

Enhancing the health and well-being of cancer survivors

CREW (ColoREctal Wellbeing) cohort:
A cohort study to explore recovery of health and well-being following primary treatment of colorectal cancer.

Around 2 million people are living with or beyond cancer in the UK and this figure is rising by more than 3% per year. Whilst increasing survival rates are to be celebrated, the experiences and needs of those who have completed their primary cancer treatment are relatively neglected. The range of problems faced by cancer survivors and how they change and resolve over time are not well understood and health professionals may be unaware of who is struggling with problems. There is a need for research to investigate the health and well-being of cancer survivors over the years following primary treatment in order to find out what can facilitate optimal recovery of health following cancer treatment.

This questionnaire study will follow 1000 people with colorectal cancer over a period of two years in the first instance, recruited from 25 centres across the UK, to establish the natural history of the recovery of their health and wellbeing. It will assess how quickly people return to a state of wellbeing after colorectal cancer and measure factors which influence this course of recovery. Outcomes will help inform health care providers about what helps or hinders rapid and effective recovery from cancer, identify who might be at risk of problems in recovery and identify areas for the development of interventions to aid this process.

This study will be conducted by the Macmillan Survivorship Research Group (MSRG), based at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southampton, as part of a major programme of research into cancer survivorship funded by Macmillan Cancer Support, with the purpose of enhancing the health and well-being of cancer survivors.

NIHR Portfolio Study

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