

ACTION Study Q & A

- 1. Question:** Do we stop recruitment once we reach the target or do we continue until the deadline?
Answer: The minimum number of patients needed is 1000, but you are encouraged to recruit more.
- 2. Question:** As the Research Officer (RO) would not know when patients would be seeing the doctor, does the RO need to be in the clinic the whole day?
Answer: Yes, but the RO is not required to be in the clinic everyday.
- 3. Question:** Is skin cancer included?
Answer: Yes.
- 4. Question:** Does this study only involve oncologists and gastroenterologists?
Answer: No, it involves all physicians that see cancer patients.
- 5. Question:** How about dental doctors?
Answer: Yes, because there are cancer patients that are referred to dental doctors (prior to chemo/radio).
- 6. Question:** Is Sarawak also included?
Answer: Prof Yip will contact Dr Bina to discuss the possibility of her participation. For Sabah, we will try to approach Hospital Likas.
- 7. Question:** When do we start recruiting patients?
Answer: The head of CRCs will need to identify physicians who can contribute cancer patients to this study. Nevertheless, recruiting of patients will only begin after the training in December.
- 8. Question:** If there are no ROs at a specific site, will a RO be provided?
Answer: In such cases, we will try to seek help from the nurses at the respective departments or use the ROs at other sites.
- 9. Question:** How about the private hospitals?
Answer: Prof Yip is working on this. There are plans to have 50% participation from Ministry of Health hospitals, 30% from University Hospitals and 20% from private hospitals. The number of patients targeted for each site is yet to be decided.
- 10. Question:** What type of cancer are we looking at?
Answer: All types.

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11. **Question:** For inclusion criteria, what does it mean by “with a first time cancer diagnosis received in the last 6 weeks”?

Answer: Within 6 weeks of date of confirmation of cancer through HPE report.

12. **Question:** For patients who need to undergo endoscopic procedure, the presence of cancer can be detected prior to HPE confirmation. So, do we still need to wait until the HPE confirmation?

Answer: The patient can be recruited into the study soon after cancer is diagnosed either from endoscopic procedure or HPE.

13. **Question:** What benefits will the physicians gain from this study? Do they get to be author for any publication?

Answer: Physicians will not be in the list of authors but they will be acknowledged. This study is a multinational project and Malaysia will be contributing data on cancer patients. Each country will get to keep its own data (hardcopy CRF). There are no restrictions to the use of this data for further studies, although the executive committee has to be informed before doing so.