

Wales Cancer Research Centre

John Chester
Director, WCRC



Summary

- Where WCRC has come from
- Its ambitions for the future
- Benefits/opportunities this further investment will provide



Cardiff & Vale
ABMU
Aneurin Bevan



Wales Cancer Research Centre

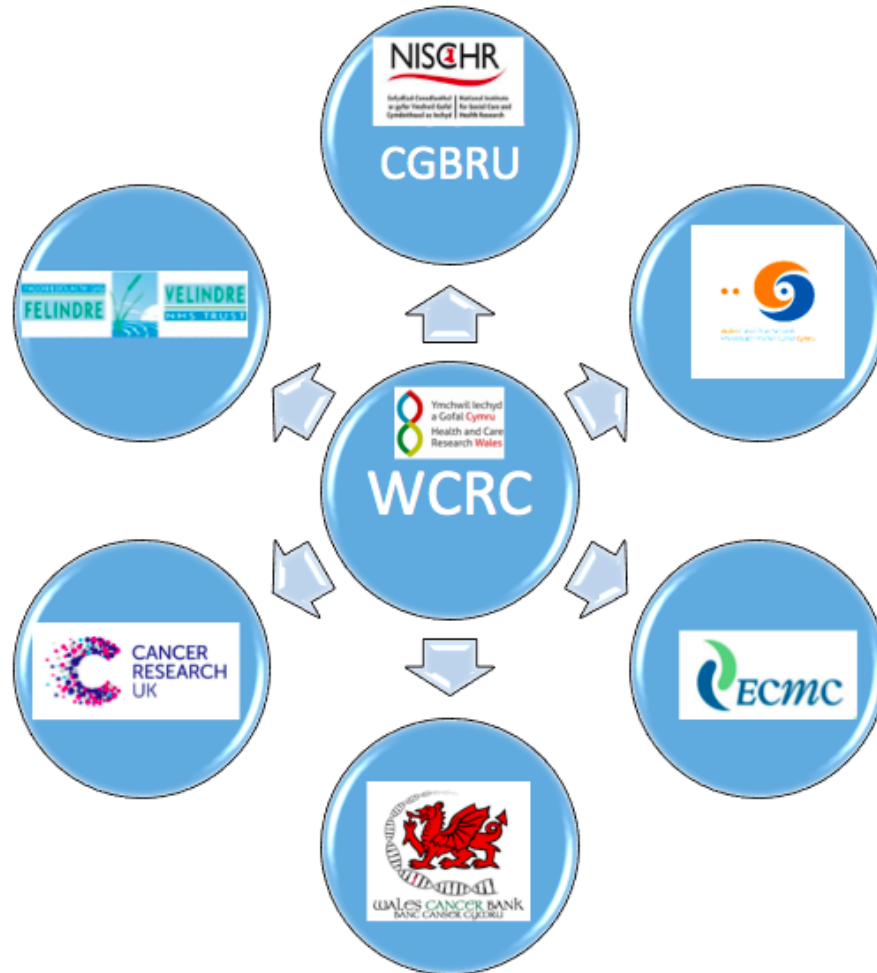
Canolfan Ymchwil Canser Cymru



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe



Where WCRC has come from



Its ambitions for the future

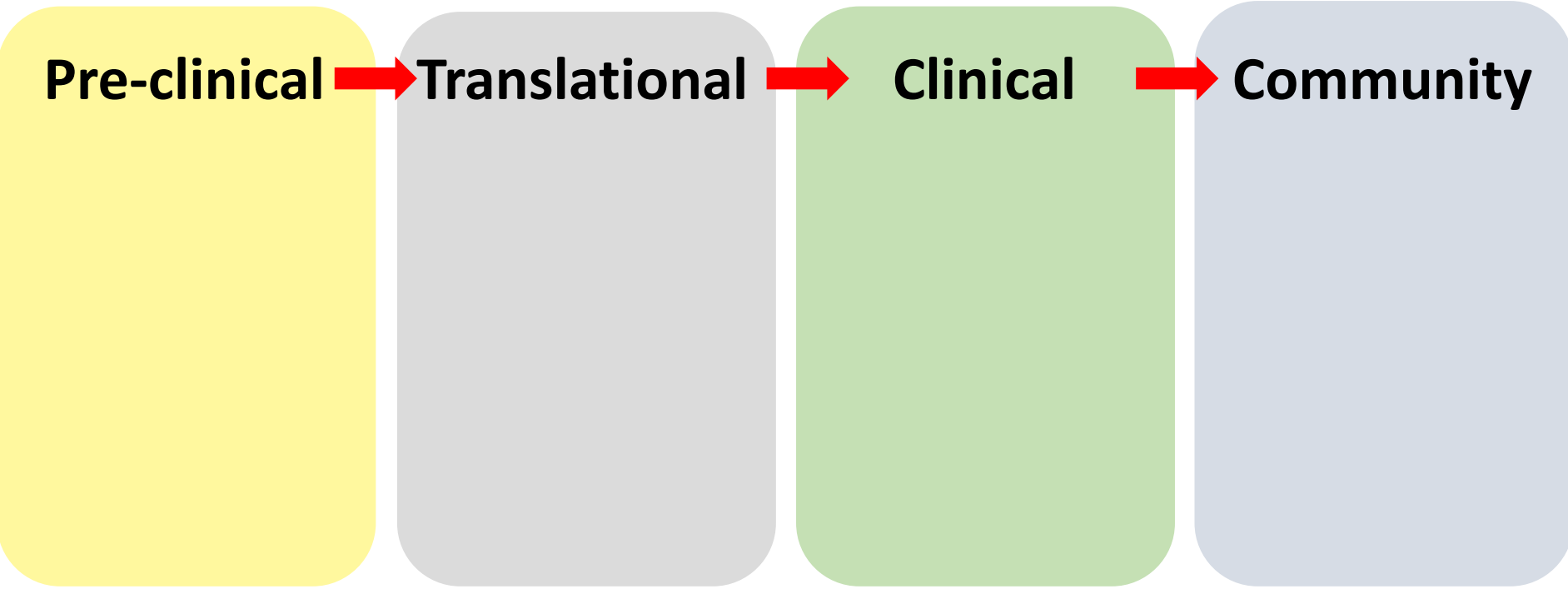
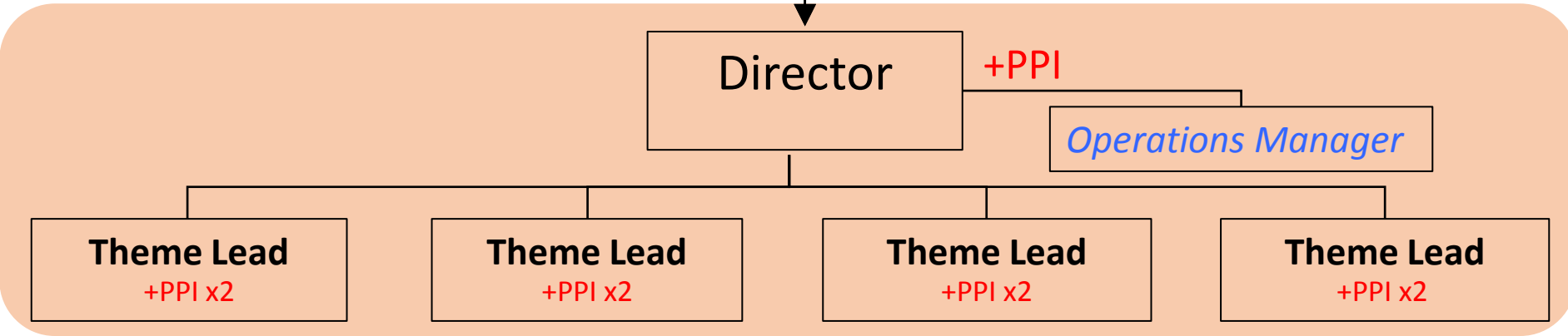
- **Our vision:** The Wales Cancer Research Centre will perform and support **cancer research of the highest quality**, across the **translational spectrum**, focussing on important areas of **clinical need**, for the short- and long-term **benefit of patients and the public**.
- It will be a **comprehensive cancer research centre with** strong **academic and NHS** clinical leadership and a **multi-disciplinary** Senior Management Team. It will be **led from Cardiff but have an all-Wales brief**, involving key other **research-excellent** groups in South West Wales (Swansea) and North Wales (Bangor).
- **“Grease and glue”**
 - Provide infrastructure, add value & facilitate growth via further research income
 - An integrative, unifying force

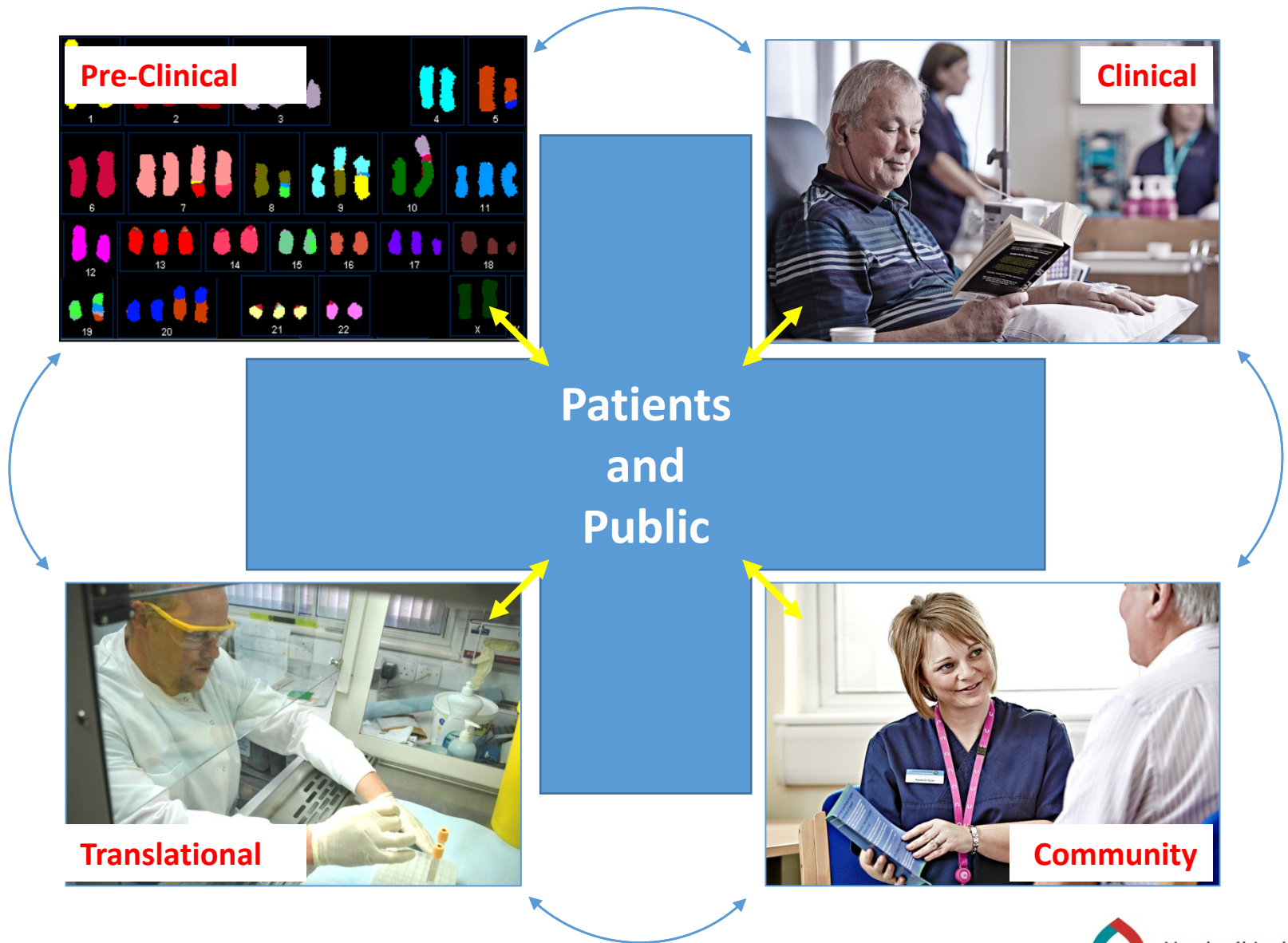
Our Principles

- Broad, integrated, inclusive
 - Excellence as a minimum requirement
 - Building on current strengths; developing (selected) new ones
- Open & transparent
- Good communication
 - Internal and external
- Make the most of the budget
 - Large sum, but only a fraction of total cancer research income



Welsh
HEI's







Welsh
HEI's



Director

+PPI

Operations Manager

Theme Lead

+PPI x2

Theme Lead

+PPI x2

Theme Lead

+PPI x2

Theme Lead

+PPI x2

Pre-clinical

Cancer Genetics/
Genomic Instability

Cancer Immunology

Signalling &
Stem Cells

Dr. Andrew Westwell
PHRM, Cardiff Uni.

Translational

Stratified Medicine
*(including
Wales Cancer Bank)*

Clinical

Randomised
Clinical Trials

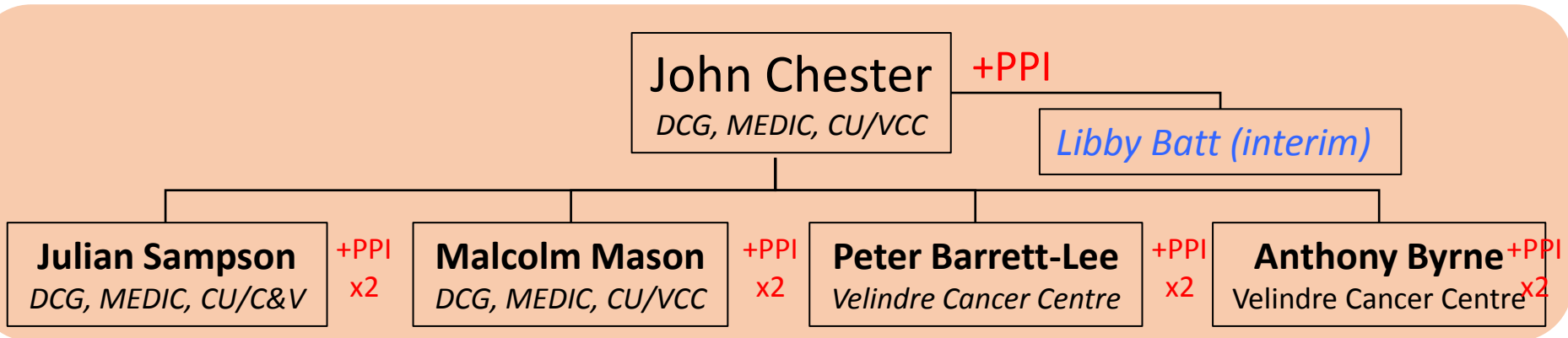
Phase I
Clinical Trials

Community

Integration &
Informatics

Palliative &
Supportive Care
*(including
Prevention &
Early Diagnosis)*

39 posts; 30 FTEs; 7 NHS and HEI organisations



Pre-clinical → Translational → Clinical → Community

Prof. Duncan Baird
DCG, MEDIC, Cardiff Uni

Prof. Awen Gallimore
DII, MEDIC, Cardiff Uni.

Prof. Alan Clarke
BIOSI, Cardiff Uni.

Dr. Andrew Westwell
PHRMY, Cardiff Uni.

Dr. Richard Adams
DCG, MEDIC, CU/VCC
and
Dr. Rachel Butler
UHW, Cardiff & Vale

Dr. John Staffurth
DCG, MEDIC, Cardiff Uni
Velindre Cancer Centre

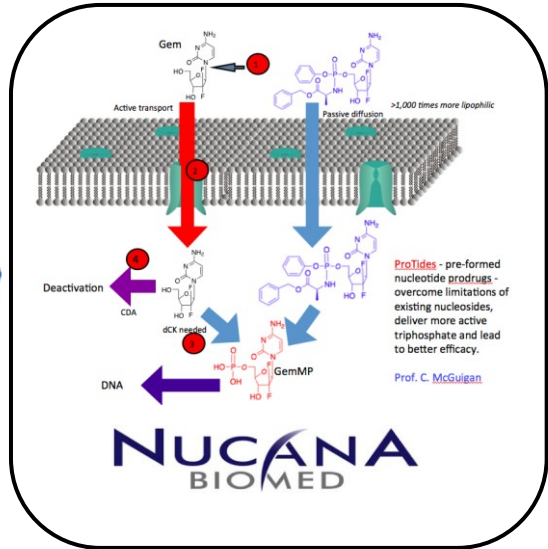
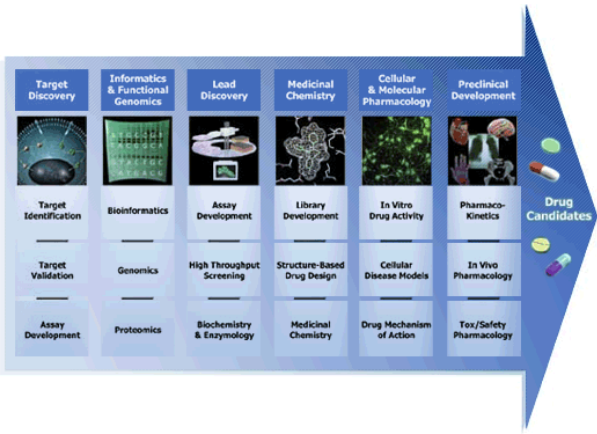
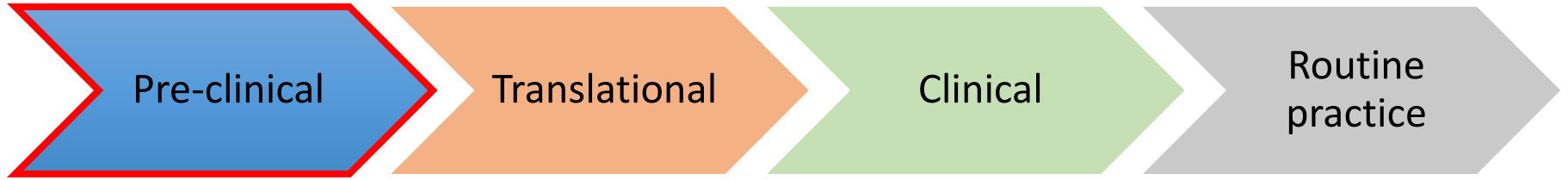
Dr. Rob Jones
DCG, MEDIC, CU/VCC
Dr. Steve Knapper
DCG, MEDIC, CU/C&V

Prof. David Ford
Swansea University

Prof. Annmarie Nelson
MCPCRC, CU; Swansea
Dr. Simon Noble
DCG, CU/Aneurin Bevan
with
Dr. Kate Brain (MEDIC)
Prof. Richard Neal
(Bangor)



A translational pipeline

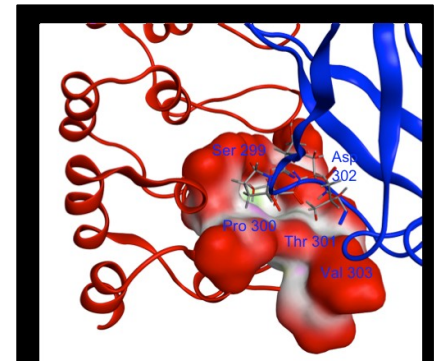
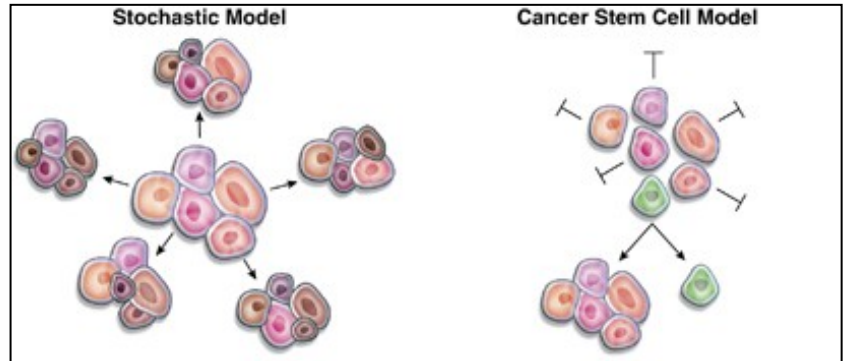
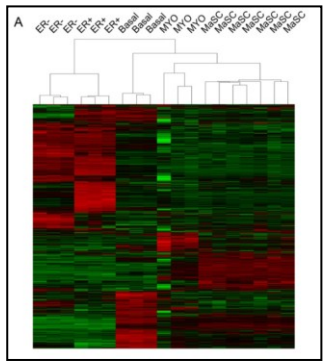


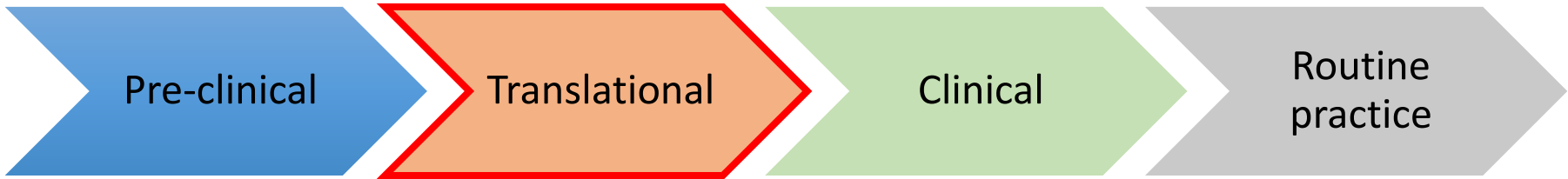
Bcl3 - Virtual Screening

In vivo activity

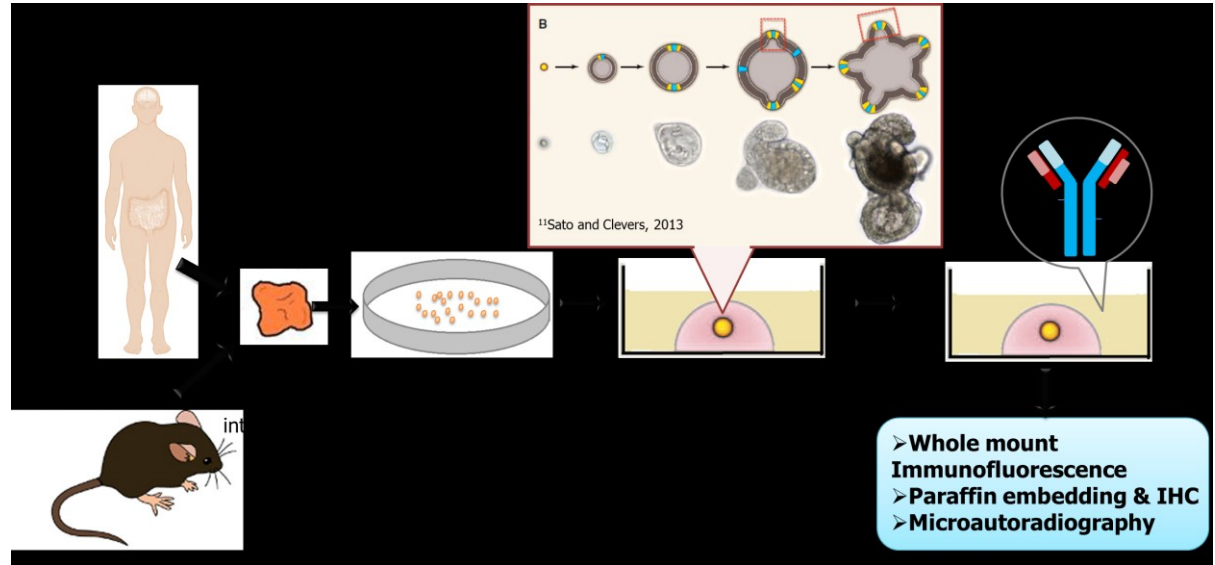
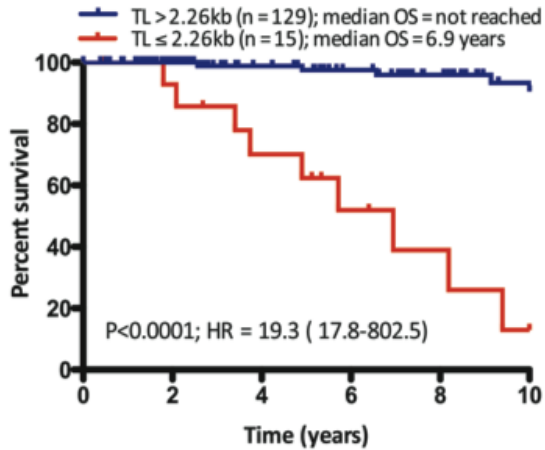
Control

JS6
3.5mg/Kg





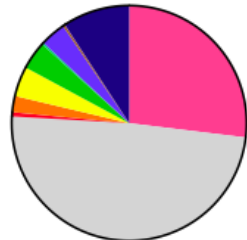
CLL



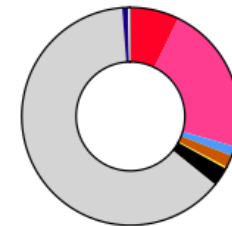
Stratified Medicine Programme



Of 1889 lung cancers, 35% had at least one abnormality, only 0.65% had more than one. *KRAS* was most often mutated (26%), followed by *EGFR* (8.3%), *ALK* rearrangement (1.9%) and *BRAF* (1%).



- Squamous cell carcinoma
- Adenocarcinoma
- Adenosquamous carcinoma
- Large cell carcinoma
- Non-small cell carcinoma NOS
- Small cell carcinoma
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma
- Carcinoma NOS
- Carcinoid tumour
- Salivary gland tumours
- Not known



- EGFR mutation only
- KRAS mutation only
- BRAF mutation only
- ALK rearrangement only
- EGFR + ALK
- EGFR + KRAS
- Failed all gene tests
- Wild-type
- DDR2 mutation only
- KRAS + BRAF
- BRAF + ALK
- BRAF + DDR2
- DDR2 + KRAS

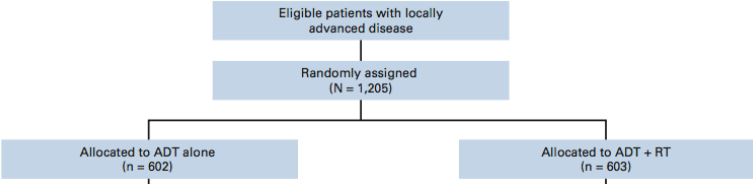


JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY ORIGINAL REPORT

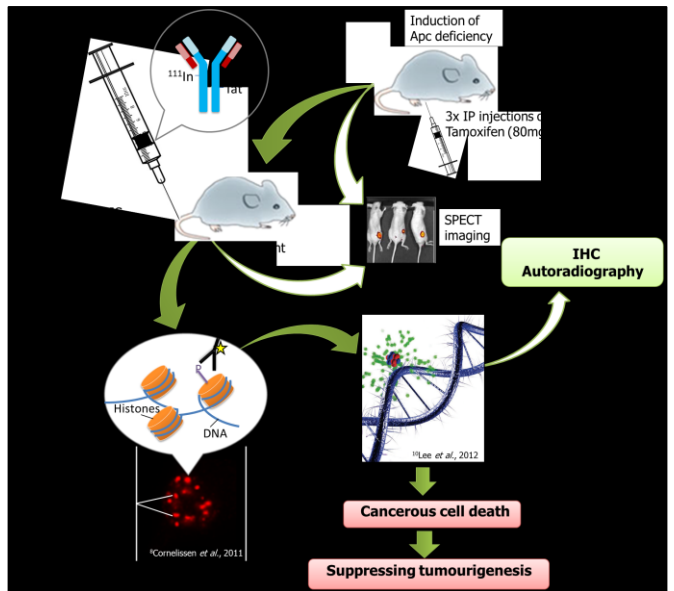


Final Report of the Intergroup Randomized Study of Combined Androgen-Deprivation Therapy Plus Radiotherapy Versus Androgen-Deprivation Therapy Alone in Locally Advanced Prostate Cancer

Malcolm D. Mason, Wendy R. Parulekar, Matthew R. Sydes, Michael Brundage, Peter Kirkbride, Mary Gospodarowicz, Richard Cowan, Edmund C. Kostashuk, John Anderson, Gregory Swanson, Mahesh K.B. Parmar, Charles Hayter, Gordana Jovic, Andrea Hiltz, John Hetherington, Jinka Sathya, James B.P. Barber, Michael McKenzie, Salah El-Sharkawi, Luis Souhami, P.D. John Hardman, Bingshu E. Chen, and Padraig Warde



	Early assessment	Full assessment	
Clofarabine	➔ ✓	➔ ✗	CR ↑ Survival similar
LDAC + GO	➔ ✓	➔ ✗	
LDAC + ATO	➔ ✗		
LDAC + Tipifarnib	➔ ✗		
Sapacitabine	➔ ✗		
Vosaroxin	➔		Still ongoing
LDAC + Vosaroxin	➔		
LDAC + AC-220	➔		
LDAC + Ganetespib	➔		



Benefits/opportunities this further investment will provide

- ‘Leverage’ of further research funding
- High-impact publications
- Enhanced reputation for NHS Wales and Welsh HEIs
- Improved health and wealth of Wales
- Benefit for cancer patients, their families and carers, and for the population
 - Improved prevention, diagnosis, control & cure
 - Patient-centred, personalised cancer care

Wales Cancer Partnership



A whole that is
greater than the
sum of its parts

WCRRC as
"glue"



Benefits/opportunities (continued)

- Something not done before in Wales (or elsewhere?)
- Integrating a large, multi-professional team
 - 70 clinical & non-clinical researchers; 6 PPI reps
- Ability to determine shape of cancer research in Wales
 - A 'voice' for cancer research
- Effective transfer into routine clinical practice
 - Today's research; tomorrow's care

Success

- Product
- Plan
- People
- Money
- Luck



Prof. Sir Chris Evans



**Pre-clinical
Theme Lead**

Prof Julian Sampson



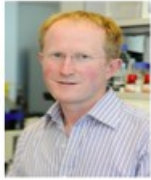
**Translational
Theme Lead**

Prof Malcolm Mason



**Community
Theme Lead**

Prof Anthony Byrne



**Cancer Genetics/Geonomic
Instability Work Package Lead**
Prof Duncan Baird



**Cancer Immunology
Work Package Lead**
Prof Awen Gallimore



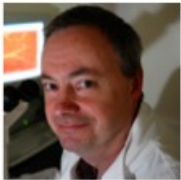
**Stratified Medicine Work
Package Co-Lead**
Dr Rachel Butler



**Stratified Medicine Work
Package Co-Lead**
Dr Richard Adams



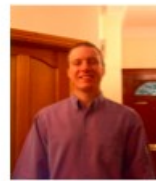
**Integration & Informatics
Work Package Lead**
Prof David Ford



**Signalling &
Stem Cells
Work Package Lead**
Prof Alan Clarke



**Drug Development
& Model Systems
Work Package Lead**
Dr Andrew Westwell



**Clinical
Theme Lead**
Prof Peter Barrett-Lee



**Palliative &
Supportive Care
Work Package Co-Lead**
Prof Annmarie Nelson



**Palliative &
Supportive Care
Work Package Co-Lead**
Dr Simon Noble



Director
Prof John Chester



**Interim
Operations Manager**
Mrs Libby Batt



**Randomised
Clinical Trials
Work Package Lead**
Dr John Staffurth



**Phase I
Clinical Trials
Work Package Co-Lead**
Dr Steven Knapper



**Phase I
Clinical Trials
Work Package Co-Lead**
Dr Robert Jones



**Prevention &
Early Diagnosis**
Prof
Richard Neal



**Prevention &
Early Diagnosis**
Dr Kate Brain

Dates for your diary (invitations)

- **21st October 2015**
 - WCRC Launch Event/1st annual Wales Cancer Research Conference
 - SWALEC Stadium, Cardiff
- **24th October 2015**
 - Cardiff Cancer Research Open Day
 - (open to public; clinicians esp. welcome)
 - Hadyn Ellis Building, Maindy Road, Cardiff

Thank you

ChesterJD@cardiff.ac.uk

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