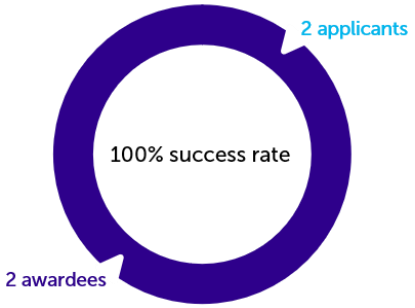
ACED SKILLS EXCHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT TRAVEL AWARDS enable ACED Members to visit another ACED Member Centre or Centres to learn or impart a key skill or technique, and to sow the seeds of future research collaborations. Over the past two funding rounds, **2 ACED Skills Exchange and Development Travel Awards have been funded** totalling:



£41,170 **$9,210**

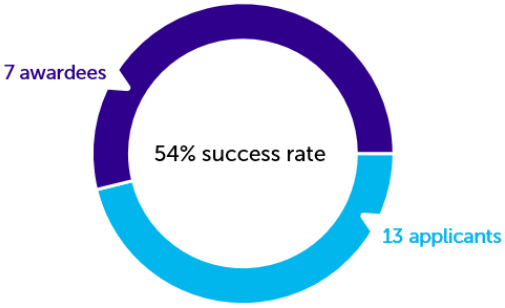
Dr Vanitha Sivalingam, University of Manchester

Dr Sivalingam will visit the University of Cambridge and undertake a population health study to determine the risk of women with lichen sclerosus in England developing vulvar cancer, and which women are at the greatest risk.

Dr Christian Hoerner, Stanford University

Dr Hoerner will travel from Stanford University to the Universities of Manchester and Cambridge to teach platelet preparation techniques and provide hands-on training.

ACED PILOT AWARDS fund exceptional science, supporting innovative, novel approaches in how and when cancer is detected through collaborative research with ACED Members. Over the first two funding rounds of the Alliance, **7 ACED Pilot Awards have been funded** totalling:



£718,39 **$759,289**

Tiered integrated diagnostics for the early detection of aggressive Prostate Cancer: The Riskman-TARGET study to develop a novel screening approach for prostate cancer
Mr Vincent J. Gnanapragasam, University of Cambridge
Prof Kenneth Muir, University of Manchester
Dr Artitaya Lophatananon, University of Manchester



Dr Lophatananon and Profs Gnanapragasam and Muir will develop a risk stratification model identifying men most at risk of prostate cancer. Genomics, PSA tests and biomarkers will be used to determine a personalised referral threshold based on the risk of lethal prostate cancer and benefit gained from treatment.


Multiparametric Investigation and Stratification of Indeterminate Lung Nodules MISIL1

Dr Frank McCaughan, University of Cambridge
Dr Phil Crosbie, University of Manchester

In a new collaboration, Drs McCaughan and Crosbie will identify non-invasive blood and saliva biomarkers for lung cancer using a multiparametric approach that will aid in the classification of whether indeterminate lung nodules are cancerous.

Risk factors for postpartum breast cancer: developing a model for early detection

Prof Gareth Evans, University of Manchester
Prof Heidi Nelson, Oregon Health & Science University
Prof Pepper Schedin, Oregon Health & Science University



Pros Evans, Nelson and Schedin propose to develop and test a first-of-its-kind risk assessment model for postpartum breast cancer by identifying risk factors through a systemic review of relevant studies. The model will identify women at high-risk of postpartum breast cancer who would benefit most from early detection efforts.


Early Detection of Prostate Cancer Progression in Active Surveillance

Prof Dean Barratt, University College London
Dr Geoffrey Sonn, Stanford University

Prof Barratt and Dr Sonn will develop software that analyses changes in serial multiparametric MRI images to determine radiological and pathological progression of prostate cancer. In conjunction with other clinical data, it will allow for the early detection of disease progression in prostate cancer patients on active surveillance.

Early Detection of Hereditary Renal Cancer (RCC) [ELECTRIC]

Dr Emma Woodward, University of Manchester
Dr Alice Fan, Stanford University
Prof Eamonn Maher, University of Cambridge



This study led by Prof Maher and Drs Woodward and Fan will aim to identify novel methods of hereditary renal cell carcinoma early detection by investigating tumour-educated platelet transcriptome signatures; they'll be investigating a candidate marker for early-stage kidney cancer identified in the blood platelets of non-hereditary kidney cancer patients, also present in patients with hereditary kidney cancer, to determine if this is a feasible means to detect kidney cancer earlier. .




Leverage protease activity in circulating hybrid cells and exosomes for early detection of cancer
Dr Jared Fischer, Oregon Health & Science University
Dr Utkan Demirci, Stanford University
Dr Melissa Wong, Oregon Health & Science University
Prof Antonis Antoniou, Cambridge University

Using a multi-analyte approach, this study will establish effective biomarkers for the early detection of pancreatic cancer by investigating the proteolytic activity present in plasma, circulating hybrid cells and exosomes released from the tumour.

Urine Biomarkers for Prostate Cancer Screening
Dr Sharon Pitteri, Stanford University
Prof James Brooks, Stanford University
Dr Mark Flory, Oregon Health & Science University



Prostate cancer cell proteins may be shed into the urine and can be used in combination with glycosylation information to distinguish between cancerous and non-cancerous prostate conditions. Prof Brooks and Drs Pitteri and Flory will conduct a proteomic profile of the urine to identify aberrant protein glycosylation as potential biomarkers in prostate cancer.

ACED FUNDING ROUND 4 IS NOW OPEN - CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ACED PROGRAMME MANAGER TO APPLY