

Dealing with problems arising from cancer and its treatment

An online survey to find out how people manage cancer and cancer related problems in the 12 months following initial cancer treatment

There are around two million people in the UK living with or beyond cancer and this number is rising by more than 3% per year. Treatments for cancer such as chemotherapy and radiotherapy can have lasting physical, psychological and social effects. It is known that people usually manage most problems associated with cancer and its treatment on their own as part of their daily lives. We do not know though how they do this, how challenging it might be for people to manage problems for themselves and whether some people might benefit from support in doing this.

We have developed an online survey that asks participants about how they deal with problems associated with cancer and its treatment up to a year after treatment has ended. By gathering a range of information about participants we will also establish how confident people are in their ability to deal with their problems as well as finding out if some people require additional support. We will be recruiting participants online by providing a link to our study on a range of websites (See link to right). The reason we are doing this survey online is because we are developing an internet based resource to support people in managing the consequences of cancer and its treatment once they have completed their cancer treatment.

This survey aims to improve our knowledge of the ways that people manage cancer and treatment related problems once treatment is over. The findings will also allow us to gain an understanding of how to identify people who are most likely to have difficulty managing problems so that these people can be supported appropriately. This work will contribute to the development of support likely to be helpful for cancer survivors.

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.

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