

Could you help guide research into obesity and cancer?

Obesity has been linked with at least 13 types of cancer. Understanding how people's bodies work is vital for learning why obesity increases cancer rates, who could be most at risk, and what we can do to prevent obesity-related cancers.

We are working on this through the five-year [Obesity-related Cancer Epidemiology Programme \(OCEP\)](#), led by the University of Bristol and funded by Cancer Research UK. We study information from large groups of people to understand better this serious public health challenge.

These cancers and this research affect real people. Our advisory group of members of the public plays a key role in making sure our research focuses on what matters to people. They also help us share our findings in ways that make a real difference to people affected by cancer. Could you join us?

Who are we looking for?

Our advisory group needs to reflect the views and experiences of people across the UK, particularly those who have lived with obesity or cancer. We are now recruiting new members. To make sure we hear a wide range of perspectives, we are particularly looking to increase representation of:

- Men
- People aged 18 to 40
- People from ethnic minority backgrounds
- People with a disability or long-term health condition
- People from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds
- People who have no previous experience of health research.

But, whoever you are, do get in touch if you are interested!

What does being on the advisory group involve?

- Online meetings of the whole group four times a year, usually lasting about an hour
- A possible in-person meeting (in or near Bristol) once a year
- Working with individual researchers - for example, reviewing a funding application or giving feedback on communications
- Reading and commenting on documents occasionally
- Reasonable adjustments to make sure everyone can take part. If you need support to participate, such as documents in a different format or captions for online meetings, just let us know.

What do you get from being part of this work?

- Help shape important cancer research
- Learn about the latest research, working alongside researchers
- You may be named as a contributor on scientific papers
- Your time and reasonable expenses — including childcare and carer costs — will be covered in line with [Cancer Research UK's standard rates](#). This is a recognition payment, not employment income.

How to get involved

If you're interested in joining this advisory group, please complete [this online form](#) by Friday 10 July. We just ask for a brief overview of who you are and why you're interested. We will contact everyone who gets in touch.

We are not looking for demonstrations of experience or expertise; our aim is to bring together a balanced group that can offer as wide a range of perspectives as possible throughout the programme.

If you have any questions or would like an informal chat, please contact sian.c.harris@bristol.ac.uk.

All information you share will be handled confidentially, in line with UK GDPR and the University of Bristol's data protection policies. We recognise that cancer and obesity can be difficult and emotional subjects and we will handle all conversations with care.