multiple cancers, including mesothelioma, and also stops patient's treatment from working properly.

We've shown that removing ERK5 completely shrinks mesothelioma tumours in mice by enabling the immune system to attack the tumour and remove it. This is a really exciting finding, but the method we used to remove ERK5 (genetic manipulation) cannot be done in patients. However, our lab has recently developed new drugs against ERK5, which are able to copy the effects of our genetic manipulations. This means we have a potential new treatment for malignant mesothelioma.

Our current work is testing our drugs in human-like models of malignant mesothelioma to tell us if our new drugs, which are effective in other cancer models, can also be effective in mesothelioma. This work of testing our drugs will support development of our drugs for mesothelioma patients in the future.

The research team would welcome patient input to the project so we can disseminate our findings and discuss next steps with patients.

Find out more at www.twitter.com/FineganLab

Mental health and mesothelioma

In patient experience research, participants frequently report the impact that mesothelioma has on their mental health, yet there have been very few studies specifically focused on mental health and mesothelioma.

A new study by the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre, MINNOW (Mental health Implications of a mesothelioma diagNosis and developiNg resources to Optimise Wellbeing) aims to create an understanding of the impact of mesothelioma on the mental health of patients, their families and close friends, and what people do to improve their mental health and well-being.

If you are a patient, carer or bereaved carer, please complete our questionnaire which explores the mental health and well-being impacts of living with mesothelioma. You can find the questionnaire at the following link: www.shef.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4N4DSn9q5jsQpjE or email s.ejegi-memeh@sheffield.ac.uk for more information.

Publications

UHL Clinical Librarian Service

"bringing you the evidence"

Newly published research in mesothelioma, compiled by the University Hospitals of Leicester Clinical Librarian Services.

Mesothelioma UK is delighted to include this regular addition to Mesothelioma Matters. In each edition any new publications in the preceding three months, the title, author and journal, will be listed. We hope you find this useful and thank you to UHL clinical librarians!

New scientific research

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Please contact your own clinical library or view the journals webpages to seek access to the full publications.

CLINICAL TRIALS

Targeted cancer treatment could provide new hope for mesothelioma patients

A new clinical trial, NERO, will test whether a type of targeted cancer treatment could improve survival for people with a rare and aggressive form of cancer.

Dean Fennell

Gareth Griffiths

Researchers at the University of Leicester (Chief Investigator - Professor Dean Fennell) and the Cancer Research UK Southampton Clinical Trials Unit (Director - Professor Gareth Griffiths) are now testing whether a type of drug called a PARP inhibitor could be an effective treatment and give mesothelioma patients more time with their loved ones following promising results from the MiST1 trial.

PARP inhibitors have already been shown to improve the survival of patients with breast and ovarian cancers that carry specific mutations. They work by blocking a protein which helps repair damaged DNA in cancer cells, thereby causing the cancer cells to die.

Mesothelioma patients whose tumours have already shrunk or stabilised following chemotherapy, and are therefore more likely to be susceptible to a PARP inhibitor, will be invited to join the NERO trial where they will be given a drug called niraparib.

NERO will recruit 84 patients who have already had chemotherapy treatment at hospitals across the UK. Patients will be randomly allocated into one of two arms within the trial, with a 2:1 chance of receiving niraparib so that the researchers can compare the effect of the drug on the tumour.

Those patients who do not receive niraparib will be closely monitored for signs of early tumour growth so that they can go on to receive an alternative treatment if necessary.

NERO is funded by Asthma and Lung UK, developed in collaboration with Mesothelioma UK with additional support from Cancer Research UK core funding at the Southampton CTU.

Patients and carers should speak to their medical team about participating in clinical trials.

RS Oncology announces initiation of patient dosing in clinical trial of RSO-021

RS Oncology, a clinical stage biotechnology company based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, is on a mission to eradicate mesothelioma worldwide through new science and an innovative business model.

Currently, RSO's lead programme, RSO-021, is focused on the development of novel therapies that modulate mitochondrial pathways that drive diseases of oxidative stress, specifically in malignant pleural effusion and malignant mesothelioma.

RSO-021 works by irreversibly binding and inhibiting a key enzyme (upregulated in cancer cells) in the antioxidant signaling network within the mitochondria of malignant cells. This novel therapeutic approach has proven to significantly reduce tumor burden in malignant mesothelioma and other cancer types in pre-clinical studies.
In March 2022, RS Oncology initiated its MITOPE Phase 1/2 clinical trial – a first-in-human study that will evaluate RSO-021 as a treatment for patients suffering from malignant pleural effusions and mesothelioma. Treatment with RSO-021 will be administered weekly via an intrapleural catheter after routine pleural effusion drainage. The MITOPE trial is planned to open in six UK-based clinical institutions and will be recruiting patients with the help of Mesothelioma UK.

For more MITOPE information visit www.mesothelioma.uk.com/clinical-trials, see the clinical trials table inside this magazine, or contact MITOPE@rsoncology.com. The study is supported by NIHR.

LEGAL PANEL

Mesothelioma UK has extended its legal panel with the addition of four new legal firms. The development took place on 1 April 2022 and the legal panel now includes the four new law firms of:

- The Asbestos Law Partnership - www.asbestoslawpartnership.co.uk
- Simpson Millar - www.simpsonmillar.co.uk
- Digby Brown - www.digbybrown.co.uk
- Irwin Mitchell Scotland - www.irwinmitchell.com

The new firms will join the existing eight legal panel members to support and raise awareness of the charity and offer independent legal support to mesothelioma patients and their families.

Mesothelioma UK Chief Executive, Liz Darlison commented: "We're delighted to be able to announce the expansion of our Legal Panel and welcome Irwin Mitchell Scotland, Digby Brown, Simpson Millar and Asbestos Law Partnership, following a comprehensive application process.

"Mesothelioma UK is eager to help and support patients in all matters relating to their mesothelioma diagnosis including compensation. Engaging with an experienced, specialist law firm can make a significant difference to people living with mesothelioma. We're confident that the new members will join the other law firms in bringing significant legal expertise to help us to promote the work of the charity and to increase our support for patients and their families and carers throughout the UK."

Bob's story – genuine care turned anger into optimism

Nicola Handley

By Nicola Handley, Irwin Mitchell

Bob McBratney, a professional magician of 20 years, enjoys life with his family and his dog in North Yorkshire.

Bob McBratney

But Bob's life changed in 2018 when he learned a good friend had been diagnosed with mesothelioma. Nine months later, Bob's friend died – five days before Bob began to recognise symptoms of the illness in himself.

After Bob told his GP that he'd had contact with asbestos at a previous job, things began to move very quickly. A chest x-ray showed Bob had a pleural infection and a subsequent referral to a chest physician confirmed that Bob had the disease.

"When diagnosed, I did feel bitter," says Bob. "I'd be leaving my family much earlier than I'd have hoped to, and my friends. And I was angry that it was caused because a company didn't do what they were supposed to do and left me in this position. So I wasn't a happy guy."

Bob knew he could claim compensation for his condition, money which would help him seek further treatment only available through private providers.

He contacted Nicola Handley, an associate solicitor specialising in mesothelioma claims and visited her for an initial meeting. Nicola continues to support Bob today.

"Representing Bob has been a real privilege," says Nicola. "It was very emotional when I called him to explain he'd won the case. This not only means that Bob can continue to have the best possible treatment, but that his family will have financial security when he's no longer with us. That meant so much him."

Since his compensation claim, Bob's taken part in fundraising for Mesothelioma UK. His local group has completed bicycle rides and quizzes to raise money for people in Yorkshire who also have the condition. The charity has supported Bob throughout his journey.

Simon Bolton is Mesothelioma UK's clinical nurse specialist for Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust. Through his Mesothelioma Support Yorkshire (MESSY) group, he's helped Bob and many others through their diagnoses and treatments.

"I know Bob takes a lot of support from the group, but he also puts so much back into it," Simon says. "He and I have worked closely together to make it a welcoming, friendly and supportive environment. Bob was instrumental in setting up a WhatsApp group for patients to stay in touch between meetings," says Simon. "It's lovely to see people offer words of kindness, reassurance, and sadly sometimes condolence to each other. There's been some great friendships formed and I'm immensely proud to be involved."

Today, Bob recognises the importance of the support that he's had throughout his journey. He's grateful to be able to continue going out and sharing experiences with the new friends he met during his treatment – including Simon.

"Simon was one of the first people I met when I was diagnosed with mesothelioma, and amongst other things, he signposted me to the MESSY group," Bob says. "I was lukewarm about the group initially, but it's been one of the best things I've done. I've learnt so much about mesothelioma which I didn't know before, from people going through the same illness as me.

"The group are like a band of brothers – we all look out for each other," says Bob. "Simon makes sure we meet and talk, and he's always there to help. He's changed my life – I'd be lost without him."

www.messy.org.uk

Alice - A Fight for Life: 40 years on

By Jennifer Seavor, Partner, Industrial Disease (Personal Injury), RWK Goodman

Jennifer Seavor

On 20 July 1982, four days before I was born, Yorkshire Television aired a documentary in which 47-year-old Alice Jefferson spoke candidly about her diagnosis of mesothelioma following exposure to asbestos at Cape's Acre Mill. The 40th anniversary of the documentary seems poignant given a recent Parliamentary Committee's recommendation for the phased removal of asbestos from all public buildings within the next 40 years.

Alice only worked at Cape for nine months at the age of 17 but sadly the damage was done. 30 years later she was diagnosed with mesothelioma. Alice knew nothing about its dangers and Cape, her employer, failed to protect her.

The documentary is so emotional, so personal. You cannot help but feel both anger and sadness when hearing Alice speak about how a job she did led to her being diagnosed with an incurable illness.

So, what has changed since 1982?

Legislation
Asbestos was banned in the UK – although not completely until 1999. We have however seen more legislation enacted to regulate the use of asbestos, and for the safe management of it.

Litigation
Those who have developed asbestos diseases have fought back and pursued claims to hold their employers or the organisations that negligently exposed them to asbestos to account.

Asbestos support groups
The establishment of regional asbestos victims support groups have been crucial in giving those affected by asbestos and their families a voice and enable people to share experiences. 2006 saw the first national Action Mesothelioma Day. Action Meso was established in 2021 with a powerful campaign in 2021 'Hard to say, Easy to prevent'. This year the #GoBlueForMeso initiatives will no doubt have further positive impact.

Medical advances
Clinical trials supplied data that has become crucial in leading to new treatments becoming available. Immunotherapy drugs are now used and are showing promise. Lives are being prolonged; quality of life is improving. There is hope and the possibility of a cure no longer feels out of reach.

Research
In 2020, the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre was launched at the University of Sheffield to focus on pioneering patient led research. Already there have been a number of important studies.

The next 40 years
Mesothelioma is a preventable illness. We have attempted to manage asbestos rather than remove it for years. This hasn't worked. There can be no more passing the buck to employers and duty holders.

The Government must provide funding for its removal and help people and organisations to do it easily, cheaply and properly. Otherwise, more people will die. The recent recommendations must be taken on board for the safe and phased removal of asbestos. High risk settings such as schools must undoubtedly be tackled first.

But 40 years is simply too long. If I am lucky enough to reach the age of 80 in 40 years' time, I sincerely hope that asbestos is no longer killing people and ruining the lives of their families like it did to Alice.

FUNDRAISING

London Landmarks Half Marathon

In April 2022, 20 of our fantastic fundraisers took to the streets of London once more for the London Landmarks Half Marathon. It was a fantastic day, and we were even able to meet some of our volunteers for the first time. Our amazing runners managed to raise over £18,000 in support of Mesothelioma UK.

The David Nurse appeal

Finding out you have mesothelioma is a life-changing experience, both for the patients and their families. After David Nurse was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2018, he and his wife Jane were able to get vital support from Mesothelioma UK. This is why we have launched the David Nurse Appeal. Your help can make a huge difference to those living with mesothelioma. You can read Jane's powerful story and donate to the appeal using the QR code or by visiting www.mesothelioma.uk.com/thedavidnurseappeal

Sharon Bebington

My marathon for Mesothelioma UK was to say thank you. Thank you to Sam, my nurse for helping me through the toughest surgery I've ever had to face. I travelled from Cornwall for CRC and HIPEC in November 2020 at Basingstoke for what turned out to be multicystic mesothelioma. For also being there for the never ending questions about multicystic mesothelioma.

I just wanted to give back and most importantly raise awareness. London Marathon was my first run 11 months after surgery where I raised over £700 for Mesothelioma UK and in Manchester, I raised just over £500. I will keep running and hope to keep raising much needed funds.

Chris Smith

May 1979 was when I started my apprenticeship with a local engineering company. I joined the electrical instrument depart where, as was common for apprentices at the time, I became the butt of many practical jokes from the largely female work force. During this time friendships were made, one of which, unbeknown to us at the time, would become very special and life-long.

I left for pastures new at the end of my apprenticeship but following redundancy in 1989, I rejoined my original employer on what was supposed to be a two-week temporary contract - I eventually left 12 years later. It was like coming home with friendships rekindled, in particular with Marg. A simple phrase "I reckon" was the start of our lives together and despite undertones of "it will never last" we bought our forever home together and got married on 14 December 1991. We have enjoyed many happy years since.

Marg retired in December 2014 when Nigel our lovely Cockapoo joined the family. Unfortunately (and as you hear all too often following retirement), Marg became ill not long after. It took over two years and many doctor/hospital visits before a dermatologist recognised Marg's symptoms as being scleroderma. As part of the specialist care received for the scleroderma, Marg had regular CT scans.

During one of these a growth was spotted in her chest. There was much head scratching from the medical teams following a biopsy result that indicated mesothelioma. In December 2017, Marg was admitted to St Bart's in London for radical surgery to resect the tumour. Thanks to the skill of the surgical team this was successful. Life has been good since the surgery (if you ignore the pandemic) and in the interim period, we welcomed our two great grandsons into the world and it's been a joy to see them growing into the little chaps they have become. We also celebrated our pearl anniversary, 30 years. Who said it wouldn't last?!

Unfortunately, the mesothelioma has returned (as we knew it would at some point) and Marg has started a course of chemotherapy, with the possibility of immunotherapy to follow (if needed).

Well there's not much I can do to make this go away, so partly to help me feel as though I am doing something positive and partly to support the ongoing research and positive work done by two related charities, I intend to shave my head, beard and eyebrows as a physical gesture of support for Marg, the charities and everyone else currently undergoing chemotherapy.

Chris shaved his head, beard and eyebrows in support of his wife, Marg and Mesothelioma UK, and raised over £800! Thank you so much, Chris.

Lisa Parkin

My lovely Dad was diagnosed with mesothelioma in October 2021. Obviously, we were all devastated. I decided to run the Sheffield Half Marathon for Mesothelioma UK to help it continue its great work with research, support and to raise awareness. This charity has been an excellent source of reliable and up-to-date information.

This particular half marathon is a tough, hilly run but I loved every minute of it. The atmosphere was brilliant, the crowds cheering and the support was amazing! My family came to support me, my husband, two sons, mum and of course, my number one supporter, my Dad.

We all had our Mesothelioma UK t-shirts on too!! It was a great feeling to know that I had raised a whooping £840 pounds for an excellent cause to keep up their great work. It was such a good day, I've already signed up for next year!!! Thank you, Mesothelioma UK for your great work.

Rachel O'Donnell

Mike and I are challenging ourselves to run 19 miles from our home in Chester to my childhood home in North Wales, in memory of my lovely Dad who sadly died on 30 January 2022. The run will be on Father's Day, 19 June 2022.

Dad was very fit and health conscious right up until he was diagnosed with pleural mesothelioma in December 2020. He loved walking in the countryside and would go for 'bracing' walks most days with my mum. Dad worked in a local factory for 30 years. He had very fond memories of the camaraderie he shared with his colleagues during his time there.

However, when his health started to suffer in 2020, he discovered that exposure to asbestos in the factory had been detrimental to his health and scans revealed mesothelioma in situ, in the lining of his right lung. Dad also had many heart complications but the cancer is what we believe caused his rapid decline. Over the following 12 months his health deteriorated and his breathing got more and more difficult. But my dad was always thinking of others and wanted any compensation he received from the company, to go to a mesothelioma charity.

Adam Whiting

"My very good friend Dave was diagnosed with mesothelioma just over a year ago. We found playing darts together with mates in my shed was great for helping us all relax and try to talk openly, and help David take his mind off it."

Adam Whiting set up Shed Darts to support his friend and help improve mental wellbeing during lockdown. He's now fundraising and raising awareness for Mesothelioma UK. You can read Adam's blog post here www.sheddarts.wordpress.com/2022/03/03/tears-despair-hope-beer-darts-what-is-mesothelioma/

Follow him on Twitter @ShedDarts

Sam Willis

On 26 March, Sam Willis took part in an MMA fight and carried a Mesothelioma UK flag in support of his brother Chris Willis, who is currently living with mesothelioma after being diagnosed in 2018. Thank you so much for raising awareness Sam!

Moira McDonald

l-r: Lorna, Sarah, Moira, Sandra

I am Moira McDonald, aged 59 from Aberdeen, Scotland. I was diagnosed with multicystic peritoneal mesothelioma in November 2019 and in February 2020 at Basingstoke hospital, which specialises in this type of surgery, I had cytoreduction surgery and HIPEC (hyperthermic intraperitonel chemotherapy).

I would say I was an active person and did a lot of walking. Following my surgery, I was determined to get back my fitness. At first, I was only able to walk a mile, I found it hard going for weeks and weeks. In order to keep my focus I set myself a goal, I wanted to join 'the Quines' and complete the Aberdeen Kiltwalk challenge.

However, eight weeks after my operation I was taken into Aberdeen Royal Infirmary Hospital when I experienced a blockage. Three weeks later I was discharged and put on a strict low residue diet for life. For someone that enjoys food, eating healthily and eating out, this was a nightmare and an extreme challenge for me. I lost a lot of weight and my muscles started to waste away.

At this point, I knew that my recovery was going to take longer than first anticipated. But I started walking again and I had to focus on a day at a time. Some days/weeks would be good and I would feel I was making progress then others I felt were harder than the last. My brain was saying I could do it but my body had another idea. I knew deep down I wouldn't make the Kiltwalk challenge, which ended up being cancelled due to COVID restrictions. Even though my recovery had been extremely difficult with ups and downs, keeping positive and focused helped me get through the down times. And I would not have been able to do it without my lovely family and friends around me.

This is a message from my family -
She has made an amazing recovery and despite challenges she still manages to walk miles each week and go to the gym. We used to do various walks to raise money and initially we all thought we would not be able to do this as a team but Moira was determined to get fit again and we are back walking to raise money. Moira has done so well we will have to try to keep up with her!

I was determined to remain focused and more positive and I wanted to give back something to Mesothelioma UK to raise awareness of the condition and raise money to support this charity. I decide that the best way to do this would be to complete the next Aberdeen Kiltwalk challenge which is a 26 mile walk.

Our team Quines 'oot for a dander' (which means 'girls out for a walk') are back! The Quines taking on this challenge with me are Sarah my daughter, Sandra, Lorna my two sisters. The 'Quines oot for a dander' have walked for a few different charities in the past, but this charity is very close to my heart.

I have been inspired to raise money for Mesothelioma UK and take part in case studies as this disease is rare, the pathogenesis is still unclear, and current understanding of the disease relies heavily on case reports.

We need to understand more about peritoneal mesothelioma to help save many more people and families. I feel very fortunate to be in this position and I am very grateful to be able to support this charity.

For anyone out there going through the same or a similar situation, I would say just persevere and you will get there, day by day. You don't have to partake in loads of exercise; a small walk, walk around the garden, out in the fresh air listening to the wildlife, looking at different things distracts your mind from your illness, helps you be more positive, you get more focused to cope with your recovery. It helped me.

I say to myself when I am down that there is someone out there worse than you so get on with it.

Being positive and determined helps x

Mesothelioma UK exists to provide services for the treatment and care of mesothelioma patients across the UK. Any sponsorship, grants or donations made to the charity support this activity.

Mesothelioma UK would like to thank all of our wonderful donors. If you would like to find out more about becoming a corporate donor, please contact us on **0800 169 2409** or email **info@mesothelioma.uk.com**

Please donate to Mesothelioma UK if you can.

2022 events

June

11-12 June 2022
Meso Matters Webinar on American Claims with Brendan Tully.
UCS - Lake District Challenge

12 June 2022
RFC - Wales Triathlon
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/our-challenges/

18 June 2022
RFC - York Inflatable 5k-10k-15k
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/yorkshire-events

19 June 2022
RFC - Men's Glasgow
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/scotland-events

25-26 June 2022
UCS - Cotswold Way Challenge (The Cotswolds)
www.facebook.com/mesouk

27 June 2022
Webinar: American Claims with Brenda Tully
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/events

July

2 July 2022
Action Mesothelioma Day – Light up Blue
www.actionmeso.org/goblue
RFC - Glasgow Inflatable 5k-10k-15k-Childrens' 5k
www.runforcharity.com/running-event/inflatable-5k--glasgow--5k--children
3 July 2022

RFC - Leeds
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/yorkshire-events

3 July 2022
RFC - Tenby Wales 5k-Half & Full Marathon
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/wales-events

3 July 2022
RFC Porthcawl
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/wales-events

6 July 2022
RFC - London Superhero in the City
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/london-events

9-10 July 2022
UCS - Peak District Challenge (Bakewell)
www.ultrachallenge.com/peak-district-challenge/

23-24 July 2022
UCS - Yorkshire Challenge (Yorkshire Dales)
www.ultrachallenge.com/yorkshire-challenge/

25 July 2022
Webinar: New Drug development are these the potential future benefit for meso-thelioma patients with Katherine Finegan
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/events

27 July 2022
RFC - ASICS London 10k
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/our-challenges/

28 July 2022
RFC - Salford Run Media City 5k-10k
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/north-west-events

August

6 August 2022
RFC - Heart Park Warwickshire Mudnificent Seven
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/mudnificent-7/179712

6 August 2022
RFC - Chichester Inflatable 5k-10k-15k
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/south-events

6 August 2022
UCS - South West Coast 50 Challenge (Exmoor)
www.ultrachallenge.com/coast-2-coast/

7 August 2022
RFC - The London Triathlon Olympic Distance
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/london-events

7 August 2022
RFC - York 10k
www.runforcharity.com/mesothelioma-uk/yorkshire-events

21 August 2022
Dundee Kiltwalk
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/our-challenges/

29 August 2022
Webinar: National Mesothelioma Research Centre update with William Cookson
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/events

September

3-4 September 2022
UCS - South Coast Challenge (Eastbourne)
www.ultrachallenge.com/south-coast-challenge/

4 September 2022
London Vitality Big Half Marathon
Charity places now available contact Jill Lemon
Challenges Officer 0116 2187318

9 September 2022
UCS - Thames Moonlight Walk (London)
www.ultrachallenge.com/thames-moonlight-10/

24 September 2022
UCS - Chiltern 50 Challenge (Henley)
www.ultrachallenge.com/chiltern-50/

26 September 2022
Webinar: Findings from the Palliative Care Study with Clare Gardner & Sarah Hargreaves
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/events

October

6 October
Patient and Carer Day and Awards night
www.mesothelioma.uk.com/event/patient-and-carer-day-2022/

Many thanks to our Mesothelioma UK Legal Panel supporters in England, Wales and Scotland

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