



Notes to editors:

1. Cancer52:

Cancer52 was originally established in 2006 under the guidance of Professor Sir Mike Richards – to help ensure equality for cancer patients. The organisation was so named because at that time 52 per cent of all cancer deaths were from rare and less common cancers, i.e. those outside the ‘big four’ of breast, bowel, prostate and lung.

Cancer52 now represents charities united in improving the future for everyone affected by rare and less common cancers, which currently account for 53.5% of all cancer deaths in the UK. Its vision is to become the ‘go to’ organisation of choice for rare and less common cancers for all stakeholders through adhering to its core values of listening, sharing and representing. In the past two years membership, funding and representation for this cancer community has substantially increased.

2. Allyson Kaye:

As the Founder and Chair of Ovarian Cancer Action Allyson has played a leading role in the fight against ovarian cancer, the fourth most common cancer in women.

Ovarian Cancer Action (OCA) was established in 2004 as a campaigning voice for women with the disease; lobbying for greater understanding of a complex disease and investigating the issues of symptoms awareness and late diagnosis.

OCA was a founder member of Ovarian Cancer awareness month and part of the National Awareness and Early Diagnosis Initiative (NAEDI). OCA developed their campaigning strengths and invested significant focus and funds in medical research as this is key to long-term survival. The charity has grown rapidly and has raised over £10m for research and established the UK’s first Ovarian Cancer Research Centre at Imperial College, London, now working with more than 70 scientists.

Allyson is also a member of the CR-UK Centre cancer steering committee at Imperial College and a lay representative on the scientific committee of the HHMT International research think tank. She has contributed to several papers including the nine point plan for improving outcomes for women with ovarian cancer in Nature Reviews Cancer and was co-author of Opportunities and Challenges in Ovarian Cancer Research. (Gyn Onc, 2008 Mar; 108(3); 652-7).

As a key fundraiser for the organisation, Allyson initiated the charity’s relationships with M&S, Coutts and several large trust funds. Since Ovarian Cancer Action was formed there has been significant progress made in the 5 year survival rate from 23% to 45% while public and health professional awareness of the symptoms are more widely known and acted upon in primary care.

Allyson is also an active Trustee of Centre of the Cell, an educational and health charity located in East London which seeks to have a positive impact on the educational, career and health choices of the children in Greater London.

Allyson read Management Sciences at The London School of Economics and Political Science.

For more information, please visit www.ovarian.org.uk and <http://www.cancer52.org.uk/>.