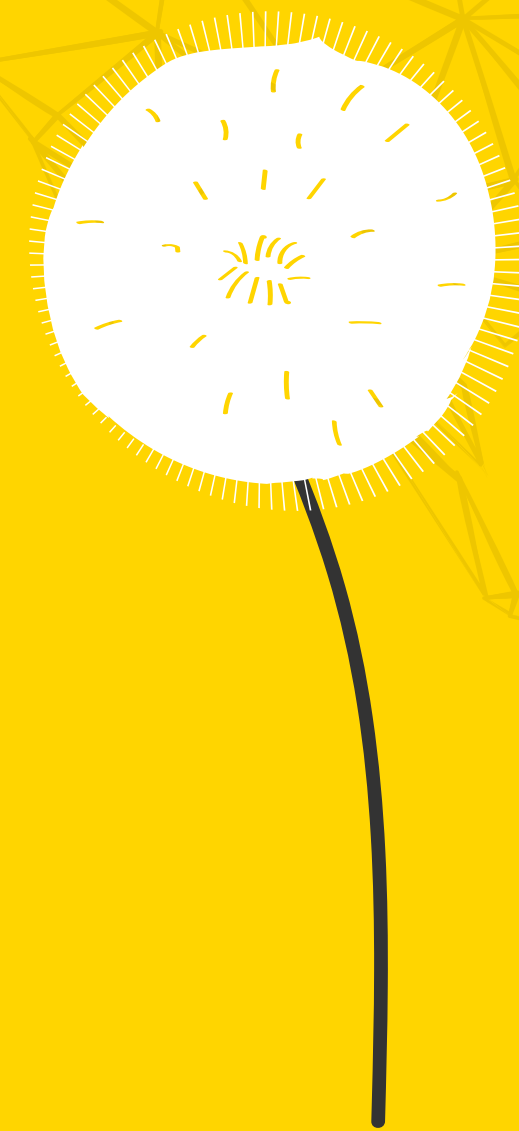


Newsletter July 2024



**World
CUP
Alliance**
CANCER OF UNKNOWN PRIMARY

Kanwal Pratap Singh Raghav



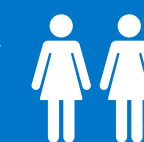
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tanya Knott



IRELAND

**Natalie Cook
Alison Taylor**



UNITED KINGDOM

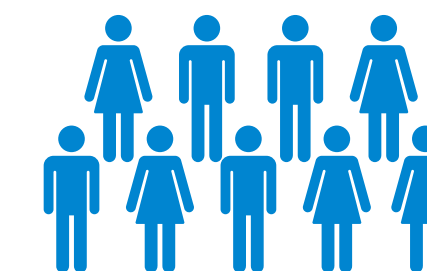
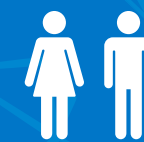
Alwin Kramer



GERMANY

NETHERLANDS

**Warnyta Minnaard
Petur Snaebjornsson**



Members of the international CUP (clinical) advisory committee

Thank you to everyone who joined the World CUP Alliance launch meeting at ESMO last year. Since the meeting we have been busy forming the international advisory committee, which includes: *Natalie Cook, Tanya Knott, Alwin Kramer, Linda Mileskin, Warnyta Minnaard, Kanwal Raghav, Petur Snaebjornsson, Alison Taylor, Richard Tothill* and working on our objectives and plans.



**Linda Mileskin
Richard Tothill**

AUSTRALIA

ESMO Barcelona

14 September 2024
afternoon*

Please contact us if you would like
to attend or for more information
info@worldcupawareness.org

*timing TBC

SAVE
THE
DATE

A roundtable on access & awareness of precision oncology

Precision oncology

Current consensus
on the possibilities of
precision oncology

From across the world

Clinical practice examples from across the
world and policy needs to overcome access
& awareness challenges

Advocacy strategies

Strategies on how patient advocates
can take a leading role in advancing
precision oncology



SOME OF OUR

Milestones



We have sent the letter of request for a **CUP track @ESMO** signed by all of our alliance across the world and have been assured it will be discussed at board level and we await response.

➤ We shall now send to **ASCO**.



The WCA paper working title **'Unanswered questions in CUP'** is underway and almost at first draft.

➤ The paper is being drafted together with our international Advisory Committee.



Illumina have sponsored a grant to capture **patient stories** and their experience with **genomic profiling, psychological and social support** to date **three patients** have shared their stories and we aim to visit the **UK in September** to interview more patients.

➤ *If you know of patients whom may like to share their story please contact us.*

click here

to watch the teaser of our first video



The **CUP Patient Experience Questionnaire** is now available to download on the website **www.worldcupawareness.org**

➤ *Please do share with your patients!*

The questionnaire has also been shared with the CUP Facebook page, which can be relevant for you to visit as well: **Unknown Primary Cancer (CUP) Support Group | Facebook** *(only for patients and their caregivers)*

Members of **wecan**

WCA became official members of WECAN (Workgroup of European Cancer Patient Advocacy Networks), and our amazing team member Sara Santarelli joined this year's WECAN Academy Patient Advocacy Training.

We are thrilled to be part of WECAN where we are able to connect, share and learn from fellow global cancer patient alliances.



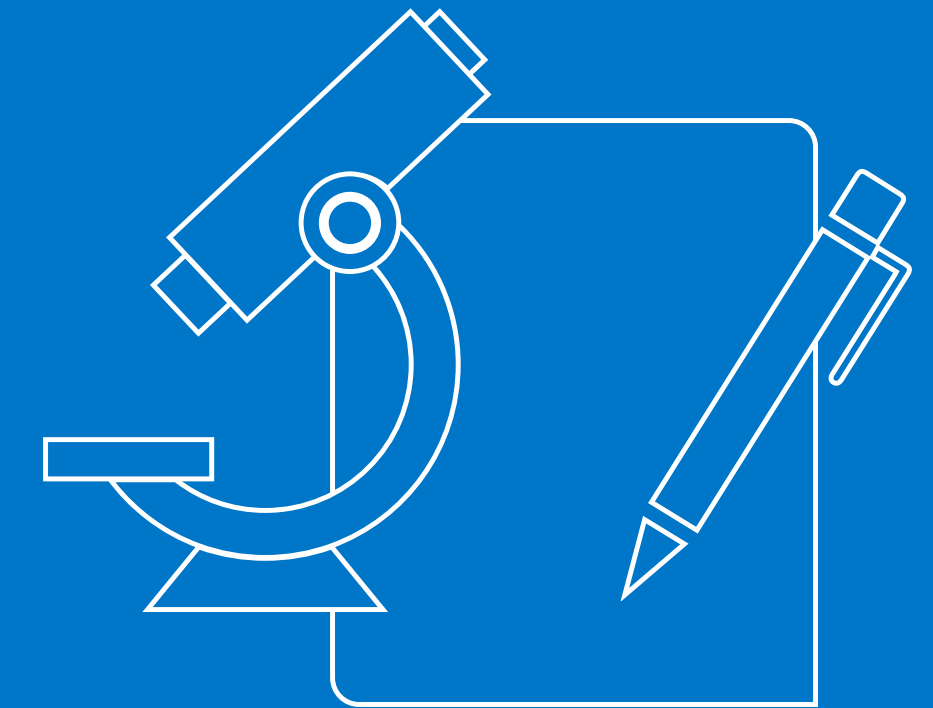
Huge congratulations to our WCA advisory board member

Alison Taylor *Acute Oncology*

Nurse Consultant @Clatterbridge Cancer Centre

whom has been awarded the 'Churchill Fellowship' to travel to Australia to visit the SUPER NEXT team, and link in remotely with the USA and Netherlands to research the psychological impact and support for people living with CUP.

➤ Alison will travel to Australia in October 2024.



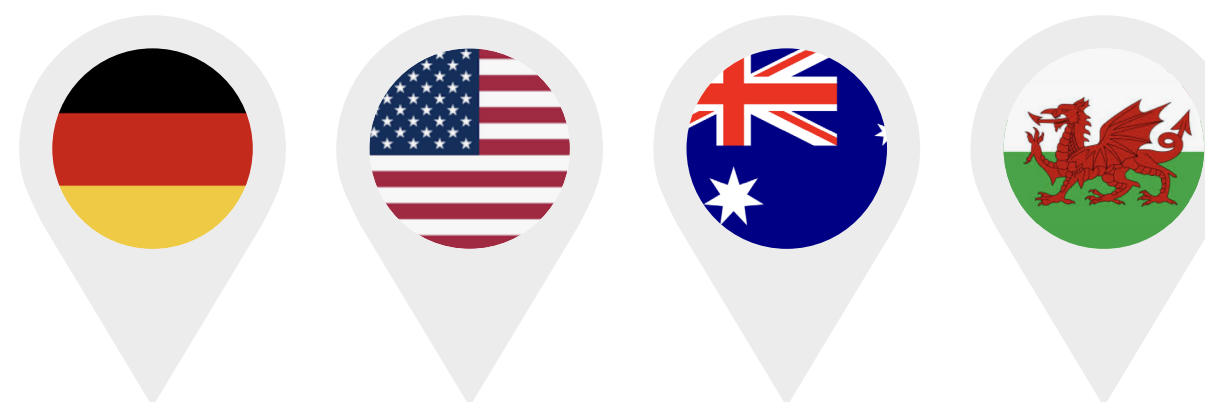
Huge congratulations to **Natalie Cook, Alicia Conway** and the team @The Christie and CRUK who published their revolutionary research in Nature communications.

Their paper "A cfDNA methylation-based tissue-of-origin classifier for cancers of unknown primary" can be found here:
A cfDNA methylation-based tissue-of-origin classifier for cancers of unknown primary - PubMed (nih.gov)

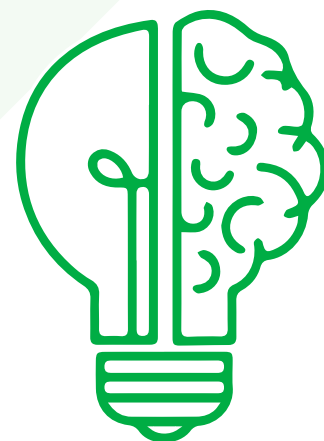
➤ nature communications

Expanding the **WCA**

Recently we have connected with clinicians and patient advocates from the USA, Australia & Germany & Wales and hope to welcome them to the alliance.



CUP trials



Several new exciting CUP trials will soon launch:

A study to see if FAPI-PET is better at finding a primary tumor than standard work-up including FDG-PET is launching this summer in six hospitals in the Netherlands.

The PIs of this study connected with the Australian CUP team in Melbourne through the World CUP Alliance as they are performing a similar study. More information on the Dutch trial can be found here: [18F]F-FAPI PET/CT to Identify Carcinoma of hitherto Unknown Primary origin: improving minimally-invasive cancer diagnostics. | CUPP NL (cupp-nl.eu)



Hot of the press: published in Lancet Oncology on July 25th.

"Site-specific therapy guided by a 90-gene expression assay versus empirical chemotherapy in patients with cancer of unknown primary (Fudan CUP-001): a randomised controlled trial."

This research from the Department of Medical Oncology, of the Fudan University Shanghai Cancer Center (Shanghai, China), compares site-specific therapy versus empirical chemotherapy in CUP.

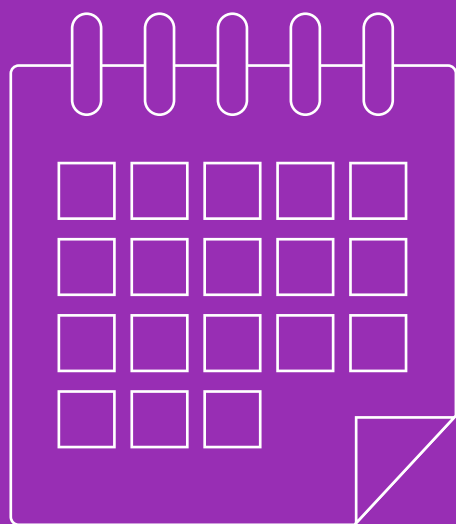
The CUPISCO Phase II Trial *

The aim of CUPISCO was to see if treatment choices guided by comprehensive genomic profiling improved outcomes in patients diagnosed with CUP. The study compared patients who got chemotherapy with those who got treatments (targeted therapy or cancer immunotherapy) based on their comprehensive genomic profiling results, called 'Molecularly guided therapy (MGT). CUPISCO also compares side effects in the two groups of patients. Initial results were presented at the ESMO Conference in October 2023. The trial is now closed to recruitment.

What were the main findings?

- › MGT significantly increased progression-free survival, compared with chemotherapy
- › More people responded to MGT than to chemotherapy
- › Patient's self-rated health and overall physical, social, emotional and functional well-being were the same regardless of the treatment
- › The number of patients who had side effects related to treatment was generally similar or lower for MGT than for chemotherapy
- › Continued follow-up will provide information about survival

*From 'The Catch Up - A cancer of unknown primary (CUP) Quarterly Newsletter' The CUP Research Group, @Christie NHS Foundation trust.



Events

ASCO 2024

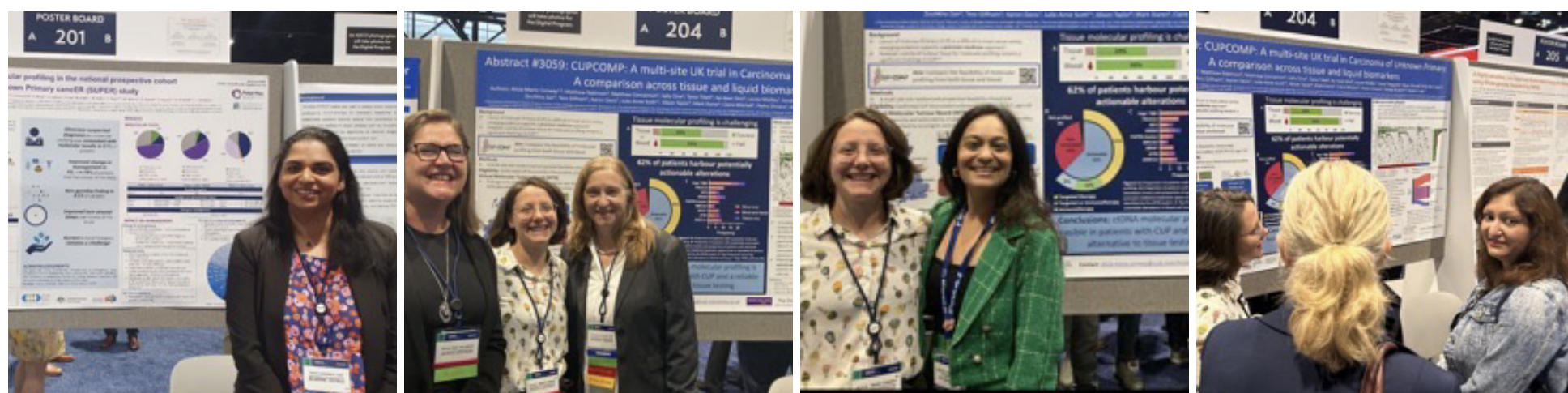
Several of our alliance advisors were present at ASCO 2024 (June), please find some CUP highlights here:

Great to see members of the WCA getting together in the CUP corner at ASCO

Dr Sonali Dasgupta, Velindre Wales, Dr Shruti Patel Stanford, Dr Kanwal Raghav and **Dr Ryan Huey MD Anderson.**

Dr Tharani Sivakumaran and **Dr Linda Mileskin** from Peter Mac Melbourne presenting their poster '*Clinical impact of molecular profiling in the national prospective cohort Solving Unknown Primary cancer (SUPER) study*'.

Dr Alicia Conway and **Dr Natalie Cook** presenting *CUPCOMP: A multi-site UK trial in Carcinoma of Unknown Primary. A comparison across tissue and liquid biomarkers.*



Education Events

Several educational events on CUP were held in recent months, find some highlights here.

All Wales CUP Education Event

January 2024, Cardiff

The Christies The Spine Liverpool

The Changing Landscape of Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP)
Friday 19th January 2024 The Spine, Liverpool

Improving your MUO/CUP Service and Pathways

SBK Healthcare Online event
Friday 12th June 2024

All Wales **CUP** Education Event

Huge congratulations to **Dr Sonali Dasgupta Velindre** *Cancer of Unknown Primary Lead* and **Dr Laura Jones** whom hosted the All Wales CUP Education Event in Cardiff

Earlier this year, Wales Cancer Network (WCN) hosted its inaugural All Wales Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP) Education Event (#CUPEducationEvent). 90 delegates from all parts of Wales working in multiple disciplines attended, along with 11 faculty members. Two guest speakers of international repute also participated: Dr Kai-Keen Shiu, Consultant Medical Oncologist and Honorary Associate Professor (UCLH) and John Symons, Director of CUP Foundation - Jo's friends.

Ongoing high quality work within Wales was showcased including standardising patient pathways, bridging gaps between GP referrals and Oncology/Specialist palliative team access via Rapid Diagnostics (RDC) and SDEC (Same Day Emergency Care) clinics, pivotal role of CUP CNS and CUP MDT (multi-disciplinary team) in making holistic patient-centred care plans, as well as updates on topical trials (CUPISCO) and research.

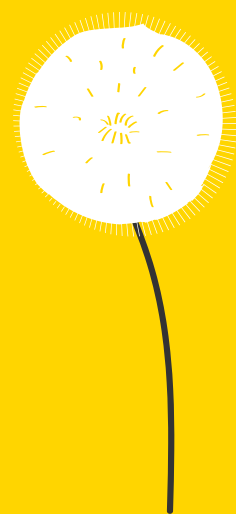
This landmark event has been described as 'inspirational' and 'tremendous achievement'; a tribute to a new wave of national energy focussed on improving outcomes in this group of cancer patients with a very challenging diagnosis.

Dr Sonali Dasgupta, Consultant Medical Oncologist at Velindre and WCN CUP Lead said: "it has been a huge honour and pleasure to steer this meeting. The event has showcased the excellent standards of joined up care we have for CUP patients in Wales, and opened up new channels of shared learning and wider networking."



thank you!

If you would like to add any information to our website (worldcupawareness.org) please let us know. To date we have been collecting newly published research & patient stories.



**World
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Alliance**
CANCER OF UNKNOWN PRIMARY

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