

CREW: A cohort study to explore recovery of health and well-being following primary treatment of colorectal cancer.

Macmillan Survivorship Research Group, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southampton

What is CREW?

CREW is a study following over 1000 people who have had colorectal cancer. The purpose is to be able to map out the path of recovery over time; and to look at how long it takes to feel healthy and well again after cancer. People taking part in this study fill out questionnaires every few months.

Why is it important ?

Advances in prevention, diagnosis and treatment mean more and more people are surviving cancer; there are an estimated two million people living with, or beyond, cancer in the UK. However, the issues faced by those who have completed treatment have received little attention until now.

It is very important that we understand people's experiences once treatment is over in order to positively inform the professionals who support them.

What will it tell us?

The results will, for the first time, inform healthcare providers and professionals across the country about what helps or hinders quick and effective recovery. It will also help to identify areas where the development of new interventions could help those at risk of experiencing problems.

What information is being collected?

1055 people, from 30 hospitals across the country, who have been diagnosed with colorectal cancer have agreed to take part in the research. They are completing questionnaires just before their surgery and then 3, 9, 15 and 24 months later. The questionnaires ask them about their health and wellbeing, symptoms, social support, health service use and how confident they feel to self-manage problems.

Who is doing this research?

The study forms part of a trio of research projects being undertaken by the Macmillan Survivorship Research Group (MSRG), in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Southampton, which is funded by Macmillan Cancer Support.

More information

If you have any questions or comments about the CREW study we would really like to hear them; please get in touch with the research team. **Tel: 02380 596885 E-mail: msrg@soton.ac.uk**

You can find out more about the CREW study on our website: <http://www.soton.ac.uk/msrg>



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