



How prevalent are blood cancers in Ireland?

Blood cancers make up approximately 10% of all cancers and are the fourth most common cause of cancer-related deaths in Ireland. Blood cancer is an umbrella term for cancers that affect the cells of the blood or the organs where blood cells grow and develop, such as the bone marrow and the lymphatic system. It includes cancers such as leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

What difference will BCNI make to patients with blood cancer?

BCNI is bringing novel treatment options to Irish patients via its national network for early phase clinical trials in blood cancers. In addition BCNI's national dedicated blood cancer biobank and patient registry is providing critical infrastructure to support clinical research. These unique resources are making Ireland more internationally competitive at attracting new clinical trials, ultimately leading to treatment benefits for Irish patients.

About Irish Cancer Society

The Irish Cancer Society is the leading voluntary funder of cancer research in Ireland. Over the past decade alone the Society has spent €25 million on cancer research projects and initiatives to accelerate the pace of scientific discovery and provide better treatment options for cancer patients. For more information visit www.cancer.ie/research.

About Science Foundation Ireland

Science Foundation Ireland funds oriented basic and applied research in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) which promotes and assists the development and competitiveness of industry, enterprise and employment in Ireland. The Foundation also promotes and supports the study of, education in and engagement with, STEM and promotes an awareness and understanding of the value of STEM to society and in particular to the growth of the economy. For more information visit www.sfi.ie.



A collaborative cancer research initiative supported by

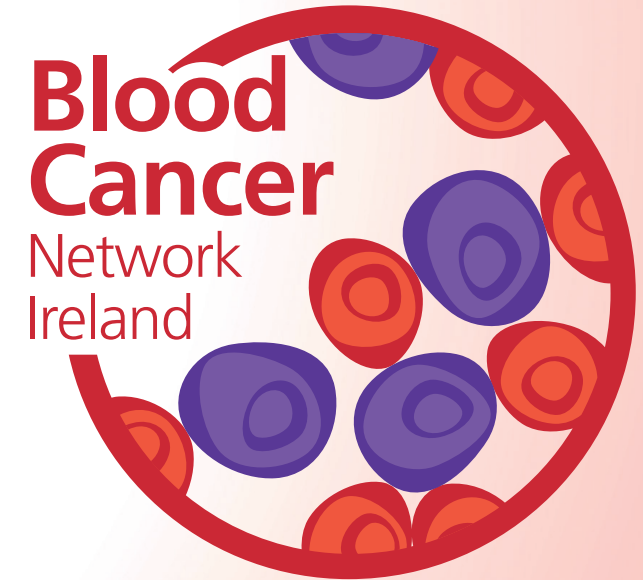


and



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Towards new treatments and better outcomes for blood cancer patients



Blood Cancer Network Ireland (BCNI)

What is BCNI?

BCNI is a national clinical research network bringing benefits to blood cancer patients in Ireland. BCNI offers early stage clinical trials to blood cancer patients, providing them with the opportunity to avail of new potentially life-saving treatments and drugs. BCNI is also establishing a biobank and blood cancer registry, which will further our knowledge and expertise in the field of blood cancer research and ultimately improve patient outcomes. BCNI is funded by the Irish Cancer Society and Science Foundation Ireland and its aims are supported by the pharmaceutical industry.

What is the aim of BCNI?

BCNI aims to provide Irish blood cancer patients with access to novel and innovative cancer treatments through early phase clinical trials. The network is also collecting information and samples from blood cancer patients in Ireland in order to improve our understanding of blood cancers and to support future research.

Who is involved in BCNI?

BCNI is a collaborative network of clinicians, scientists, and population health experts with a shared interest in blood cancer research. Members of the national network are based at the National University of Ireland, Galway/University Hospital Galway, University College Cork/Cork University Hospital, Trinity College Dublin/St James Hospital, the Mater Hospital, Beaumont Hospital and the National Cancer Registry Ireland. The key investigators involved are Professor Michael O'Dwyer (Director), Professor Mary Cahill, Professor Paul Browne, Dr Eva Szegezdi, Professor Kerri Clough-Gorr, Dr John Quinn and Professor Peter O'Gorman. Cancer Trails Ireland is also a collaborative partner in this network.

The BCNI Team



Partner Institutions



BCNI Clinical Trials

BCNI is carrying out early phase clinical trials in cancer care centres in Galway, Cork and Dublin. Clinical trials are designed to develop and test new and improved ways to treat cancer; help prevent a return of cancer; and improve comfort and quality of life for people with cancer. Advances in treatments for blood cancers depend on clinical trials of new therapies or new combinations of therapies. BCNI trials focus on novel targeted approaches, including immunotherapy.

BCNI Biobank

BCNI is establishing a national blood cancer biobank network linking the sites in Galway, Cork and Dublin. Biobanks play a crucial role in biomedical research. Blood and bone marrow samples from blood cancer patients are analysed using the latest genomic techniques providing the research community with invaluable data on blood cancers.

BCNI Registry

A blood cancer registry is being developed as part of BCNI. Cancer registries collect data on cancer incidence, treatment and survival and the analysis of this information can help to find ways to improve treatments and reduce cancer burden. BCNI is collecting information relating to the incidence, prevalence and treatment of blood cancers in Ireland and will also collect data on Patient-Reported Outcomes Measures (PROMs) to better assess the impact treatment has on the patient's health and quality of life.