

ABC UK COVID-19 IMPACT FUND

Please note this grant fund is aimed at work relating directly to bladder cancer patients – it is not intended that the fund will be used directly on Covid-19 services.

Background

Covid-19 has had a serious impact on everyone – but has significantly impacted those with cancer – whether just diagnosed, undergoing treatment or living with cancer.

ABC UK knows, both from patients themselves and from health professionals treating them, that bladder cancer patients have been seriously affected by:

- delays in diagnosis
- delays in treatment
- delays in surveillance testing and monitoring
- changing treatments and treatment pathways
- changing patient behaviour

Our recent survey demonstrates some of this impact and we shall be using follow up surveys to continue monitoring this situation. You can read our summary report from our survey here: [ABC UK Covid 19 Patient Survey](#)

Aim of the Fund

Action Bladder Cancer UK wants to help the NHS and research community prepare for any continuing impact of Covid-19, for any second wave or future crises, and to improve the treatment and experience of those with bladder cancer. We are also aware that there have been positive lessons learned about patient treatment pathways and processes resulting from the necessary changes made due to the pandemic. We want to help support the development of these benefits and lessons.

ABC UK has launched a modest fund to help achieve this and welcomes applications. The scope of this fund is deliberately broad to avoid limiting ideas.

Your ideas might be small, practical steps to help frontline clinical staff and/or patients; or a small epidemiological research project to look at changes in practice for bladder cancer treatment; or a new treatment pathway for bladder cancer patients (which was trialled in response to Covid-19, and has merit for wider practice); or to test new practices or many others....

Examples

- Establishing what has emerged as ‘best practice’ for treatment of bladder cancer nationally during the first wave of Covid-19
- Learning lessons from experience to date during C-19 pandemic and from changes already made
- Building on lessons learned by implementing positive changes to restart bladder cancer services
- improving treatment pathways for those with bladder cancer
- Preparing and planning responses for any future impact of Covid-19, to maintain the diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer patients
- Communicating with patients as systems change
- Easing access to small items and/or consumables otherwise not readily available.

How to apply

There is no formal application form. Applicants should contact ABC UK first with an expression of interest. Awards will only be given directly to an organisation such as an NHS Trust or a recognised academic organisation, not to an individual.

What to include in your Expression of Interest:

- It should be no more than 2 sides of A4
- You should describe the work in plain English
- You should detail how and when the work will be conducted
- You should include a full Patient benefit statement
- Provide details of funding requested and brief breakdown
- Provide details of the funding recipient organisation eg NHS Trust
- Your EOI should be submitted as soon as possible to info@actionbladdercanceruk.org with ABC UK Covid-19 Impact Fund in the email title

You may then be asked to submit further information as necessary if your idea is of interest.

Applicants may discuss their application before submission, including before submitting an Expression of Interest. Please email request, with subject ABC UK Covid-19 Impact Fund, together with your contact details to: info@actionbladdercanceruk.org

Process

- ABC UK aims to respond to applicants within 10 working days
- Applicants may then be asked for additional information and detail
- ABC UK will aim to make a full decision within 25 working days of receipt of necessary information
- There is no published end date to the fund – this will be determined when there is no longer a need or funds have been allocated
- Applications are invited for stand-alone work or to top up or complement other funding
- An initial fund of £10,000 has been budgeted (subject to review) and individual applications will be judged on their merit and potential benefit to patients
- It is highly unlikely that we will award £10,000 to any one project
- This ABC UK funding initiative is separate from ABC UK's general funding streams: ABC UK Improving Outcomes for Patients – IOPP and ABC UK Nurses Awards – see: <http://actionbladdercanceruk.org/abc-uk-grants/>

E: info@actionbladdercanceruk.org

www.actionbladdercanceruk.org

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