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Patient and Public Newsletter

Introduction

Welcome to the new VIVO Biobank Patient and Public Newsletter!

The VIVO Biobank is the UK's leading research resource dedicated to storing samples and data of cancers affecting children and young people. We are a new entity created from the merger of the Leukaemia CellBank and the Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG) Tissue Bank. We would first like to introduce ourselves to the wider patient, family, and public community.

We would also first like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all those who have kindly donated their samples or their loved one's samples to the VIVO Biobank, while showcasing the impact those donations have had.

Supporting Research



Locations
of active
VIVO
projects



Currently, there are over 40 active projects supported by VIVO Biobank across the British Isles and a handful of countries beyond, including but not limited to Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Australia, and the US.

These projects were approved after rigorous scientific review to ensure that the samples entrusted to us are only released to studies that show good scientific merit, are deliverable, and will have a high clinical impact.

These studies cover a wide range of project types, from new drug testing and treatment late effects, to identifying biomarkers and risk groups. Research using VIVO Biobank samples has changed treatments and influenced clinical trials.

Please visit our website below to see the publications from the projects we have supported.

<https://vivobiobank.org/publications>

New Projects

This year has shown a marked increase in projects with 16 new projects approved since January.

These new projects focus on a range of disease types, including:

- Adrenocortical Carcinoma
- Acute Myeloid Leukaemia
- B-Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia
- Burkitt's Lymphoma
- Craniopharyngioma
- Medulloblastoma
- Neuroblastoma
- Rhabdomyosarcoma
- T-Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia
- Wilms



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This is an encouraging start for the VIVO Biobank, and we look forward to facilitating, supporting, and encouraging further research into paediatric cancers.

Clinical Trials

VIVO Biobank also supports a range of clinical trials by collecting, processing and storing samples. This is a great help to the trial teams and also means that any samples not needed for the trial can be used for non-trial research (with the appropriate consent).

Trials currently being supported by VIVO Biobank include:

- HR-NBL2 (Neuroblastoma)
- FaR-RMS (Rhabdomyosarcoma)
- ALLTogether (Acute lymphoblastic Leukaemia)
- MyeChild (Acute Myeloid Leukaemia)
- BIOMECA (Ependymoma)

We hope to provide this service to other trials as they are developed.

Patient and Public Involvement (PPI)

One of the most important areas of VIVO Biobank is the input of patients and the public. This ensures that we serve the patient and public community in all aspects of our work. If you would like to find out more about what it involves, or become involved with our work by joining our PPI committee, please refer to the PPI page of our website which will give you more information and contact details:

<https://vivobiobank.org/ppi>

Website

<https://vivobiobank.org/>

We now have a new website with a brand new look and which is full of information. This is still being developed and we are bringing in the best of both our previous websites. You can find frequently asked questions, copies of our information leaflets and consent forms and details of publications from research using our samples there.

We are currently working on a new section to describe all the research that is going on.

If you require any information or have any questions about the above, please contact us via enquiries@vivobiobank.org

Thank you to everyone involved in biobanking with us; whether that be as a donor, family or friends, or general supporters – it's because of you that we are able to support such important research.



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