

East Lancashire Prostate Cancer Support Group Newsletter



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Market Research on Potential Prostate Cancer Treatments

We are conducting some market research on the subject of Prostate Cancer. The goal of this survey is to understand what people think about potential treatments for prostate cancer.

The online survey takes up to 30 minutes to complete and each participant would receive £45 for taking part. This can be paid via bacs transfer or Amazon voucher.

Prospect cancer support will receive a donation on behalf of every member who takes part.

In this survey, you will be asked questions about your experience with prostate cancer. You will be asked to read about different features of treatments for prostate cancer, and then asked to express your opinion about treatments for prostate cancer by making choices between different treatment profiles.

This is the inclusion criteria for this study:

1. You must be aged 18 or older.
2. Have prostate cancer that has spread around the prostate or to other parts of the body
4. Your cancer must be being treated by lowering testosterone levels

If you are interested in taking part, please send an email with the following information to Clare from Oracle Fieldwork Ltd at clare@oraclefieldwork.com

1. Name
2. Age
3. Contact Number
4. Confirmation that you have prostate cancer that has spread and you are on a treatment to lower testosterone levels
5. How you would like to receive the £45 for taking part (bacs payment or emailed amazon voucher).

That you have come via Prostate Cancer support, so that we can ensure they receive the donation.

Clare Norton

ORACLE FIELDWORK

Director

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March





Next Meeting 7th April At The Burnley Youth Theatre



Help us change the law - so men across the UK get the care they deserve.

The NHS workforce is in crisis. We urgently need more Clinical Nurse Specialists, the radiology workforce can't keep up with patient demand and the consultant clinical oncology workforce is short-staffed.

To ensure that everybody living with cancer gets the vital care they need, the Government must act now. Alongside 100 major health charities and organisations, we're pushing for an amendment to the Health and Care Bill. Please [write to your MP and ask them to support this amendment](#).

The amendment would make it a legal duty for the Government to publish projections of NHS workforce gaps every two years. And they'd be held to account for training enough doctors and nurses to provide vital care for people living with cancer.

David, will you help give men the care they deserve? Email your MP today to make sure they get behind the amendment.

EMAIL YOUR MP

Men, we are with you



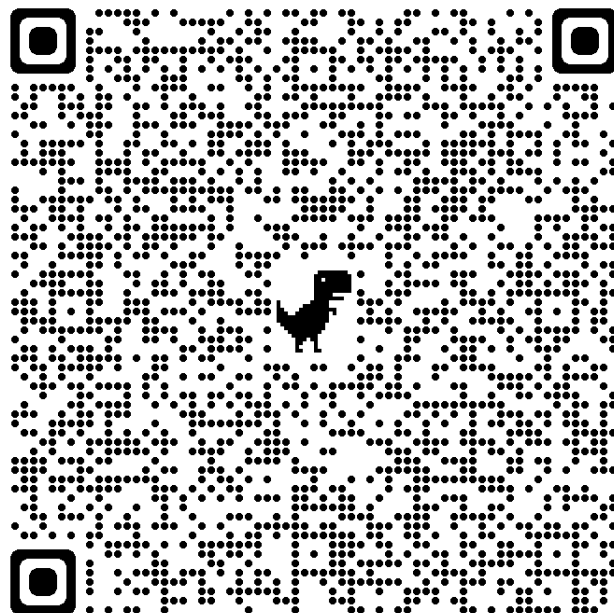
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Medical Detection Dogs

Patron: HRH The Duchess of Cornwall

Dear Dave

My name is Michelle and I am living with Postural Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) and other conditions. With the help of Medical Detection Dogs, I have been able to have a family of my own, something I never thought I'd feel confident or safe to do. This is my story...

2016 was the best and worst year of my life. I was 21, I married my childhood sweetheart, we bought our first house and little did I know at the time, but my Medical Alert Assistance Dog, Francis, was born into the world.

However, it was also an unsettling time for me as my POTS was very unstable. I had to abruptly leave university overnight and surrender my driving license on medical grounds due to daily recurring fainting episodes.



Could you help Medical Detection Dogs with a donation today?

I'd had my diagnosis the year before, but as each month passed I became more unwell. By 2016 I was a wheelchair user, relying more and more on my chair to get around. The career I wanted was becoming increasingly unrealistic, as was the idea of having a family. I was in a vicious circle in that the more I remained seated to protect myself from fainting, the more my body de-conditioned, affecting my other medical conditions.

In 2017 I was matched with Francis and we met at The MDD Centre for the first time and then again soon after in an outside environment. The second meeting was amazing, he was so very excited to see me. He walked to heel against my wheelchair (with no prior wheelchair training in his life) and I gestured for his paws on my lap so I did not need to bend over to undo his jacket. Again, he did this naturally without being trained to do so. From then on, Francis and I gelled and the rest is history.

Prior to matching with Francis, I made the charity aware that my husband and I would like to start our own family. There was no plan B for me at the time as to what I would have done if Francis had not entered my life. I am sure I would have researched and learned how other disabled parents make things work because I knew I wanted children more than anything. But I desperately did not want to put a baby or myself in a vulnerable situation either. I am very thankful to MDD - they took my needs and wants seriously when matching me with Francis.



A donation today could help train more dogs so we could help others like Michelle

Francis' alerting skills were excellent from the start, but suddenly in April 2018, Francis stopped alerting for around 7-10 days. I realised afterwards that it was because I was pregnant with my daughter and my hormonal balance and smell, had changed and Francis was, in his own way, telling me this. Once we were over this initial change Francis continued to alert as normal.

After having my daughter, Francis would appropriately alert me if I was standing at her changing table, so I would have time to take her off the table and sit on the floor or would alert me before walking about with the baby and so on. My family realised I was in safe paws with Fran and the number of "safety check in calls" reduced from my parents and husband as they knew I was OK being alone during the day.

In April 2021, Francis again stopped alerting, but this time only for about 3-4 days. Surely not... but, yes, baby no. 2 was on his way. My first pregnancy was beautiful and my POTS was very manageable. This time it was different - my POTS was angry, severe and I was suffering but in a strange way, Francis was loving life. Alerting is really a big game to him - if I am unwell, he is rewarded with food around the medical episode and for alerting to it, so he has a positive association to the illness. Francis was in heaven.



Could you help us to change the lives of people with complex medical conditions? Please consider a donation

On Christmas Day 2021, no less, our son landed - a present I am not sure I would have been able to have without Francis. And it's not only the new baby that Francis looks out for, it's my daughter and I too. Due to potential recurring fainting episodes, I would not feel confident being in a public place on my own with my three-year-old, but with Francis I do.

Being able to safely have our daughter was such a gift to us, but I now have two children, I work, manage a home, finished my undergraduate degree and am on the last leg of my masters degree. This is something that I would never have thought possible.

I am so very thankful to MDD and all that they have given me, not only in Francis, but their continued support throughout my journey. If you are able to help others like me, please donate, I can't explain how my life has changed and the difference you could make to others like me.

Thank you

Michelle and Francis

PLEASE DONATE NOW

Anything you are able to give will help fund the life-saving work of Medical Detection Dogs wherever the need is greatest.



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Spring Is Here Have A Laugh

" Good Morning Mrs Goggins , is everything OK ? "

"No it isn't Pat . . . The Doctor has put me on some sort of steroids and I've started to grow a penis"

"Anabolic ?"

"No, just a penis Pat"





Contact Information

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From Left to Right Hazel Goulding (Treasurer) Leon D Wright (IT Admin) Stuart Marshall (Secretary) Steve Laird (Vice Chairman) Dave Riley (Chairman)

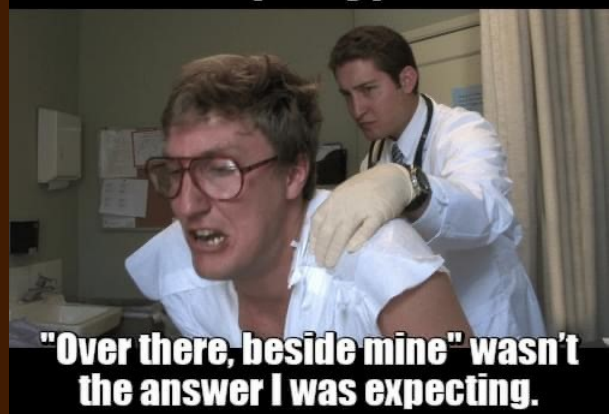
We are a group of local people who know about prostate cancer. We are a friendly organisation dedicated to offering support to men who have had or who are experiencing the effects of this potentially life threatening disease.

The East Lanc's Prostate Cancer Support Group offers a place for free exchange of information and help for local men and their supporters (family and friends) who may be affected by this increasingly common form of male cancer.

At each meeting we strive to be a happy, supportive and upbeat group of people; encouraging open discussion on what can be a very difficult and perhaps for some an embarrassing subject. We have lively, informative, interactive, sharing and above all supportive meetings.

Grandma and Grandpa were visiting their kids overnight. When Grandpa found a bottle of Viagra in his son's medicine cabinet, he asked about using one of the pills. The son said, "I don't think you should take one Dad, they're very strong and very expensive." "How much?" asked Grandpa. "\$10.00 a pill," answered the son. "I don't care," said Grandpa, "I'd still like to try one, and before we leave in the morning, I'll put the money under the pillow." Later the next morning, the son found \$110 under the pillow. He called Grandpa and said, "I told you each pill was \$10, not \$110. "I know," said Grandpa. "The hundred is from Grandma!"

When I was getting my prostate exam, I asked the Doctor where I should put my pants...



"Over there, beside mine" wasn't the answer I was expecting.

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