



Eluned Morgan MS  
First Minister of Wales  
Welsh Government  
5th Floor- Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

CC: Jeremy Miles MS, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

Dear First Minister,

Pancreatic cancer is the deadliest common cancer. Half of people die within three months of diagnosis. Without urgent action, pancreatic cancer will claim thousands more lives in Wales and will overtake breast cancer as the fourth biggest cancer killer.

Unlike with other cancers, we still don't have the rapid tests and treatments to tackle pancreatic cancer. However, over recent years promising pancreatic cancer research and surveillance programmes have put early detection within closer reach.

A shocking 80% of pancreatic cancer patients in Wales receive their diagnosis too late for potentially lifesaving treatment. Every delay costs lives. We urgently need faster progress to give more people a fighting chance against this devastating disease.

**We the [NUMBER] signatories of this open letter, need your help to make early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer a reality in Wales.**

We stand with Pancreatic Cancer UK to call on you to commit to these three actions as priorities as part of Wales' ambitions to improve early detection in your cancer strategy:

- 1. Invest in and roll-out regular monitoring for those at the highest risk of developing pancreatic cancer:** This should include national surveillance for people with a family history of pancreatic cancer and case finding in people with new-onset diabetes and weight loss.
- 2. Invest in rolling out new tests to detect pancreatic cancer earlier:** Supporting the development and implementation of innovative blood, urine and breath biomarker tests to improve early detection within the existing cancer services.
- 3. Urge the UK Government to transform investment into vital pancreatic cancer research by allocating at least £35 million every year across the UK for the next 20 years:** This sustained funding is essential because meaningful research breakthroughs

Pancreatic Cancer UK, Queen Elizabeth House, 4 St Dunstan's Hill, London EC3R 8AD

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require continuous, reliable investment over many years to support the full cycle of research: from bench to bedside.

We urge you to include these crucial measures in your ongoing work to improve cancer outcomes. The devastating impact of pancreatic cancer demands action now. We request a swift response and urge you to arrange a meeting with Pancreatic Cancer UK who will be happy to share their evidence, expertise and recommendations to support the Executive to make early detection of pancreatic cancer in Wales a reality.

Please contact [Oscar.Din@PancreaticCancer.org.uk](mailto:Oscar.Din@PancreaticCancer.org.uk) to set up a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

[Signatories of open letter]