



Wiba event Tuesday 27th February 2018
Leading the World – Research on our doorstep! CRUK Bham
Medical School, University of Birmingham

Speaker details

Professor Ben Wilcox , BA, DPhil – b.wilcox@bham.ac.uk



Ben Willcox is director of the University's Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy Centre, a collaborative grouping of over 30 academic and clinical groups focussed on understanding tumour immunology and developing novel cancer immunotherapy strategies. Also Professor of Molecular Immunology.

He leads an active research group in cancer immunology and immunotherapy, with a focus on understanding immune receptor recognition. His recent work focuses on novel tumour antigens and unconventional T cell function, particularly in immunosurveillance of cellular stress. Ben is also scientific director of the CMDS Protein Expression Facility, a component of the College Technology Hub that supports a diverse range of biomedical research. He is also a member of the Birmingham Structural Biology Consortium, a cross-college grouping of structural biology research teams.

Debbie Ringham – Research Engagement Manager CRUK

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Debbie Ringham is a Research Engagement Manager for Cancer Research UK, covering Birmingham and wider Midlands region. She has worked for Cancer Research UK since 2009, managing events and communications to raise awareness and support for the charity's pioneering research in the Midlands. The role encompasses organising lab tours and talks, working with partners in the Cancer

Research UK Birmingham Centre, creating inspiring communications, and supporting

researchers in the delivery of effective public engagement activity. Debbie previously worked as a senior event manager at the International Convention Centre, event organisation for the University of Birmingham and ArtsFest. Debbie has a personal motivation for supporting the work of Cancer Research UK, following her diagnosis of thyroid cancer in 2000 and breast cancer/secondary breast cancer in 2014. She is herself a participant in clinical research, including a surgical cancer clinical trial funded by Cancer Research UK.

Karen Turner – Cancer Research UK Senior Nurse

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Karen Turner is a Cancer Research UK Senior Nurse based within the Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit (CRCTU). Her role is divided between acting as CRCTU nursing team leader and working closely with Cancer Research UK locally and nationally.

This post has been developed to promote the work of Cancer Research UK and cancer trials awareness amongst health care professionals, patients and the public, acting as a Cancer Research UK spokesperson locally and nationally. An important element of the role is being a 'public face' for clinical trials in the region and engaging with users in research both for media and promotional activities to ensure consumer representation on local research agenda. This allows Karen to assist in promoting the patient focused nature of trials at the CRCTU.

