



2019 has been a busy year for the Foundation! We have funded new and exciting projects, expanded our team, and have been making big plans for 2020. Read on to find out more. Thank you for continuing to support us.

- the PTEN Research team

## MEET OUR GRANT RECIPIENTS!

**We are delighted to announce that we have recently provided funding for 3 new research projects. We're excited to support this important and meaningful work.**



**Professor Nicoline Hoogerbrugge and Dr Janet Vos from Radboud University Medical Center in the Netherlands are carrying out research to investigate the prognosis and treatment of PHTS patients who develop cancer.**

This study involves reviewing data from people with a known *PTEN* mutation from across Europe and will inform opportunities for developing tailored and more effective treatment of patients in the future.



**Dr Pete Stanich at Ohio State University will be carrying out a clinical trial to understand the effects of sirolimus on colon polyps in adults with a PTEN mutation.**

This study aims to monitor the effect of sirolimus treatment on the number of colon polyps as well as potential side-effects associated with this treatment.

It is hoped that the outcome of this work will improve the understanding of sirolimus as a treatment option for PHTS.



**Professor Pier Paolo Pandolfi and his team at Harvard Medical School are carrying out research to investigate the potential for treating PHTS in a new way.**

This work will use preclinical models of PHTS and study their response to the targeting of another cellular protein, called WWP1.

It is hoped that that this research will be a critical first-step to identify potential new treatments for PHTS in the future.

**This year we have implemented a new set of granting mechanisms to fund research. Included in this are seed funding awards and the Foundation has recently completed its first round of application reviews. We hope to announce the grant recipients early next year.**

**It is through our global approach that we generate the most valuable scientific research with the best scientists. Our formal application and external review**

**process ensures we only fund work of high scientific value.**

**If you would like to find out more about how we fund research, or apply for a research grant please [click here!](#)**



**The PTEN Research Foundation team has expanded and we have welcomed new members of staff:**

**Dr Paul Elvin** joined us in March as **Director of Preclinical Research**

**Kirsty Stenhouse** joined us in May as **Administrative Officer**

**Tom Pepper** joined us in August as **Director of Clinical Development**

**Dave Lewis** joined us in September as **Programme Management Officer**

**Prof. Glen Clack** joined us in October as **Chief Medical Officer**

**For more information on the team  
and our governance please click  
here to visit our website.**

## **NEWS AND EVENTS**



**Tom, Kirsty and Dave attended the Patient Day held by the PTEN UK&I charity on the 16th of November in London.**

It was a fantastic day, with some really informative presentations from clinicians, patients and their families. It was great to meet so many of the PHTS patient community, thank you for having us!

If you would like to find out more about PTEN UK&I please visit their website

**PTEN UK&I Website**



Thank you for your interest in and support of PTEN  
Research

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



If you would like to make a donation to  
support our work please click here

**NEXT ISSUE:** An update on the UK PHTS  
Patient Registry as it approaches its launch  
date in 2020



PTEN Research

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