

Vaccine Research Emergency Appeal



A potential Crohn's cure

Professor John Hermon-Taylor of King's College London (KCL) is a Crohn's Disease expert of 30 years standing. He has developed a modern therapeutic Vaccine against the bacteria Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis (MAP), which compelling evidence points to as the predominant cause of Crohn's disease. To read the government-commissioned report on MAP and Crohn's (published on the UK government's website in June 2015) please [click here](#). The Vaccine is currently being manufactured by the [Jenner Institute Oxford](#), (who are also developing the Ebola Vaccine) for human trials, due to start in early 2017. Earlier studies in mice and [cattle](#) have shown it to be highly effective against MAP with no apparent side effects. If it works in people as it does in animals there is real hope that it could cure Crohn's.

A new diagnostic test - a major unmet medical need!

Professor Hermon-Taylor is currently completing the development of a new, simple, highly accurate blood test for MAP for use as a 'companion diagnostic' in the vaccine trial - and ultimately for use in clinics, to aid the diagnosis and monitoring of Crohn's disease and reduce the need for invasive tests such as colonoscopy. It may also shed new light on other conditions, such as irritable bowel syndrome, in which MAP may also be involved. Patients across the world are desperate to be tested.

Current tests are inaccurate, time consuming and only available in research settings. The new test requires a machine called a Flow Cytometer; a key instrument, widely used in many areas of medical research.

Our Appeal

At the beginning of April 2015, disaster struck in Prof. Hermon-Taylor's lab when his Flow Cytometer crashed and was found to be irreparable. It was a 9 year old machine and approaching the end of its lifespan but had been expected to be adequate to see the project through to its conclusion. Work on the test is now on hold until a new Flow Cytometer which costs £50,000 can be bought. The new machine

Crohn's Disease

Crohn's Disease is a debilitating and aggressive form of Inflammatory Bowel Disease. It affects an estimated 4 million people worldwide, including 1.2 million in the USA and 250,000 in the UK. Recent reports show numbers are increasing, especially in children.

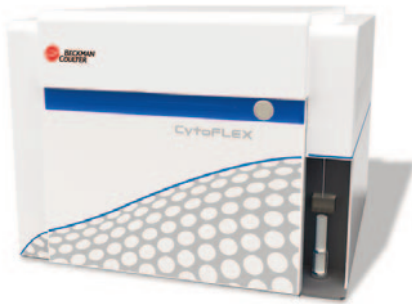
Symptoms include chronic severe abdominal pain, weight loss, bloody diarrhoea and chronic fatigue. Up to 80% of patients will need surgery at some point in their lifetime.

The lives of most sufferers are blighted by multiple hospitalisations, surgeries, and immunosuppressive therapies (which often have nasty side effects). As a result, many have difficulty holding down a job or attending school.

There is currently no cure and the NHS annual spend on treatments that manage but do not cure the disease is £720+ million. A cure would not only give CD sufferers their lives back but could offer huge cost savings to the NHS.



Brave Crohn's sufferer
Urho, age 7



would not only benefit this project but would be a lasting legacy to KCL even after it is complete.

Can you help?

Our support group Crohn's MAP Vaccine, in partnership with KCL, hopes that organisations wishing to further medical research will be keen to help. I'm sure you will appreciate that medical research cannot rely on Government funding alone and contributions from external organisations are essential. We are extremely grateful to [Crohn's and Colitis UK](#) and [Rick Parfitt Junior](#) who have already pledged £15,000 towards this appeal. If your organisation can help KCL replace the Flow Cytometer so that this promising research project can continue, please contact:

Temi Cheke, Fundraising Officer at King's College London
Email: eyitemi.cheke@kcl.ac.uk
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You can also donate or view our fundraising progress on our JustGiving page [here](#). Once our goal of £50,000 is reached, any further donations will be put towards the development of the vaccine and diagnostic test

We would be very grateful for your support and would be happy to recognise this publically on our social media pages and the supporters page of our website www.crohnsmapvaccine.com

The Crohn's MAP Vaccine team



Crohn's MAP Vaccine

is a support group of volunteers, all directly affected by CD, who believe that the work of Prof John Hermon-Taylor offers the best hope for a Crohn's cure. The group supports his work by raising awareness and funds to complete the work on the Vaccine and new MAP test.

crohnsmapvaccine.com is an online resource which provides information about the research and the background science supporting MAP as the cause of CD.

For a quick overview, click [here](#)

For detail on the funding structure of this project, click [here](#)

To read the scientific papers, click [here](#)

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