Could you help shape research into treatments for urinary tract and bladder cancer?

We're looking for two public members to join our research team on the AURORA clinical trial.

What are we doing?

Urinary tract squamous cell carcinoma (UTSCC) is a rare cancer of the urinary tract, including the bladder. At present there are no treatments that are proven to extend survival in this disease. The AURORA trial is testing whether an immunotherapy called atezolizumab can improve outcomes for patients.

How could you help?

We're looking for two public contributors with personal experience of UTSCC or bladder cancer, or a family member of someone with the disease, to join our research team and help give the patient's perspective on how the clinical trial is being run.

Role One – Trial Management Group (TMG)

The TMG has general oversight for how a trial is run and ensures that it is meeting the requirements of the trial protocol and is acceptable to the patients taking part.

This role will involve:

- Meeting every 4-6 months over 2 years via video call (Microsoft Teams).
- Reading documents prior to meetings and providing an insight into any issues that arise in the oversight of the trial.

Role Two – Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC)

The IMDC reviews patient data that is collected during a clinical trial. They look for any safety or quality of life concerns and have the power to suggest changes or even stop the trial if they think participants are at risk. They are independent of the main trial team.

This role will involve:

- Attending a short training programme to learn about the trial and the IDMC.
- Meeting approximately every 6-12 months with the IDMC by video call, including a short call with the statistics team ahead of each meeting to review the IDMC report.
- Providing feedback on the process of being a public member on an IDMC.
- No statistical or data background is needed, but the role does involve looking at tables of data. You will be given training and support from our statistics team.

How will we support you?

You will be provided with an outline of the trial and any appropriate training resources. The trial team and Patient and Public Involvement Coordinator will support you throughout your role. You will be reimbursed for your time in line with NIHR guidelines.

If you are interested in this role or have any other questions, please email Liz Allaway, Patient and Public Involvement Coordinator – L.Allaway@soton.ac.uk