

Our research

Your donations make this happen



By funding research we can increase our understanding of digestive disorders, which helps develop more accurate diagnosis, more effective treatments and better ways to manage the disorders. And we want to make sure that nobody suffers through ignorance or embarrassment so we work to raise public awareness of digestive disorders, their symptoms and impact. We couldn't do any of this without our wonderful supporters.

Core prioritises research into six areas where research is underfunded and where we can make a significant difference.

Pancreatitis

Thanks to the Amelie Waring Foundation Fellowship and donations from our supporters, Core has been able to fund research on the causes and management of acute and chronic pancreatitis. We have made remarkable progress, though there is still much to be done. For example, even though gallstones and alcohol are common causes of pancreatitis, some episodes are caused by other factors. The new Amelie Waring Fellow, Dr Kristof Nemeth (University of Liverpool), will investigate how some medications might trigger acute pancreatitis. Dr Alastair Hayes (University of Edinburgh), the previous Fellow, focused his research on how to contain

the inflammation caused by pancreatitis, so that the damage does not spread to other organs.

Functional abdominal pain and IBS

Core understands the need for more research on the causes and management of IBS and functional abdominal pain. We also think that raising awareness and understanding of the conditions is essential. To help us do this we invited Professor Peter Whorwell and Professor Kevin Whelan to speak at our 'Exploring the Science of Digestion' public event held in Manchester on 19th June 2017. We are also supporting a study from the University of Sheffield that is trying to understand how people with IBS use phone or computer applications (apps) to log details to monitor diet and/or fitness to help them manage their condition.

Heartburn, Barrett's Oesophagus and oesophageal (gullet) cancer

Last year Core supported some really exciting research and projects on disorders of the oesophagus. In collaboration with Action Against Heartburn and the British Society of Gastroenterology, Core brought together patients and healthcare providers to identify their top ten

priorities for research on Barrett's Oesophagus and heartburn.

We are funding Professor Laurence Lovat at the University College London Hospital to investigate whether he can develop a simple saliva test to identify people at risk of oesophageal cancer - which will be more convenient and comfortable for patients, and much cheaper for the NHS.

We are also funding Dr Conor McCann, at the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, to do some really exciting research on two digestive disorders, achalasia and gastroparesis.

Diverticular disease

We are currently funding Dr David Humes, at Nottingham University, to investigate whether less invasive surgical techniques, such as keyhole surgery, might be better and safer for diverticulitis.

We are also supporting another study from the University of Sheffield. They are developing a leaflet that contains helpful information about diverticulitis with space for patients to write down any symptoms they may experience. Patients can then give their annotated leaflet to their healthcare provider to help explain their symptoms.

2001

The FDA approves the use of laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding as a weight loss surgery

2004

Digestive Disorders Foundation becomes Core

Core is currently funding over **£1.25m** of research across the country



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| <p>① University of East Anglia
Inflammatory Bowel Disease</p> <p>② University Hospital Southampton
Paediatric Crohn's Disease</p> <p>③ Queen Mary University of London, King's College London and University College London
Barrett's Oesophagus
Children Post-Liver Transplant
Oesophageal Cancer
Oesophageal Achalasia and Diabetic Gastroparesis</p> <p>④ University of Edinburgh
Acute Pancreatitis
Biliary Atresia and Fibrosis
Inflammatory Bowel Disease</p> | <p>⑤ University of Nottingham
Diverticulitis
Crohn's Disease
Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding</p> <p>⑥ University of Oxford
Colon Cancer Metastasis</p> <p>⑦ University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire
Colorectal Cancer</p> <p>⑧ University of Liverpool
Drug-induced Pancreatitis
Paediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease</p> <p>⑨ University of Birmingham
Alcoholic Hepatitis</p> <p>⑩ Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry
Alcoholic hepatitis</p> |
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Gut and liver disorders in children

Core has a fruitful collaboration with BSPGHAN, the society representing specialists in childhood gut, liver and nutrition disorders. Together we have funded nine research projects over the years. The latest two have been on Inflammatory Bowel Disease; one at the University Hospital Southampton with Professor Sarah Ennis, and one at the University of Liverpool with Professor Chris Probert. Our relationship with BSPGHAN is very important to us as it allows us to prioritise research on digestive disorders in children, who often have different needs

to adults, and for whom gut, liver and nutrition disorders can have a profound impact on growth and development.

Healthy nutrition encouraging healthy gut bacteria

Our research has always recognised the importance of gut bacteria in digestive diseases and gut health. For some time, we have funded nutrition research as a priority. We want to increase funding into research on diet and gut health and to be able to offer sound advice to people. We also want to tackle the challenging issue of obesity as we think there

are ways we can make an impact on this important area. For instance, exciting new evidence shows that gut bacteria affect the development of obesity, probably affecting appetite and eating behaviour. Core research has shown how appetite is controlled and how fizzy drinks can lead to fatty liver. But we also investigate undernutrition and have a proud record in understanding conditions that affect undernutrition in the third world.

Find out more about our research, and how you can be part of our pioneering journey, by visiting www.corecharity.org.uk

2013
The first successful faecal microbial transplantation for C difficile infection

2017
Core becomes Guts UK! and a new journey begins

Let's continue the journey together

