



CRIS

Annual Report 2019



CRIS Cancer Foundation

is an independent non-profit organisation, fully dedicated to facilitating and developing research to beat cancer.

CRIS was created for those who believe in science and the future.

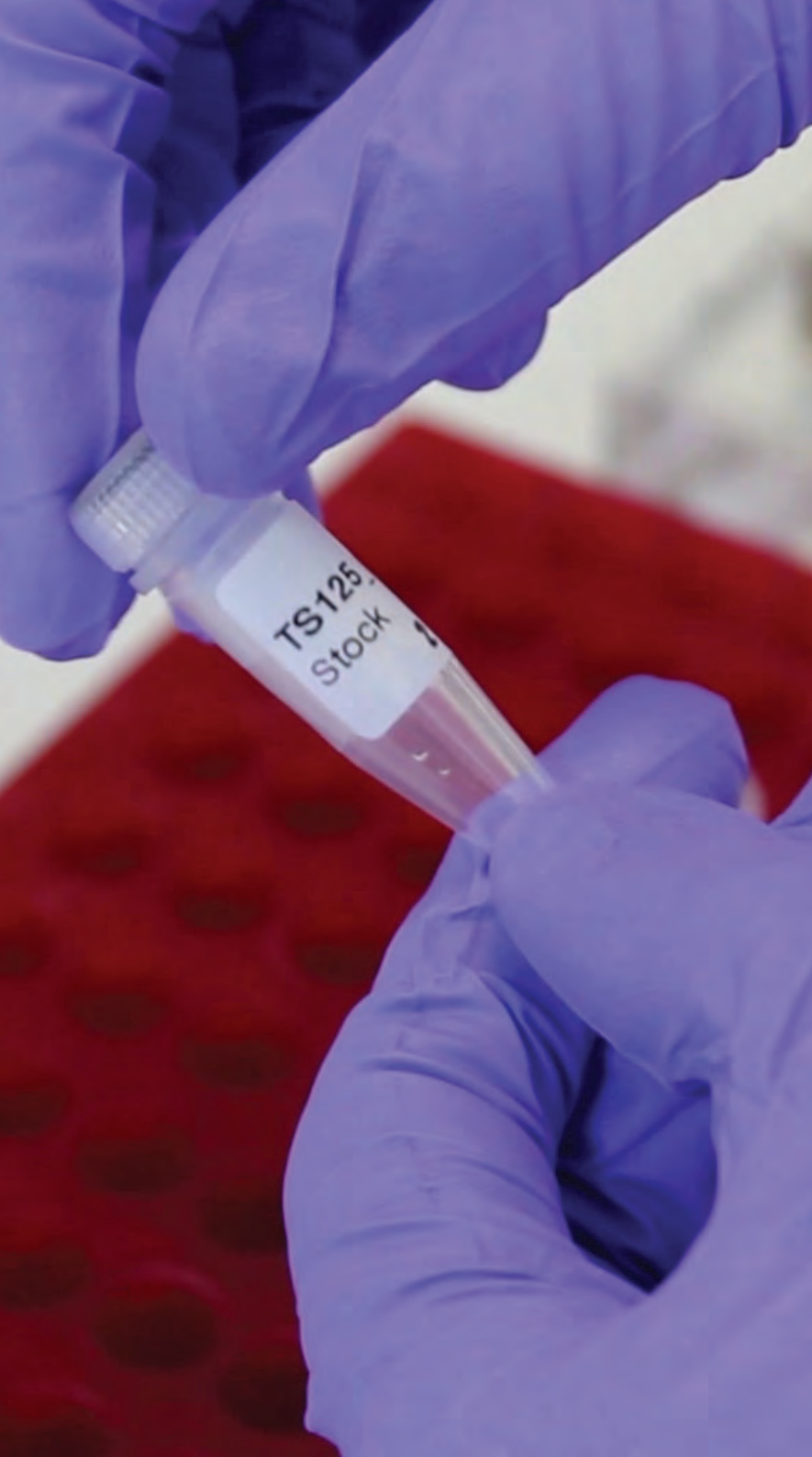
By funding research through significant partnerships with The Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), London and other research centres across Europe, CRIS is having a positive impact on medical discoveries and making a real difference to peoples’ lives.

Invest in Research

Board of Trustees

- Lola Manterola
- Diego Megía
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Invest in Life



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Letter from the Chair

A time to appreciate the importance of investing in scientific research.

Since launching CRIS Cancer Foundation, nine years ago, we have had the conviction that the only way to beat cancer is through supporting scientific research. We have always stated that 'Investing in research is investing in life'. This truth is now echoed by others in the current global crisis that we find ourselves in. The people who will enable us to defeat and overcome this challenge, this virus, are the amazing doctors and researchers who are working hard to find a cure.

2019 was, for CRIS, a successful year as we developed a robust communications and brand development strategy and focused on optimising a few core fundraising events, such as the Annual Ball, to raise even more money.

It was our supporters' generosity that helped our 8th Annual Ball achieve its best-ever results in 2019. We saw an incredible increase in pledged donations compared to the previous year. Such amazing support, coupled with the incredible generosity of our sponsors R. J. O'Brien, meant that we raised a gross amount of over £850,000. We are so grateful for the enthusiastic response of our guests. It was truly both "A Night to Unite" and a night to remember.

In 2019, we streamlined our community fundraising approach, consolidating activities including the My SuperCris Challenge, the Royal Parks Half Marathon, the Beet Cancer Challenge and the Colour Run. We prioritised these activities to help us spread our message far and wide: that it is by investing in research that we will beat cancer.

The money that was raised in 2019 has, as always, been donated to pioneering cancer research projects in partnership with the UK's Institute of Cancer Research (ICR). These include:

- The Immunotherapy Project, where pioneering work is done to transform treatments for cancer.
- The Children's Brain Tumour Project, where a recent landmark study has led to a discovery that will potentially make treatment more targeted and less harmful for babies with brain tumours.
- The establishment of The CRIS Laboratory at the Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery, ICR, Sutton - a new state-of-the-art facility to create more and better drugs for cancer patients.

All of these achievements in 2019 would not have been possible without the hard work of our excellent volunteers. CRIS Cancer operates with

very low overheads and this is purely because of the altruism and professionalism of our volunteers.

It is clear that the generosity of CRIS supporters in 2019 is having tremendous impact and helping change people lives - it is giving hope to families and patients.

As a result, we began 2020 with a renewed sense of energy and optimism, ready to continue the hard work. Of course, the current global crisis means that we are now dealing with significant and unexpected challenges. All of us face unprecedented times, but for charities the road ahead is not easy.

Our donors' ongoing support is critical to continue our research to keep making advances in cancer treatments and cures. We could not do any of the work we do without this support. So, on behalf of everyone who benefits from our donors' support – thank you.

We are also immensely grateful and appreciative of our partners such as the ICR, researchers, doctors, our volunteers and CRIS team members.

United we will beat cancer.

Lola Manterola

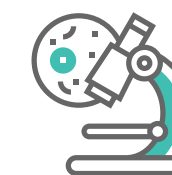
CRIS Cancer Foundation President



“It is clear that the generosity of CRIS supporters in 2019 is having tremendous impact and helping change people lives - it is giving hope to families and patients.”

Figures and Highlights

We have invested
€16 million
in research



and we have pledged to invest
€52 million
over the next 5 years

£1.4 million
invested in
CRIS Immunotherapy
Group at ICR

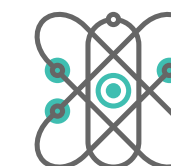
CRIS UK has donated
£723,000
to charitable activities
in 2019



Over
£400,000
invested in the
ICR's Children's Brain
Tumour Project



A Night to Unite
Our Annual Ball 2019



raised over
£850,000
an increase of 41%
from 2018

1000+
Patients treated
in clinical trials

CRIS Cancer Foundation operates in three countries - Spain, France and the UK. Each entity operates autonomously but collaboratively, as we are all working towards one common goal: to beat cancer.

CRIS International

CRIS Cancer Foundation: our work on the global stage

At CRIS, our mission is to beat cancer and achieve a total cure through the funding of much-needed cancer research.

This ultimate goal guides all our decisions, our investments, our funding plans and the operations we carry out. It includes providing the scientific community, our partners and society as a whole with the tools to make it happen.

We are building national and international partnerships with other medical research and cancer support organisations, as well as with companies, public organisations, the Government and partners and friends of CRIS, whose dedication is vital to our progress and success.

CRIS Cancer Foundation operates in three countries - Spain, France and the UK. Each entity operates autonomously but collaboratively, as we are all working towards one common goal: to beat cancer.

We believe that our ambition of achieving a total cure for cancer through research is possible with the right scientific and fundraising strategies in place, and so it is those strategies that drive all our decisions, investments, funding plans and activities.

In the UK, an incredible 95% of the money we raise goes straight back into much-needed cancer research. A majority of those funds are used to set up, manage and maintain specific research projects. Our charitable activities focus on at least one of the following initiatives:

1. The funding of projects
2. Grants to fund research stays at leading international centres
3. International programmes
4. Promotion of clinical trials

USA

- Alberta Children's Hospital, Calgary
- Prostate Cancer Foundation, Santa Monica
- UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas
- Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center, Nashville
- Princess Margaret Cancer Center, Toronto
- Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation, NY
- Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Weill Cornell
- Medicine, Columbia University, NY
- Dana Farber Institute, Boston

UK

- The Beatson Cancer Center, Glasgow
- University Hospital, Southampton
- ICR/Royal Marsden, London

FRANCE

- Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus, Paris
- Centre Hospitalier, Lyon

SPAIN

- Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Barcelona
- Hospital La Fe, Valencia
- Hospital Universitario, Albacete
- Hospital 12 de Octubre, Hospital de la Paz, Hospital Niño Jesús, Hospital Clínico San Carlos and CNIO, Madrid
- Centro de Investigación del Cáncer, Salamanca
- Instituto de Biología Molecular, Málaga
- Hospital Virgen del Rocío, Sevilla

At CRIS, we also know that ambitious, hard-working, knowledgeable researchers are key to developing forward-thinking projects and cutting-edge research techniques. So, together with our international partners, we work to support the researchers of the future in two ways: firstly, through our International Grants programme, and secondly, by offering placements on our two prestigious Research

Excellence Programmes.

In addition, CRIS has been collaborating with the Damon Runyon Foundation and the Prostrate Cancer Foundation to support international researchers.

Our belief that collaboration in research will expedite results to benefit many, underpins our support for international projects and partnerships.

**Together
we are strong.
Together
we will beat cancer.**

Immunotherapy

“The world for cancer patients will be very different over the next 20 years thanks to immunotherapy.” – Paul Workman, president and CEO of the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), London.



Immunotherapy is a rapidly developing treatment that has the potential to revolutionise the way we treat certain types of cancer.

It works by harnessing a patient’s own immune system and using their healthy cells to destroy tumours. Researchers in the field of immunotherapy have made hugely significant progress over the past few years, making it one of the most promising and dynamic areas of cancer research.

At CRIS UK we are extremely excited about the potential of immunotherapy, and in 2019 we renewed our commitment with a £1.4 million donation to the ICR’s Immunotherapy Project. Led by Dr. Astero Klampatsa and her Thoracic Oncology Immunotherapy Team, the ICR are working to understand tumour immune responses.

Specifically, the ICR project is focused on malignant mesothelioma, a highly lethal cancer that develops in the protective lining of the lungs and chest cavity and is mainly caused by exposure to asbestos. Part of Dr. Klampatsa’s research involves identifying

Cancer immunotherapy is currently one of the most promising and dynamic areas of cancer research.



signals which indicate the cancer is likely to respond to immunotherapies, as well as developing new therapies in the form of CAR-T cells.

CAR-T cell therapy research has already seen incredible results in other types of cancer. In 2019, the CRIS-funded Unit for Research and Advanced Therapies in Childhood Cancer, based at the Hospital de la Paz in Madrid, Spain, had significant breakthroughs. For example, just a year after arriving at the Unit, an 11-year-old leukaemia patient was discharged in full remission. His successful treatment was the result of revolutionary research into CAR-T cell therapies. The young patient was treated using a therapy generated from his own lymphocytes, which were extracted before being genetically modified to detect and attack the cancer cells in his body.

CRIS Unit Director Dr. Antonio Perez’s commitment to CAR-T cell therapy research guides the efforts of team. The success of such treatments brings new resolve to researchers, doctors, patients and families all over the world, and through our commitment to immunotherapy research projects we hope to see more and more results like this in the coming years.



“We aim to identify markers that can predict if and how a patient’s tumour will respond to immunotherapy.”

- Dr. Astero Klampatsa

Paediatric Brain Tumour support

As part of our mission to fund research into rare and underfunded forms of cancer, CRIS has been funding world-class research into paediatric brain tumours. At our Ball this year, we put the spotlight on childhood brain tumours, raising vital funds in order to bring hope to the families of children with brain tumours. Although relatively rare, the effects of brain tumours can be devastating on children and their families. CRIS is supporting research projects in the UK, Spain and France.

CRIS's funding of the Children's Brain Tumour Project at the ICR started in November 2015 and we are committed to continuing this support. Professor Chris Jones heads the Glioma Team at The Institute of Cancer Research (UK) and his team aim to uncover what drives the development of childhood brain tumours and find ways to translate these findings into new and better treatments.

Recently, the ICR team announced a discovery which will change treatment

for babies with brain tumours. They carried out a large-scale study of 241 infants from around the world diagnosed with glioma brain tumours. This was the largest and most comprehensive study of infant glioma to date. The ICR worked with colleagues from different international centres, and the results were published in the premier journal *Cancer Discovery* in April 2020.

The study showed that brain cancer in infants is biologically distinct from other childhood

brain tumours and could be successfully treated with targeted drugs. These new results are set to change the World Health Organisation's diagnostic guidelines. This could mean that babies diagnosed with this aggressive type of tumour might be spared the devastating effects of chemotherapy.

We at CRIS are very excited by these results, and proud to have helped enable the work of this landmark study – all thanks to our wonderful

supporters. These clinical trials will commence in the near future so that discoveries made in the lab can be translated into treatments that improve babies' lives. This breakthrough offers much-needed hope for families of babies with this type of brain tumour.

One of the most aggressive types of brain tumour in children is the Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG). Research offers the only real hope of dramatic improvements in the



management and treatment of brain tumours: over £500m is spent on cancer research in the UK every year, yet less than 3% is spent on brain tumours and a minor percentage of that on childhood brain tumours.

Dr. Jacques Grill, of the Institut Gustave Roussy, Paris is leading the translational (clinical) research into Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG). It almost exclusively affects children aged 4 to 11. One of the biggest problems is that they develop in an area of the brain responsible for essential life functions, the area which regulates breathing, eye movement and even the beating of the heart. Therefore, surgical intervention in this area is too dangerous and cannot

be performed. CRIS supports the study to identify changes in tumour cells and so be able to identify children who are at greater risk and provide preventative treatment.

The CRIS Advanced Therapies Unit, La Paz, Madrid, coordinated by Antonio Pérez Martínez, aims to move the treatment of childhood cancers forward and to create a multidisciplinary, integrated team to combine cutting-edge research, clinical trials and the most advanced therapies. The Medulloblastoma project trial involves using Natural Killer cells (activated and expanded) in children with medulloblastoma in relapse or with metastases, for whom there are currently few therapeutic alternatives.

Annual Ball

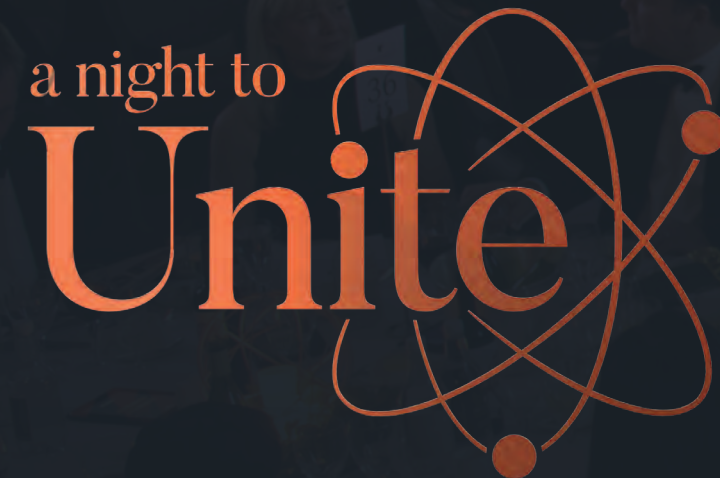
The 8th Annual Ball hosted by CRIS on the 16th of November 2019 at the Grosvenor Hotel, Park Lane was a tremendous success. Welcoming 372 guests, significantly fewer than last year, we made this exclusive event our primary fundraising activity. The theme was 'a Night to Unite', emphasising the need to unite in the fight to beat cancer.

The generous support we had from our sponsors RJ O'Brien meant that we could provide our guests with a very special experience. We had excellent speakers who communicated the importance of collaboration amongst the scientific community, families of patients, donors and, of course, organisations like CRIS.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Professor Paul Workman and Dr. Matt Clarke from the ICR for their enlightening speeches on the necessity and importance of collaboration – the future for

cancer treatment depends on this. Thanks also to Christopher and Clare Normand for sharing their personal story with all of us. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our special appreciation to RJ O'Brien for their sponsorship of the ball.

We are grateful to all the different people who worked hard to contribute to its success. This includes the Ball Committee, Ciauri Media, the Board of trustees, donors of auction prizes, Eduardo Marti, Ximo Peris and, of course, the attendees for their generous donations.



**United we are strong.
United we will beat cancer.**

Funds were raised through ticket sales, a silent auction, a live auction and generous pledges

Total Raised

Over **£850,000**, an increase of 41% from 2018. This includes R.J. O'Brien's sponsorship donation of over £85,000.

Gala Income

With costs of £91,000, this left CRIS with a net gala income of **£760,000**, a spectacular increase from 2018's £539,000.

Auctions & Pledges

Silent auction: over **£256,000**

Live auction: **£67,500**

Pledges: over **£357,000** – a 70% increase from 2018.

Fundraising Activities

In 2019, CRIS put its efforts into consolidating established community fundraising campaigns such as **MY SUPERCRIS CHALLENGE**, which includes the Royal Parks Half Marathon, the Beet Cancer challenge and the Colour Run. We had in total 97 participants raising over £84,000.



The **Royal Parks Half Marathon** has become a regular fundraising activity in the CRIS calendar. This year we saw 50 runners sign up for this iconic run. They overcame wet and muddy conditions with enthusiasm, perseverance and humour – with some even resorting to fancy dress!



We ran the **Beet Cancer Challenge** twice to introduce the importance of practising a healthy lifestyle in reducing the risk of cancer diagnosis. We had new and repeat participants joining in, supporting each other with recipes, tips, ideas and much needed encouragement.



For the first time, CRIS launched a **'CRIS' mas appeal** in 2019 with the generosity of our patron, Garret Curran. Joining a challenge organised by the Lewis Moody Foundation, Garret signed up to walk across the Antarctic plateau to the South Pole, with an aim to raise funds for CRIS's paediatric brain tumour projects.



CRIS supporters hosted a **second-hand clothes sale** and participated in the popular family-friendly **Colour Run** to raise funds.




Once again, we hosted **Corporate Fundraising activities** **OnYaBike** events in Barclays, London and Santander UK. We raised £19,000 from corporates in 2019.





Charitable Activities

 RIS Cancer Foundation continues to sponsor cutting-edge research projects through our partnership with the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in the UK.

In 2019, CRIS donated £723,000 to charitable activities. Besides funding for the Immunotherapy Project and the Paediatric Brain Tumour Project (see pages 6-9), the other activities include:

- The CRIS Laboratory at the Centre for Cancer Drug Discovery. The ICR are establishing their new premises in Sutton, UK and CRIS is proud to collaborate with them on this project. The building is expected to be inaugurated in June 2020.
- The Multiple Myeloma Project, led by Dr. Amy Barber, as part of the Translational Cancer Discovery Team led by Prof. Raj Chopra.
- The MLL Leukaemia Project at the Hospital Sant Joan de Deu de Barcelona, coordinated by Dr. Mireia Camos. MLL is an aggressive type of leukaemia in children.

Volunteers

CRIS was founded to support the efforts of doctors and researchers in order to bring hope to families affected by cancer. Our work is possible only because of our strong team of passionate and committed volunteers. Whether it is to ensure the smooth working of the day-to-day activities



in the office, brainstorming to come up with creative solutions for problems or collaborating to ensure the success of fundraising events such as the Annual Ball, CRIS would not exist without them. Our new office premises have facilitated teamwork and collaboration between staff and volunteers.

CRIS Cancer Foundation exists because of our volunteers. Huge thanks to each and every one of them.



All Research Projects

In spite of being a young foundation, in less than ten years CRIS has played a pivotal part in the creation of national and international units and projects, including seven aimed at developing treatments for adults, and six that focus on research into children's cancers.

- » [The Early Trials Unit for Haematology](#) at the Hospital 12 de Octubre, in Madrid, led by DrJoaquín Martínez
- » [The Childhood Cancer Advanced Therapies Unit](#) at the Hospital Universitario de la Paz, in Madrid, led by Dr Antonio Perez
- » [The Prostate Cancer Research Unit](#), run by the Institute of Biomedical Research (IBIMA) in Malaga, and the National Centre for Cancer Research (CNIO), led by Dr David Olmos
- » [Immuno-Oncology Group](#) at the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in London, coordinated by Dr. Astero Klampatsa
- » [Childhood Brain Cancer Project](#) at the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) in London, coordinated by Prof. Chris Jones
- » [Childhood Cancer Project](#) in the Gustave Roussy in Paris, coordinated by Dr. Jacques Grill
- » [The Immuno-Oncology Unit](#) at the Hospital 12 de Octubre, in Madrid, co-directed by Dr. Luis Paz Ares and Dr. Luis Alvarez Vallina.
- » [The New Experimental Therapies Unit](#) in the Hospital Clínico San Carlos, in Madrid, coordinated by Dr. Alberto Ocaña
- » [Ewing's Sarcoma Project](#), run by the Hospital Virgen del Rocío, Seville and Valencia University, coordinated by Dr. Enrique de Álava Casado
- » [The Ovarian Cancer Project](#), run by the Complejo Hospitalario Universitario Albacete (CHUA) and Cancer Research Center (CIC), in Salamanca, coordinated by Dr. Alberto Ocaña and Dr. Atanasio Pandiella
- » [The Mix Lineage Leukaemia \(MLL\) Project](#) at the Hospital Sant Joan de Deu in Barcelona, coordinated by Dr. Mireia Camos
- » [The Childhood Brain Cancer Project](#) at the Hospital Universitario Infanti Niño Jesús, in Madrid, coordinated by Dr. Alvaro Lassaletta





5.6%
OVERHEADS
IN 2019

OVERALL INCOME
IN 2019
£1,044,008

By investing a majority of funds raised in research projects, CRIS ensures that supporters’ donations have maximum impact.

Income and Expenditure

	2019		2018	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Incoming resources from:				
Donations and legacies	177,797	15,000	192,797	508,013
Other trading activities	849,062	-	849,062	627,758
Investments	2,149	-	2,149	1,366
Total Income Resources	1,029,008	15,000	1,044,008	1,137,137
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds - Fundraising Events	159,542	-	159,542	116,255
Charitable activities				
Donations made to research	708,346	15,000	723,346	520,500
Overheads	59,079	-	59,079	42,693
Total Expenditure	926,967	15,000	941,967	679,448

CRIS CANCER FOUNDATION, A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE (CHARITY NO. 1140193)
Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2019
The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard in the UK and Republic of Ireland.



At CRIS, we believe two things: that everyone is important and that research is the only way to beat cancer.



Cris

cancer foundation

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