Your impact in 2018

Together we’re taking on pancreatic cancer
Pancreatic cancer remains both the lowest surviving and the quickest killing cancer. That is unacceptable. Thanks to you, we are making a stand.

Our aim is to double survival rates and transform the future for everyone with pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic Cancer UK provides expert advice and support to those affected by the disease, and supports the pancreatic cancer community with a strong, constructive voice.

We stand for:

- More money for more research
- More focus on early diagnosis
- Better, faster treatment and care
- Provision of supportive care via our specialist services
“When you are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer you are treated like a dead person walking. I felt like I was written off and I had to fight to get treatment. This isn’t fair and it wouldn’t happen with any other cancer. This has to change.”

Erika Vincent, pancreatic cancer patient
Your impact in numbers

What your support has meant

£6.64m invested
in research since 2007

£1.45m committed
for research in 2018/19

861,787 visitors
to our website

80,000 signatures
on our ‘Demand Faster Treatment’ petition

36,952 booklets
and other publications sent to people needing support and information

1000’s of supporters
running, cycling and baking to raise funds

Help when it’s needed most
Hope for a better future

All data from 2018 unless stated
Research to change the future

Pancreatic cancer is the 5th biggest cancer killer. Yet it gets just 2.1% of cancer research funding. This has to change.

Thanks to your support, Pancreatic Cancer UK has invested almost £7m in research since 2007. And in addition to our own research funding, we’ve helped researchers unlock over £30m since 2010 in further funding from other research funding organisations.

“We think that Pancreatic Cancer UK is the organisation that will make the differences that we so desperately need to see and have waited so long for.”

Professor Stephen Smith, Chair of Pancreatic Cancer UK’s Scientific Advisory Board

We generate at least £5.34 in additional research funds for every £1 we ourselves invest.
Supporting innovative research

We are funding innovative research to drive game changing breakthroughs:

- Our three year Grand Challenge Award of £1m to Bart’s Cancer Institute is already well underway. The award explores ‘Unlocking immunotherapy for pancreatic cancer’ - educating cells in our immune system to recognise and destroy pancreatic cancer - and is due to finish in 2020.

- Our Research Innovation Fund award to Dr Ralf Zwacka’s team at the University of Essex supported the team’s ground-breaking study exploring the hijacking of stem cells for use in delivering drugs to pancreatic cancer cells, with results due to be published shortly.

- We have committed up to £770k of funding towards new research under our Research Innovation Fund, with brand new projects due to get underway in 2019.
Bringing researchers together to take on early diagnosis

Research outputs are bolder, faster and more imaginative when researchers collaborate.

By bringing together a network of exceptional scientists and clinicians from across the UK we hope to deliver the type of knockout blow needed to make earlier diagnosis a reality.

In March 2018, we made almost £700,000 available to improve diagnosis and save lives. This came about as a result of our first ever national event to unite the research community to take on the challenge of accelerating early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.
Supporting Future Leaders

We have launched the first Pancreatic Cancer UK Future Leaders Academy at the Beatson Institute in Glasgow - investing in young researchers coming into the field who may hold the key to defeating the disease.

New PhD students are now being given training and mentoring to become world-leading scientists capable of making the kind of research breakthroughs so desperately needed.

“Pancreatic cancer is tough, but the challenge of finding new treatments is what draws me to taking it on in my research career. Now, thanks to the support of Pancreatic Cancer UK, I can take on this challenge guided by the very best scientists in pancreatic cancer today.”

Declan Whyte,
Pancreatic Cancer UK Future Leader
Your impact in 2018

Future Leaders at the Beatson Institute
Support for patients and families when they need it most

No other organisation can provide the kind of personalised information, advice and emotional support so often needed by pancreatic cancer patients and families across the UK.

We help many thousands of people across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
“The Pancreatic Cancer UK Support Line was like a lifeline to me”
Our Support Line

The Pancreatic Cancer UK Support Line is the only one in the UK dedicated solely to pancreatic cancer.

Staffed by specialist nurses, the Support Line covers the whole of the UK, providing support on all aspects of pancreatic cancer including symptom control, treatment options, diet and practical support.

“The Pancreatic Cancer UK Support Line is absolutely brilliant. In such difficult times, I couldn’t have asked for anyone kinder, more understanding, sympathetic, and knowledgeable. The nurse we spoke to has remained in touch with us over the last 3 years and has become an important member of our family. I don’t think we could have coped this long without her.”

In 2017/18, our nurses handled 2,445 Support Line enquiries
Your impact in 2018
Support in local communities

Receiving support at the right time is critical. This year our Community Coordinators manned 124 Information and Awareness Stands in specialist centres and local hospitals, helping us reach people affected by pancreatic cancer as soon as possible after diagnosis.

Top tips
In partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, we developed 10 Top Tips to help people talk to their GP if they are concerned about pancreatic cancer.

Face to face support
This year we gave face to face support to 2,227 patients through our information stands and our Living With Pancreatic Cancer Support Days.
This is a tough disease, and often a lonely one. So across the UK, our specialist nurses run Living With Days both for people living with pancreatic cancer and for their carers. These days offer an opportunity to meet others in a similar situation, share experiences, and ask questions. Evaluations of these days are overwhelmingly positive - 100% of people would recommend a Living With Day to others.

“Just knowing that other people are experiencing the same thing is so helpful. It’s reassuring to hear other people’s stories and struggles and knowing you’re not alone”

Information and awareness
This year, our information helped even more people with pancreatic cancer. Our comprehensive website information was viewed over 2 million times, 54,000 online patient information leaflets were downloaded, and we also posted almost 37,000 publications to patients, families and health professionals (+26% increase on 2016/17).
Pancreatic cancer is the toughest of cancers - tough to diagnose, tough to research, tough to treat and tough to survive.

As the UK’s leading specialist pancreatic cancer organisation, it’s critical that we use our knowledge of the disease and the patient experience, take a stand, and support the pancreatic cancer community with a strong, constructive voice.

Policy and Campaigning

Over the last year we have worked with patients and supporters to successfully influence decision makers and organisations – making change happen on a range of important issues that affect the pancreatic cancer community.
Pancreatic cancer won’t wait
Demanding Faster Treatment

We are campaigning to make sure that pancreatic cancer is treated within 20 days of being diagnosed.

Pancreatic cancer is the deadliest common cancer. It is often diagnosed late, and progresses quickly. 3 in 4 people do not survive a year after diagnosis. That means that current NHS treatment time targets just don’t reflect the pace of the disease. The reality is that pancreatic cancer treatment can’t wait. We are demanding that pancreatic cancer patients receive faster treatment, within 20 days of diagnosis.

Thanks to your amazing support our Demand Faster Treatment petition gathered over 80,000 signatures. Key decision makers in Government are beginning to take notice - and thanks to your support, we’ve the chance to drive real change!
Lobbying for better standards of care

Publication of the NICE guidelines
In February 2018, following campaigning from Pancreatic Cancer UK and other key parties, the first ever NICE Guidelines on pancreatic cancer were published. These guidelines cover diagnosis and treatment for adults, and represent a significant step forward in improving standards and consistency of care.

Patient Advocacy and new care pathways
In addition to lobbying NICE, we have generated our own Patient Charter - helping patient advocacy - and we have worked with clinicians, policy decision makers and researchers to identify new pathways to improved care.
The power of our supporters

We are incredibly grateful to all our supporters and funders. It’s incredible the number of amazing people who help us each year and their loyalty, enthusiasm and resilience continues to inspire and motivate us.

Together, we raised £4.26m in 2017/18.

Since then, our supporters have:

- Taken part in a host of fundraising events
- Highlighted the urgency of taking on the disease during Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in November
- Taken part in our most successful Evening with Suggs and Friends ever, raising over £220,000 on the night.
- Joined over 1000 other supporters taking part in Pancreatic Cancer UK sporting events, raising almost £1.5m for pancreatic cancer research and to support those affected by the disease.
Taking it on Together

We are an ambitious charity, with a passionate community of supporters and volunteers, who have made all the achievements and successes celebrated in this report possible.

It critical that we now build upon this success. With very poor survival rates and a history of very low investment in research, we still have a lot to do - and we can only succeed if we take it on together. But with strong partnerships with patients, families, carers, fundraisers, donors, medical professionals, researchers and policy makers, and a great team of passionate and hardworking staff and supporters, we are in a strong position to make a difference.

“Thank you for all your support over the last year.”
Diana Jupp,
Pancreatic Cancer UK
Chief Executive Officer