



Thanks to all our supporters, 2024 was a year of great initial progress and we very much look forward to what 2025 will bring!

We established the UK's first charity dedicated to Leiomyosarcoma.

We also held our inaugural LMS Pathfinder workshop – an online event with almost 40 attendees, oncologists, researchers, pathologists, radiologists – and it was a great success. We had a good spread across the UK, with attendees from: Bristol, UCLH, Edinburgh, Royal Marsden, Manchester, Birmingham, Imperial, Glasgow, Cambridge, Sheffield, Liverpool, Leeds, Newcastle and SarcomaUK.

The workshop aims included: Identifying barriers to LMS research in the UK; Exploring opportunities to improve access to therapies and translational research; and creating a collaborative network to connect researchers and clinicians.

It highlighted where the barriers and opportunities for novel therapies and agents are. With delegates identifying translational projects for the UK which will use the soft tissue sarcoma subtype Leiomyosarcoma as a research pathfinder.

We have support and engagement from leading figures in the UK sarcoma sector, with some saying:

*'I thought the discussions were hugely effective and there was a great deal of consensus and enthusiasm to build something together. It's a great start.'*

*'Congratulations to the LMSR UK team for arranging an excellent meeting. It was wonderful to see great engagement. Looking forward to continuing the effort'*

*'Thank you for all your hard work, Maisie - well done'*

The output of the LMS Pathfinder workshop was a strong recommendation to establish a UK wide uLMS prospective study, drawing on the successes of the ICONIC bone cancer initiative.

Moving forward, we will continue to strengthen the UK network and develop a translational project further which will bring together multi-disciplines and different research groups across the UK. It will start with an immediate project working group and a follow-up UK stakeholder meeting together on the Wednesday 9th April 2025. There was enormous enthusiasm for this idea.

This would be the platform for tackling many of the problems which plague uLMS diagnosis, treatment, and research in the UK – eventually leading to enabling more and better trials. We are needing to focus on one area first; however, the aim is to see how this pathfinder can help other sub-types of Leiomyosarcoma too!

This year we will continue our work, building on what we have achieved so far and adding other initiatives to benefit the LMS community. We are excited for 2025 and the new research to come!

Thank you to for being part of this important work. Every milestone we can reach will be thanks to our community, whose support is vital towards achieving positive outcomes for all LMS patients.

We will be increasing our fundraising targets to allow us to meet our objectives in 2025; particularly to support a larger translational LMS project. Our Gift Aid registration is underway, and we hope to have more news on this very soon.

In the meantime, you can support us here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/leiomyosarcomaresearchuk>

Happy New Year and all the best for 2025! Together we are stronger!

*Maisie, Colin, Julia, Michael and Leo*

