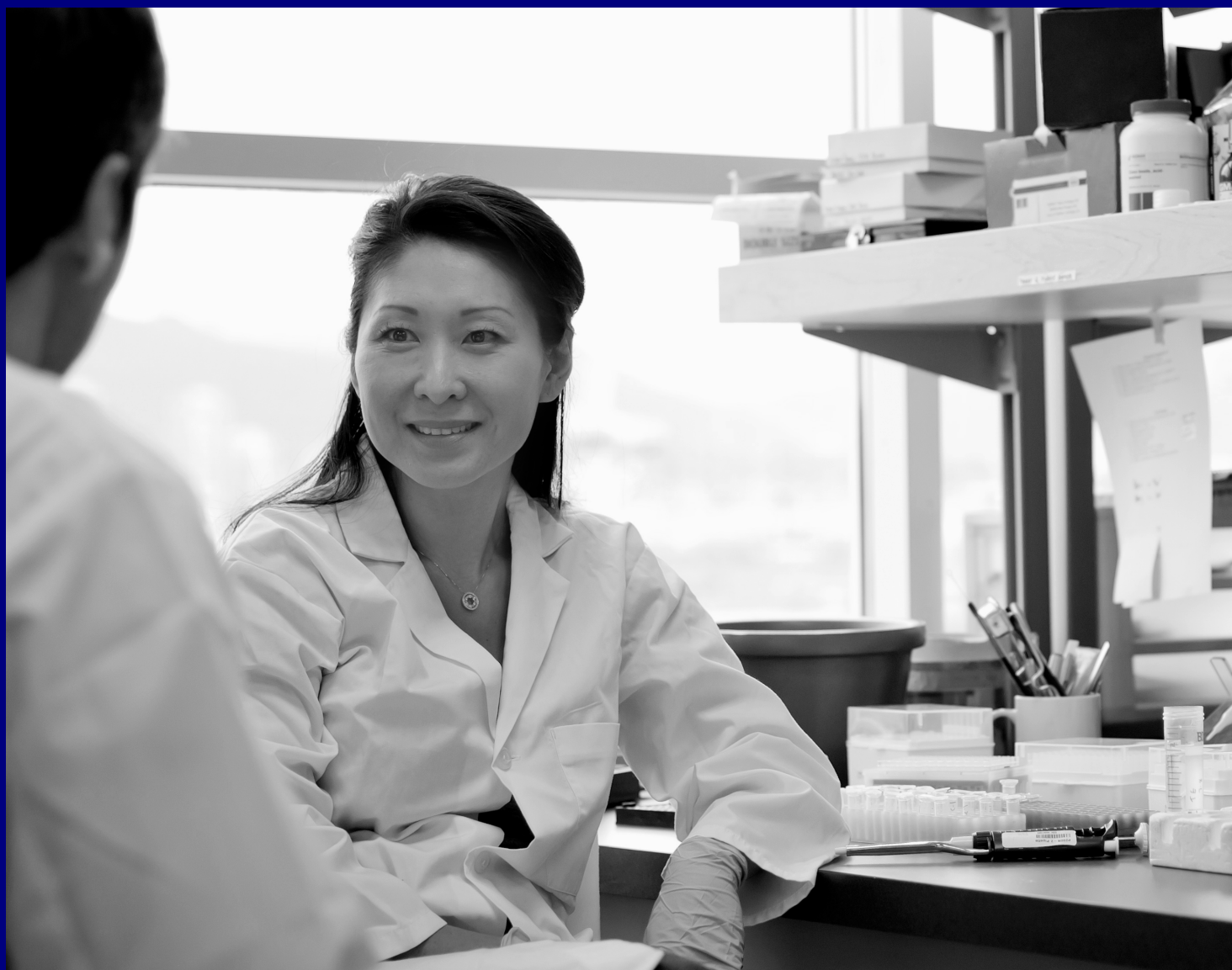


# Your impact

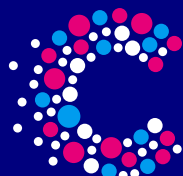
May 2026

More  
Research  
Less  
Cancer



Prepared for  
Meyler Campbell

Meyler  
Campbell  
Clear  
Leaders



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

Together we are  
beating cancer

# Meyler Campbell and Cancer Research UK working in partnership

Thanks to progress in cancer prevention, diagnosis and treatment, more than a million lives have been saved from the disease in the UK since the mid-1980s.\* Right now, we stand on the brink of discoveries that could save millions more.

But we need to go further, faster. Globally, around 19 million people are diagnosed with cancer every year.\*\* In 20 years, it's predicted to be more than 30 million.\*\*\*

To tackle a problem as complex as cancer, we need global coordination. We need scientists to work together across disciplines. We need constant technological innovation. And we need radical thinkers who are determined to accelerate progress.

## That's where you come in.

Meyler Campbell's support is empowering our scientists with the skills and tools needed to beat cancer. You're supporting future leaders in cancer research, enabling a more collaborative and connected ecosystem, and helping to build a bold, ambitious scientific community that can take on the biggest challenges.



[\\*cruk.org/millionlives](https://cruk.org/millionlives)

\*\*International Agency for Research on Cancer, Global Cancer Observatory, 2024. [gco.iarc.fr/en](https://gco.iarc.fr/en)  
Number of new cases of all cancer excluding non-melanoma skin cancer worldwide in 2022

\*\*\*International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) GLOBOCAN, Cancer incidence in 2022 and 2045, <https://gco.iarc.fr/en>. Accessed June 2025

# Future leaders in cancer research

**Our community of researchers is making a difference to countless lives. To keep driving progress long into the future, we need to develop the next generation of leaders.**

We can only continue delivering world-leading cancer research if we invest in a world-leading cancer workforce and an outstanding research environment. That's why we're committed to providing the best possible training and support to our early- to mid-career cancer researchers. This will help them navigate an increasingly challenging research environment.

The Future Leaders Programme is designed to attract, retain and support exceptional researcher talent from every background. We're creating opportunities for individuals to access the training, mentoring, coaching and development they need to grow, reach their potential and build long-term, sustainable success.

With the support of Meyler Campbell, we're building a broader and more diverse community of scientists who bring new approaches, fresh perspectives and unique skillsets to the research landscape. We're putting in place the structures and programmes that guide researchers through critical career milestones. These help move us closer to delivering life-saving treatments, tests and interventions.

We're also connecting rising stars to an influential network of academic, research and industry experts who can help them develop the entrepreneurial skills needed to take the most promising ideas from the lab to the clinic.



In doing so, we're shaping a research community that's uniquely empowered to help create a future where everybody lives longer, better lives, free from the fear of cancer.

# Celebrating our partnership

Meyler Campbell and Cancer Research UK marked an important milestone in 2025 as we celebrated five years of our partnership. Thank you to everyone who joined us at the UCL Cancer Institute on 15 May 2025 to celebrate the impact we've achieved together.

Coaches from the Meyler Campbell community came together to hear highlights of the programme from More Research, Less Cancer campaign ambassador and our partnership's lead Ann Orton. They also took a lab tour led by two PhD students and listened to reflections from coachee **Dr Beth Payne**, Associate Clinical Professor at the institute, and her coach, **Claudia Reichmuth**, International HR and Communications professional. Their conversation provided a compelling illustration of the value of coaching in supporting scientific leadership and advancing world-class research.



Thank you to everyone at the event and hope you left feeling inspired and willing to contribute further. Whether you've offered to coach another researcher, made a donation, pledged to include our research in your Will or connected us with your networks, your support truly makes a difference. Your continued commitment is helping accelerate progress for people affected by cancer.

# Testimonials from cancer researchers

“

Meyler Campbell coaching was transformative. As I've progressed to a clinical academic principal investigator role, the benefits have only become more apparent. Without my coaching sessions, I would be months or years behind where I am right now – so thank you!”

**Dr Gerard Walls**

Senior Lecturer and Consultant in Clinical Oncology, Queen's University Belfast

Gerard is improving treatment for people with lung cancer. He hopes his work will help doctors give people more personalised treatments so that they have the best chance of surviving.



“

Meyler Campbell coaching is one of the most impactful things I have done in designing and shaping my research programme.”

**Dr Gwen Murphy**

Senior Research Fellow,  
Imperial College London

Gwen is studying the environmental and lifestyle causes of cancers of the digestive system, including stomach, oesophageal and bowel cancer. She hopes to improve screening and prevent more people from getting the diseases.



“

Meyler Campbell coaching provided me with the tools and perspective to lead with greater confidence and effectively manage and support my team.”

**Dr Mirjana Efremova**

Group Leader, Barts Cancer Institute

Mirjana is studying how cancers spread and resist treatment. She hopes that by unravelling the biology, she'll unlock new ways to stop cancers spreading and keep treatments working for longer.



“

Meyler Campbell coaching has been a fascinating journey of self-discovery that's helping me grow both personally and professionally. I'm incredibly grateful to Cancer Research UK for the opportunity and confident it will have a lasting impact.”

**Dr Ricardo Fernandes**

Group Leader, University of Oxford

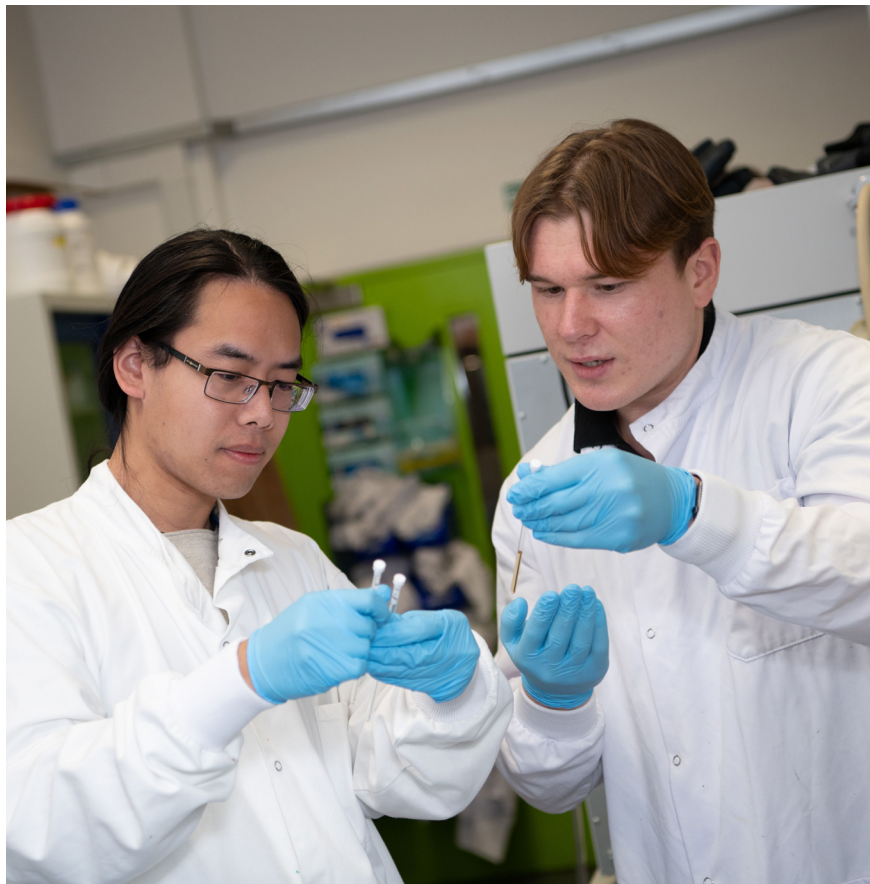
Ricardo is studying how the immune system can fight cancer. He hopes to develop drugs that stop cancer from evading immune attack, giving the immune system a helping hand to clear the disease from the body.



# Your impact in numbers

74

Meyler Campbell  
coaches supported  
our scientists



105

researchers  
received coaching



600+

hours of career-improving  
coaching provided

£1m+

of pro bono coaching to  
help beat cancer

# Reflections since the start of the partnership in 2019



**Ann Orton has been instrumental in establishing the extraordinary partnership between Meyler Campbell and Cancer Research UK. She has encouraged many coaches who have graduated from the Mastered Programme to support a cancer researcher. As she steps down from her role leading the partnership and hands over to Meyler Campbell faculty member Penny Moyle, we invited Ann to share her reflections on its impact.**

What are your highlights of our partnership since its launch in 2019?

What stands out most is the incredible enthusiasm – from the coaches, from the research teams and from all at Cancer Research UK – and the reach across the UK. It's been wonderful to hear the impact of the coaching, shared throughout the years. I have seen such energy and commitment from the Meyler Campbell community, and reaching 100 coaching assignments is extraordinary.

What initially inspired you to connect Meyler Campbell with Cancer Research UK?

As a scientist by education, I've always felt close to that world, though it is sometimes unfamiliar and challenging to non-scientists. I also had my own experience of cancer around 20 years ago, and I've long supported Cancer Research UK. I've been involved with Meyler Campbell for many years, first as a participant and then faculty member, and have seen how coaching skills translate across any environment. These skills, including creating a safe space for exploration, providing a listening partner, questioning and challenging without judgement, are themselves universally applicable.

How has your understanding of the coaching relationship evolved as you've seen coaches work with researchers?

My initial question was whether coaches would feel uncertain about working in an unfamiliar environment – especially in a scientific, lab-based arena. What I've seen confirms what we teach: that coaching skills, tools and relationship-building techniques work everywhere. On Mastered, coaches learn that the role isn't about technical expertise. It's about helping someone reflect, develop and make the changes they want to make.

Do you think coaching has an impact not only on researchers themselves, but on the research they produce?

Yes, that's likely. Much of their work is about relationships – how researchers approach collaboration, how they ask questions, how they listen. We're not teaching technical skills, but we're helping people develop confidence and awareness as they progress in their careers. That has a ripple effect on their research and project teams, and perhaps even the people affected by cancer who stand to benefit from their work.

The programme has now exceeded 100 pairings and over £1m in pro bono support. Did you imagine this scale when the partnership began?

Not at all! I hoped it would continue from the small beginnings, but I didn't expect this level of enthusiasm year after year. It's been self-perpetuating as coaches in the Meyler Campbell community share the positive stories. Coaches have such fulfilling experiences that many want to come back and take another assignment, which has been a wonderful confirmation of the value for both coach and client.

As you hand over leadership of the programme to Penny, what do you hope the legacy of this partnership will be?

I hope the programme continues for as long as there are coaches coming out of our Mastered Programme who are excited by this opportunity. I also hope it builds a community of Cancer Research UK researchers who have gained skills they might not otherwise have developed – and who continue to pass on what they've learned in their own environments. Overall, I hope it brings interest, joy and enthusiasm to everyone involved.



Finally, what message would you like to share with coaches and researchers involved in the programme?

Coaching provides a safe space to explore what will help someone feel more positive, purposeful and better equipped to meet challenges. My message to both groups is that this work can give everyone a sense of moving forward and being at their best, making what researchers do even more dynamic and valuable. My hope is that the programme continues to have a deeply positive effect on all involved. And, importantly, it contributes to a meaningful cause – helping researchers to beat cancer. My thanks again to all involved.



From all of us at Cancer Research UK, thank you to everyone involved in this valuable partnership. We're so grateful for the time and effort you put in to supporting our scientists. And we look forward to seeing the partnership continue to grow.

As the testimonials in this report show, coaching partnerships are having a huge impact on scientists at every stage of their careers. We hope this makes you feel proud of the part you're playing in our mission to beat cancer.

Through your support, you're equipping our scientists with the vital skills needed to make more discoveries. And more discoveries mean less cancer.

If you feel inspired to support our research again, please get in touch.

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Registered charity in England and Wales (1089464), Scotland (SC041666), the Isle of Man (1103) and Jersey (247).

**More  
Research  
Less  
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