

# LhARA: Patient and public stakeholder plan

Meeting notes from 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Role, need and benefit for patients

- Important to have patient involvement, with this staged and particularly in latter years of development.
- Targeted radiotherapy is important for cancer patients, will reduce side-effects and save lives.
- Need to develop more effective radiotherapy utilising less treatment time and difficult to treat/rare tumours.
- Radiotherapy is currently insufficiently funded.

## Public benefit

- Ensuring UK is committed to world leading in new technologies for radiotherapy research and treatment.
- Demonstrate that this project is promoting fundamental science, multidisciplinary working, with high risk/reward.
- Increased numbers of cancers patients treated per year (higher throughput).
- Cheaper operational costs as more patients receive curative treatment, adverse long term side-effects will be reduced.
- Increased biological insight in the first instance, but this is highly translatable for public benefit.
- Will support treatment into radioresistant, rare or difficult to treat cancers.
- Create an infrastructure for long lasting experimental research into different ions/energies with significant output.

## Communication strategy

- Maximise stakeholder and patient/public engagement.
- Most likely require a communications and engagement manager.
- Reach out to wider community (e.g. international, business/finance, higher education, clinicians and cancer charities, UK Government and MPs).