# **IMPACT REPORT** 2023

**CRIS CANCER FOUNDATION** 

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Our vision is a to create a better world, a world free of cancer.



#### LOLA MANTEROLA PRESIDENT

Dear partners and donors,

It brings me immense pride to share with you the CRIS Foundation's annual Impact Report, which details our international activity for 2023.

Your unwavering support since our inception in 2011, allows us to continue and augment our investment in life-saving cancer research, with groundbreaking discoveries in the laboratory being applied every day to cancer patients with no hope, giving them another chance to live. We believe our results will benefit an incredible 11 million potential patients.

Our strategic investment strategy focuses on several key areas: we identify, promote, and finance the most promising researchers

throughout their scientific career, we encourage collaboration between scientists in different countries to accelerate the development of new therapies, and we finance specialised cancer units, focused on distinct types of cancer, within public hospitals. In addition, we place significant importance on the multiplier effect of our investments. Our co-financing agreements with other prestigious cancer research organisations, have delivered such promising results that they have attracted further investment and subsidies from other financial entities.

We continue to work tirelessly on our mission to provide new therapies for those patients who do not respond to conventional treatments, and for whom the work of organisations such as CRIS is their only hope. Our goal is to build a world free of cancer, and one in which any patient, regardless of social and economic status, has universal access to the most innovative therapies via the national public health systems.

None of this would be possible without you. Therefore, on behalf of the researchers, patients, and the CRIS Foundation team, I would like to share our deepest gratitude for your commitment and continued support of our work and mission.

With my very best wishes,

LOLA MANTEROLA CRIS CANCER PRESIDENT

### ABOUT CRIS CANCER

**CRIS Cancer Foundation is** an independent non-profit organisation, fully dedicated to facilitating and developing research to beat cancer as a serious health issue.



We are an **international charity** that funds research into pioneering new cancer treatments to give the best chance of survival to patients who do not respond to conventional treatments.

By stepping in where there are gaps in **funding, and collaborating and building alliances worldwide with top research institutions**, we support research scientists to speed up innovative therapies – bringing hope to thousands of cancer patients.

In addition, since its creation in 2011, the CRIS Cancer Foundation has been **identifying talent amongst researchers** worldwide. Through our **grants and fellowships**, we give scientists the funding and support they need throughout their research careers to make significant discoveries in cancer treatments.

Our cancer **facilities in public hospitals (Units)** and research centres in Europe are giving more patients the chance to access new treatments. Teams of doctors, researchers, bioinformatics, nurses, clinical trial technicians and immunologists work together in CRIS units to treat all types of cancer.





FUNDING, COLLABORATING AND BUILDING ALLIANCES



RECOGNISING SCIENTIFIC TALENT AND SUPPORTING CAREERS



LONG TERM COMMITMENT STRATEGY ALLOWS CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH RESEARCHERS





## WE ARE GLOBAL



**SPAIN** TRUSTEE BOARD

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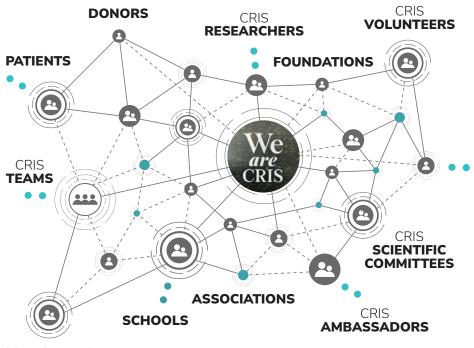
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#### **Raoul Salomon** Diego Megía Lola Manterola

Lola Manterola Melvina Mossé Anne-Sophie Rio Stéphane Rio The CRIS community is made up of a network of people following the same dream: to fight cancer through research. Together we are beating cancer. Together we are stronger.



**WEARE CRIS** 



#### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. Karin De Visser Netherlands Cancer Institute Amsterdam (Netherlands)

**Prof. Caroline Robert** Gustave Roussy París (France)

Prof. Rajesh Chopra Apple Tree Partners (ATP) London (UK)

Prof. Kevin Harrington Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) London (UK) Dr. Joaquín Martínez H12O-CNIO-UCM Madrid (Spain)

Dr. Sumithra J. Mandrekar Mayo Clinic (US)

Prof. Claude Chelala Queen Mary University of London London (UK) Dr. Lillian Siu Princess Margaret Cancer Centre Toronto (Canada)

**Dr. Josep Tabernero** Vall d'Hebron Institute of Oncology Barcelona (Spain)

Dr. Paul S. Mischel Stanford University California US)

#### TEAMS | RESEARCHERS | AMBASSADORS | VOLUNTEERS

CORPORATES

### **CRIS FUNDING AROUND THE WORLD**



The CRIS commitment to cancer research is global. We have built an extensive network of international cooperative alliances with cutting-edge research centres and researchers to combat cancer.

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#### **CRIS Projects**

- London: Institute of Cancer Research (ICR), Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), Francis Crick Institute, University College.
- Oxford: University of Oxford.

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- Paris: Institute Gustave Roussy.
- Nice: Centre Méditerranéen de médecine moléculaire.
- Massachusetts: General Hospital Cancer Center.
- Luxemburg: Foundatioun Kriibskrank Kanner.
- Madrid: Hospital 12 de Octubre, CNIO, Hospital de la Princesa, Hospital Clínico San Carlos, MD Anderson, Hospital Universitario de la Paz, Hospital Universitario Niño Jesús, Centro Nacional de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa, Centro Integral Oncológico Clara Campal.
- Barcelona: IRB, Hospital Sant Joan de Deu, VHIO, Hospital Clínic, IMIM, Universidad de Barcelona/IDIBELL.
- Navarra: Clínica Universidad de Navarra.
- Bilbao: CIC bioGUNE, Universidad del País Vasco. · Malaga: IBIMA.
- Seville: IBIS Sevilla, Hospital Universitario Virgen del Rocío.
- Valencia: INCLIVA Valencia, Hospital Universitario La Fe.
- · Salamanca: CIC.
- · Albacete: CHUA.
- Murcia: Instituto de Neurociencias CSIC-UMH.
- · Santiago: IDIS Santiago de Compostela.
- · Burgos: Hospital Universitario de Burgos.

GERMANY

BELGIUM

SWEDEN

LUXEMBURG

NETHERLANDS

ιк SPAIN FRANCE ITALY IRELAND CANADA DENMARK SWITZERLAND ISRAEL US AUSTRALIA

#### 0 • UK: University College, London (PCF), The Gurdon Institute, University of Cambridge (Damon Runyon). Newcastle University, Newcastle (PCF). University of Oxford (PCF).

Spain: Hospital Ramón y Cajal, Madrid

International Institutions

**Co-Funding with** 

- France: Institute Gustave Roussy (Programa RLTiO y FKC). Imagine For Margo (FKC). Hôpital Armand-Trousseau (FKC). International Agency for Research on Cancer (FKC). CHU de Bordeaux (FKC).
- Italy: Università degli Studi di Trento (FKC).
- Ireland: University College Dublin (FKC).
- · Germany: Technical University of Munich (PCF). Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen (Damon Runyon).
- Belgium: Kick Cancer.
- Luxemburg: Foundatioun Kriibskrank Kanner.
- Netherlands: Princess Maxima Center (FKC). University of Amsterdam (FKC).
- Israel: Weizmann Institute of Science (Damon Runyon). Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel (FKC).
- Sweden: Karolinska Institute (FKC).
- Switzerland: University of Geneva (Damon Runyon). University Children's Hospital (FKC).
- Canada: Princess Margaret Cancer Center, Toronto.

PCF: Prostate Cancer Foundation (US) FKC: Fight Kids Cancer (Europe)

#### **CRIS Research Fellowships**

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- UK: ICR, London. Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, London. Sheffield Hospital. University Hospital, Southampton. The Beatson Cancer Center, Glasgow Madrid: Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Universidad Francisco de Vitoria. Hospital Príncipe de Asturias.
- · Barcelona: VHIO. VHIR.
- Malaga: Hospital Universitario Virgen de la Victoria. Murcia: Hospital Virgen de la Arriaxaca.
- France: Institute Gustave Roussy, París. Centre Hospitalier, Lyon,
- Denmark: Aarhus University Hospital, Aarhus. Netherlands: Princess Maxima Center, Utrech.
- US: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston. Vanderbilt Ingram Cancer Center, Nashville. Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Nueva York. UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas. Weill Cornell Medicine, New York. Columbia University, New York. Mayo Clinic, Rochester. Yale Medical School, New Haven.
- · Canada: Princess Margaret Cancer Center, Toronto.
- Australia: Children's Cancer Institute, Kensington.

Over the past **13 years**, we have invested **over €50 million** in research worldwide supporting scientists to develop pioneering new treatments for people living with cancer.

### CRIS MULTIPLIER EFFECT ON CANCER RESEARCH INVESTMENT

On top of the €50 million directly invested, CRIS's research initiatives, chosen by our scientific committee, manage to attract funds from third-party sources to multiply its investment in cancer research.

CRIS ENCOURAGES CO-FUNDING WITH OTHER CHARITIES THAT MATCH INITIAL INVESTMENT

CRIS INVESTS IN CRIS CANCER RESEARCH UNITS: ATTRACTING INVESTMENT FROM OTHER ENTITIES.

CRIS FUNDS PROJECTS ACHIEVING SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES WHICH ATTRACTS LARGE GRANTS FROM OTHER FUNDING ENTITIES (E.G. THE EU)





### **FUNDING RESEARCH INTO ADULT** AND CHILDHOOD CANCERS

CRIS carries out research projects not only in CRIS Units but also in other research institutes in Spain, UK and France.

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#### ADULT PROJECTS

TYPE OF CANCER	PROJECTS
Head and Neck Cancer	3
Colon Cancer	10
Breast Cancer	18
Ovary Cancer	5
Pancreatic Cancer	3
Prostate Cancer	15
Lung Cancer	15
Kidney Cancer	2
Melanoma	6
Multiple Myeloma	109
Leukaemia	87
Lymphoma	97
Cervix Cancer	1
Thoracic Cancer	8
Bladder Cancer	3
General Cancer	14
Myeloproliferative Neoplam	40

CRIS is also active in other European countries, the US and Canada. Many of these international projects are co-financed by prestigious international institutes such as the Gustave Roussy Institute in France, The Damon Runvon Cancer Research in the US and the Princess Margaret Hospital in Canada.

As well as projects focused on specific types of tumours, CRIS also funds general research which can be applied to various cancers such as investigation into cell therapies which specifically target cancer cells. Examples of this type of research are those being carried out at the CRIS Unit for New Experimental Therapies as well as other cutting-edge research into immunotherapy.

**PAEDIATRIC PROJECTS** 

TYPE OF CANCER	PROJECTS		
General	2		
Neuroblastoma	6		
Sarcoma	17		
Brain Tumours	19		
Leukaemia	17		
Lymphoma	9		
Other Solid Tumours	11		

**Fund research** into adult cancer

**DEFEAT CANCER?** 

**HOW DO WE** 

Head and Neck Cancer, Colon Cancer, Breast Cancer, Ovarv Cancer, Pancreatic Cancer, Prostate Cancer, Lung Cancer, Kidney Cancer, Melanoma, Multiple Myeloma, Leukaemia, Lymphoma, Cervix Cancer, Thoracic Cancer, Bladder Cancer, Myeloproliferative Neoplasm and others.

#### **Fund research** into childhood cancer

General, Neuroblastoma, Sarcoma, Leukaemia, Brain Tumours, Lymphoma, Renal.

### **Establish multidisciplinary** units in hospitals

Innovative facilities or "units" in hospitals and research centres with multidisciplinary experts all coming together to treat the most difficult cases of cancer.

#### **Provide fellowships, scholarships** and grants to support researchers

We support researchers at every stage of their careers to give them stability and allow them to excel in their fields.

P:12

2023.

### ESTABLISHING MULTIDISCIPLINARY UNITS IN HOSPITALS



### SUPPORTING RESEARCHERS

CRIS is intrinsically involved in the training of gifted researchers. Through partnerships with various scientific and medical institutions, we carry out many initiatives to support the careers of young researchers. These include scholarships for internships in prestigious international institutions, return grants and masters degrees in research. 2023.

**CRIS FELLOWSHIP** UNIVERSIDAD Doctors COMPLUTENSE Collaborations RESEARCHER'S **~**@ Researchers CRIS Programmes UNIVERSITY **CRIS MASTER** SEOR **CRIS FELLOWSHIP CRIS FELLOWSHIP** CAREER SEHH | SEHOP ASEICA THESIS CRIS PRINCESS CRIS OUT-BACK CRIS MARGARET OXFORD CANCER **1 POST DOC CRIS FELLOWSHIP CRIS FELLOWSHIP** SEOM RAICEX 2 POST DOC CLINICAL POST DOC CRIS | DRCRF TALENT TALENT 5 YEARS ~ JUNIOR RESEARCHER CRIS CRIS | PCF CRIS | FKC **GUSTAVE** FIGH KIDS CANCER ROUSSY SENIOR RESEARCHER EXCELLENCE 

#### **CRIS HAEMATOLOGICAL TUMOURS UNIT**

enabling the development of promising treatments and drugs.

CRIS Cancer UNITS are multidisciplinary teams composed of researchers,

bioinformatics specialists, nurses, clinical trial technicians and doctors that

institution. By bringing together teams with such a broad range of expertise,

research results can be translated into promising treatments much faster.

combine clinical and laboratory research with patients' treatments in the same

In each of the CRIS Units there are several research projects and clinical trials

• Specialises in all types of blood cancer, with particular focus on leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma cancers.

#### **CRIS IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY UNIT**

Immunotherapy is a gateway to hope for advanced cancers which currently have very few effective therapies

#### **CRIS UNIT FOR NEW EXPERIMENTAL THERAPIES**

Specialises in solid tumours: lung cancer, lymphomas, leukaemias and multiple myeloma.



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#### CRIS UNIT FOR ADVANCED THERAPIES IN CHILDHOOD CANCER

- International reference in bone marrow transplantation cell therapies and immunotherapy (CAR-T).
- Blood tumours: acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, acute myeloblastic leukaemia, mixed phenotype leukaemia, aplasia, primary immunodeficiencies leukaemia (Hodgkin's leukaemia).
- Solid tumours: Osteosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma, medulloblastoma, neuroblastoma and gliomas.



We use funds efficiently, so that

every euro invested

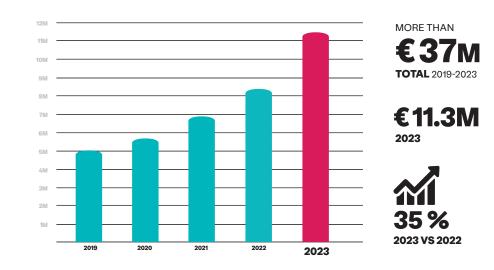
in cancer has the

maximum impact.



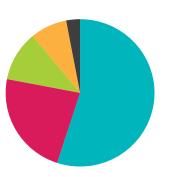
Research holds the key to treating cancer and increasing survival rates. The dedication and hard work of scientific researchers means that more adults and children are surviving cancer and living a better quality of life.

#### **INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS**



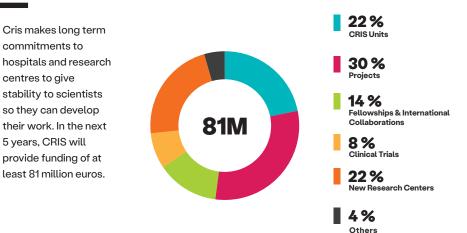
#### FUNDS RAISED GLOBALLY

We are immensely grateful for the support we have received over the years from our individual and regular donors, their families, corporate partners, community fundraisers and our diligent volunteers, without whom we would not be able to continue funding pioneering research.





#### **5 YEAR COMMITMENTS**



### **HIGHLIGHTS 2023**



#### VACCINES AGAINST LUNG CANCER METASTASES

Oxford University, United Kingdom

The CRIS Cancer Foundation, as co-funder with Cancer Research UK (CRUK), is participating in a revolutionary project led by Prof. Sarah Blagden to develop a vaccine that prevents lung cancer metastases and relapses in high-risk patients.



**ICR** 

#### CAR-T THERAPIES AGAINST RELAPSES OF CHILDHOOD LEUKEMIA

Great Ormond St Hospital, London (GOSH)

We are funding a new clinical trial led by Prof. Persis Amrolia, with a new class of dual CAR-T cells specially designed to prevent relapses in childhood leukemia (ALL). The results could potentially be applied to lymphoma and certain types of adult leukemia such as AML.

#### ONE OF THE LARGEST BANKS OF KNOWLEDGE ON CHILDREN'S BRAIN TUMOURS.

Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) London

Prof. Chris Jones and his team, with funding provided by CRIS in the last 8 years, are compiling an extensive set of brain tumour samples, that includes tissues from patients as well as more than 100 very sophisticated lab models derived from these samples. This is a remarkable number given the complexity behind this challenging task. Thanks to CRIS, they are now able to study these in great depth and collaborate with centres around the world.



Cance

NEW

NEW DUAL

CAR-

Trial

Clinical

Vaccine



#### PAEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOUR (DMG) CAR T-CELL THERAPY CLINICAL TRIAL

Great Ormond St Hospital, London (GOSH)

Further to the obtention of all the required regulatory approvals in 2023 and the highly specialised training of all personnel involved, this clinical trial, co-funded by CRIS, is now open for the recruitment of patients. NOW OPEN for the recruitment of patients



#### TWO NEW INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL TRIALS ON DIGESTIVE SYSTEM AND ON HAEMATOLOGICAL CANCERS.

Institut Gustave Roussy, Paris

Through the Real-Life Clinical Trials Programme for Oncology, CRIS is supporting two new international clinical trials. Dr. Christophe Willekens (Gustave Roussy, Paris) and Dr. Pau Montesinos (Le Fe, Valencia) are leading a trial focused on the digestive system. They are searching for an alternative treatment for patients who cannot receive chemotherapy. Dr. Eric Baudin (Gustave Roussy) and Dr. Rocío García Carbonero (Hospital 12 de Octubre) are looking at a radiotherapy dose reduction for haematological cancers that would maintain effectiveness but reduce side effects.





#### NEW THERAPY AGAINST MYELOMA USING PATIENTS' OWN CELLS

CRIS Immunotherapy Unit, 12 de Octubre University Hospital, Madrid

The CRIS Immunotherapy Unit at the 12 de Octubre Hospital (Madrid) has created a new type of cell therapy called STAb for the treatment of myeloma, which they will soon launch in clinical trials with patients.



### **HIGHLIGHTS 2023**

#### INTERNATIONAL LEADERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CAR-T THERAPIES

CRIS Haematological Tumours Unit, 12 de Octubre University Hospital, Madrid

This CRIS Unit has played a key role in many of the multi-country clinical trials that have led to the international approval of several next-generation therapies, both in CAR-T and other types of therapy.



#### CREATION OF A NEW THERAPY AGAINST CHILDHOOD SARCOMAS

CRIS Unit for Advanced Therapies in Childhood Cancer, La Paz University Hospital, Madrid

NEW Therapy against childbood

sarcomas

**Car-T** 

developed

**Therapies** 

Development of a new highly advanced cell therapy to treat advanced sarcomas in children and adolescents, including the approval to begin a clinical trial with pediatric patients, the first clinical trial in the world with an academic allogenic CAR-T.



#### A NEW METHOD TO IMPROVE EARLY DETECTION OF COLON CANCER

Hospital del Mar Research Institute, Barcelona

Dr. Clara Montagut's team from the CRIS Colon Cancer Project has designed a method to improve colon cancer screening campaigns, which is based on cutting-edge genetic analysis techniques.





#### ANTICIPATING RESISTANCE TO TREATMENT IN HER2+ BREAST CANCER

Cancer Research Center, Salamanca

Dr. Atanasio Pandiella of the CRIS Breast Cancer Project has uncovered a mechanism by which the tumour cells of these extremely aggressive cancers are able to escape even the most advanced therapies currently available.

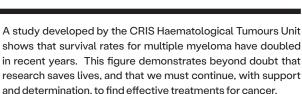




#### RESEARCH SAVES LIVES: THE NUMBERS CONFIRM IT

CRIS Haematological Tumours Unit, 12 de Octubre University Hospital, Madrid







#### FIGHT KIDS CANCER: LARGE PAEDIATRIC PROJECTS AND CLINICAL TRIALS AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

Consortium against childhood cancer

CRIS has joined the European consortium of the Fight Kids Cancer Foundation, which combines its resources to promote research against paediatric cancer. It supports large clinical trials and international projects, in which teams from all over Europe participate.

















By working together, we can accelerate scientific advances in cancer research.

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Our dream is a world without cancer: your continued support is helping us to save lives.



www.criscancer.org.uk www.criscancer.org