

SPOTLIGHT

ISSUE 1: AUTUMN 2013



HELLO!

This newsletter welcomes you into our national study which looks at how specialist cancer services for teenagers and young adults makes a difference to your future and wellbeing. Welcome and **THANK YOU** to those involved!!



team
BRIGHTLIGHT

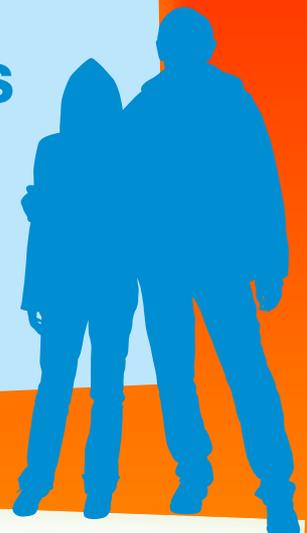
ARE YOU A BRIGHTLIGHTER?

If you have spoken to a health professional in your treatment centre and agreed to take part in BRIGHTLIGHT, all you have to do now is wait. An interviewer from Ipsos MORI will be in touch shortly to arrange a visit with you. They're a lovely bunch!

If you have completed your survey, we will remind you in plenty of time before the next one is due.

FAMILY FEELINGS

Thanks to the involvement of your parents and partners, we're able to expand the study to look at how they are affected. It's a chance for them to share their views. Might this lead to a future study? Watch this space!



GOING FOR GOLD

We're thrilled to say we've recruited our first 400 patients! Did you know that as a BRIGHTLIGHTER, you are involved in the largest study of cancer care in the teenage and young adult (13-24yrs) population? We're very proud of this, and you should be too! We're fond of bragging about this on Twitter!

FUTURE

STEPS...

We always have our thinking caps on for new research ideas. We may be in touch to see whether you want to take part in other **projects**; for example, some of you have recently taken part in a project looking at the time taken to reach your cancer diagnosis. A big **THANKS** to those of you who were involved!



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

@bR1GhTLiGhT We follow back!



YOUNG ADVISORY PANEL (YAP)

Do you or a friend with cancer want to do more to influence BRIGHTLIGHT? We ask young people who have had a cancer diagnosis to guide us on how to develop our study. This input is invaluable. Our **YAP** have helped in various ways for example designing our website- take a look brightlightstudy.com

Want to join our panel?

If you are interested in becoming one of our YAPPERS or know someone who might be, please get in touch! It's a great opportunity to meet others, come along to our next workshop and give it a go.

COST RECORDS

At your first interview, you were given a **Cost Record** to fill in. Please send it back to us once completed! Any problems (lost it, the dog ate it...) text **Cost Record** to **07415557668** and we'll post a new one.

The cost record will let us know about the extra costs to you and your family due to your cancer care so remember to send it back!



EMERGING FINDINGS

During the first three months of the study we collected some data from those of you who were interviewed, here's what we found.

9/10

young people said the service they received was Excellent/ Good

5/10

young people were treated on either a children or young person specialist cancer unit or ward

5/10

young people were seen by a cancer specialist within 1&2 months of first noticing symptoms

3/10

young people were given a choice about where to be treated

3/10

young people were diagnosed with Lymphoma

DATE IN YOUR DIARY

We would like to invite you to our 1 day **workshop** in London on the 20th September. We want to know your thoughts and ideas of how to improve promotion of BRIGHTLIGHT – especially on Facebook and Twitter! You have some great ideas we would love to hear, plus it's a great way to meet new people! We'll cover all your travel and food costs, and you will also receive a **£50 LOVE2SHOP** voucher!



WE ASKED, YOU REPLIED...

Back in April we asked some of you for feedback on your first interview:

Here's what you said:

"I would encourage anyone to take part in it, because every individual matters. We all contribute to the understanding of young people with cancer on a national level. The greater the numbers, the better it will be represented, and our needs will then be properly met"

BRIGHTLIGHTER,
Nottingham Hospital

"In the long run it will help others our age who have been diagnosed"

BRIGHTLIGHTER,
Sheffield Hospital

"I think if its doing good and helping where it needs to then I think you should go for it, it doesn't take long, the questions are simple and easy to go through"

BRIGHTLIGHTER, Southampton Hospital

"They [the interviewers] come straight to your house at a time that's convenient for you and have everything you need with them. All you need to do is offer them a cuppa!"

BRIGHTLIGHTER, Leeds Hospital

We always welcome your feedback so if you have any thoughts or suggestions of how we can improve our process, drop us a tweet, text or e-mail.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Meet Jean Rushton, from Ipsos MORI. Here's what she has to say.

JEAN'S STORY

Needing flexibility in my working life and wanting a change from office work, I began my career as a market research interviewer nearly forty years ago. Little did I know that I had just embarked on my dream job!

For the last eighteen years I have worked for Ipsos MORI and during that time I have worked on many different interesting jobs. The young people I interview for BRIGHTLIGHT are brilliant. Once they have got over the initial shock, they just get on with it. If they have to change to a different course or job, they just take it in their stride. They are an inspiration for us all to follow. As an interviewer you meet many interesting people. Every day is different, because of all the varied jobs and people that you meet. I can't imagine doing anything else.



Want to share your cancer story in our next newsletter? Are you a member of the YAP or recently entered the study? Wherever you are in your BRIGHTLIGHT journey, send us a summary of your experience for a chance to be in with a **£30 Love2Shop** voucher for the featured story.

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[T@bR1GhTLiGhT](https://twitter.com/T@bR1GhTLiGhT)

Did you notice our key words in **orange**? Text the word to us for more information.

