



Marie Curie's palliative and end of life care cancer research spend

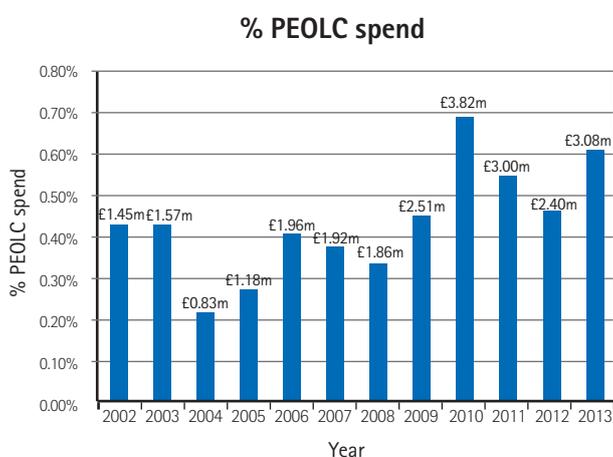
Marie Curie funds palliative and end of life care research for people with all terminal conditions. Most palliative and end of life care research has traditionally focused on people with cancer who have better recognised palliative and end of life care needs. The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) Cancer Research Database collects data on cancer research from all major UK cancer funding agencies from 2002 to the present day. The present figures are the result of an analysis by NCRI of their cancer research database.

Since 2002 the funding for palliative and end of life care was consistently below 0.7% of the total spent on cancer research.

How much is spent on palliative and end of life care research for people with cancer?

In 2013, NCRI partners spent a total of £503 million on cancer research. Only £2.34 million or 0.61% of the total was spent on palliative and end of life care research. Since 2002 the funding for palliative and end of life care research was consistently below 0.7% of the total spent on cancer research.

The graph below shows the percentages of all cancer research funding that was spent on palliative and end of life care research in the UK from 2002 to 2013, as well as the absolute amounts spent (adjusted for inflation).



The graph shows a slight increase in the amount spent on palliative and end of life care research over the last 12 years. The total cancer research spend in the database also increased, from £340 million in 2002 (after adjustment for inflation using the consumer price index) to £503 million in 2013. The percentage spent on palliative and end of life care research has remained very low.

A total of 32% of all funds spent on palliative and end of life care research between 2002 and 2013 were spent to develop the research infrastructure in the field, for example Marie Curie Research Centres in London, Cardiff and Liverpool and the jointly funded Supportive and Palliative Care (SuPaC) Collaboratives.

The next biggest research categories both overall and in 2013 were: symptom research; and health services and care pathways.

In both 2012 and 2013, Marie Curie grants made up more than 50% of the research in palliative and end of life care related to cancer.

How much does Marie Curie contribute?

Marie Curie believes that by investing in high-quality palliative and end-of-life care research we can provide immediate and longer-term benefits to people with terminal illnesses.

All the research we fund aims to improve care for terminally ill people and their carers and families. It is closely aligned with the day to day work of the charity – providing care for terminally ill people at home and at nine hospices.

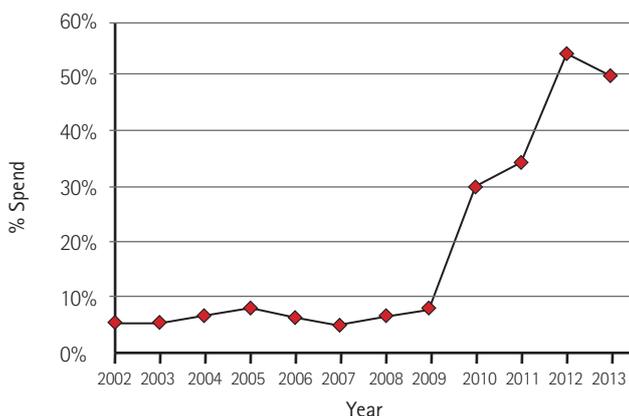
The graph below shows the increasing importance of funding from Marie Curie in the area of palliative and end of life care research. In both 2012 and 2013, Marie Curie grants made up more than 50% of the research in palliative and end of life care related to cancer.

The NCRI Cancer Research Database is the most comprehensive database of health-related research investment with year-on-year data in the UK. But it only captures research relevant to cancer – it does not include research relevant to other diseases.

Marie Curie funds palliative and end of life care research related to all terminal conditions, spending almost £1million per year on research addressing palliative and end of life care needs of people with dementia, heart disease, stroke or COPD, for example. The charity's ambition is to help people and their families living with any terminal illness make the most of the time they have together by delivering expert care, emotional support, research and guidance.

Go to mariecurie.org.uk/research to read the detailed analysis.

% Marie Curie spend in PEOLC (2002–2013)



For more information email research.info@mariecurie.org.uk
or visit mariecurie.org.uk/research



Partners in cancer research

