



## THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH WE'VE FUNDED

**32 grants**

**> £2.8 million in total value**

The data presented here includes all data collected during the 2023 submission period on Researchfish. Researchfish is a service through which researchers submit information relating to the outcomes of their research. In total, 32 grants were included in this data, the majority of which ended within the last 5 years or are currently active. Collectively, these grants represent over £2.8 million in total value with most grants lasting less than 2 years.

For every **£1** we spend on funding research, a further **£8.60** is leveraged from other sources

### OF THE GRANTS WE'VE FUNDED...



went on to receive additional funding<sup>1</sup>



published 1 or more journal article<sup>2</sup>



reported some form of public engagement<sup>3</sup>

### THIS RESULTED IN...



**96 journal articles**



**21 collaborations<sup>4</sup>**



**£24 million in additional funding**



**123 instances of dissemination**

<sup>1</sup> This is an increase from 28% reported in 2017 impact report (<https://readymag.com/crohnsandcolitisuk/852500/>). However, it should be noted that the additional £24m in funding includes a small number of very large multi-partner grants.

<sup>2</sup> This is inclusive of review articles but excludes conference proceeding abstracts and pre-prints. 12 articles were published in 2022, 27 were published in 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Types of dissemination include broadcast, magazine/newsletter/online publication, press release, formal working group, talk or presentation, blog or social media channel, participation in an activity, workshop, open day or visit at research institution.

<sup>4</sup> Collaborations were from multiple sectors including hospitals, academic/university, charity/non-profit, private and public. The majority of collaborators were based in the UK, however there were also collaborations from the US, Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan and Sweden.



# THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH WE'VE FUNDED: CASE STUDIES

Demonstrating impact of research can be challenging. This is particularly true for research funded by charities, where resources are often limited and it is not possible to fund large, expensive studies such as clinical trials. However, the research funded by charities is extremely important, and there are many different types of impact generated from research beyond getting a new drug or treatment to the clinic. Below are some examples of different types of impact as a result of research funded by Crohn's & Colitis UK.

## 1. DRIVING TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

**Blocking gut danger signals as a target for Inflammatory Bowel Disease treatment**  
*Gwo-Tzer Ho, University of Edinburgh (2018 - 2021)*

The Charity provided funding to Gwo-Tzer and his team to look at signals released from damaged gut cells. These signals are called DAMPs (Danger Associated Molecular Patterns) and are not normally released from healthy, undamaged cells. They found that that one type of DAMP, called mitochondrial DNA, was found to be released in higher levels in people with Crohn's or Colitis and this helped drive inflammation.



This work contributed to Gwo-Tzer receiving further funding to start 2 clinical trials. One, called MARVEL, is looking at reducing the levels of mitochondrial DNA to help lower inflammation. The other, called MUSIC, is looking at whether the levels of mitochondrial DNA can be used as a way to monitor gut inflammation.



Crohn's & Colitis UK support has been crucial to my translational research work. Their support has led to our current MARVEL clinical trial in Ulcerative Colitis that is active across UK. Presently, the Charity has continued to provide invaluable input from their wonderful patient engagement program.

*Gwo-Tzer Ho*



## 2. IMPROVING RESEARCH QUALITY

**Molecular classification of patients with UC to enable personalised medicine - a feasibility cohort study**  
*Matthias Friedrich, University of Oxford and Harinder Singh, Research Champion (2022 - 2024)*

Patient involvement in research is a key area of research strategy at the Charity. We believe the best research is done when involving people with lived experience at all stages of the research process. Our research champion programme enables people to get involved in shaping research projects. One of our research champions, Harinder Singh, has been involved with a project led by Matthias Friedrich at the University of Oxford.



## THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH WE'VE FUNDED: CASE STUDIES



“ Having Harinder and the focus group of individuals living with IBD is key to the success of the project. Not only does this research engagement continuously shape the way we conduct science, it also had a major impact on the project design even before securing the funding.

Matthias Friedrich ”

“ My involvement as a research champion on the project has served as a therapy for me thus giving me opportunity to better understand my condition and consequently the platform to share my experiences to actively influence and shape research to be patient centred with a highlight being presenting at a conference at Oxford University.

Harinder Singh ”



### 3. SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF IBD RESEARCHERS

Measuring the burden of food-related quality of life in inflammatory bowel disease: developing and testing interventions that are relevant to, and designed by, people with IBD

Kevin Whelan, King's College London (2016 – 2018)

Dr Wladzia Czuber-Dochan was a postdoctoral research associate working on this project from 2016 – 2018. Wladzia is now a Reader in Nursing and Applied Health Research in the Department of Adult Nursing at the Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care, King's College London. In 2023, she became interim co-chair of the Crohn's & Colitis UK Awards Panel and is also Chair of Nurse-European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation.



“ I have been researching IBD and IBD related symptoms since 2010, with particular interest in fatigue, pain, and food-related quality of life. My research has identified escalating needs for support for people living with IBD. Research funding provided by Crohn's & Colitis UK enabled me to pursue those areas of high importance to people affected by IBD to help them to improve their quality of life.

Wladzia Czuber-Dochan ”