Help us monitor the progress of our cancer clinical trials

We’re looking for a public member to join our Trial Steering Committee (TSC) for oncology trials

What is a Trial Steering Committee?
The TSC’s role is to monitor the progress of a clinical trial on behalf of the trial funder and sponsor. It ensures trials are being conducted to regulatory standards and are meeting the targets set out in the trial protocol. The TSC can advise changes if these are not being met. The committee is made up of researchers, doctors, statisticians and public members who are completely independent of the Southampton Clinical Trials Unit.

How can you help?
You will help the committee assess whether trials being conducted by the Southampton Clinical Trials Unit are meeting standards for patient acceptability and quality of life, and how well Patient and Public Involvement is being embedded into each research project.

What experience is needed?
We are ideally looking for someone with lived experience of cancer, either as a patient or a carer/family member. The TSC covers all our cancer trials, so you will be able to apply your experience of research and trials to different cancer types and a variety of treatments and interventions. You will need to be confident to speak up and give your opinions during meetings and at reading scientific milestone reports for each trial.

When and how are the meetings held?
TSC meetings are held every 6 months, in early January and early July, and last for an afternoon. These meetings are currently held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Hybrid meetings, held both face-to-face in Southampton and virtually, may return in the future.

How will we support you?
You will have an introductory meeting with the TSC facilitator to explain more about the meetings and the template trial reports. You will be sent the trial reports ahead of each meeting. During the meeting, we welcome questions and comments and will help explain any scientific or research terminology. You will be reimbursed for your time in line with NIHR guidelines (£75 for a half day meeting).

Interested?
If you are interested in applying for this role, or have any other questions, please email our Patient and Public Involvement coordinator, Liz Allaway, l.allaway@soton.ac.uk