

Dear PPI panel members,

This October edition of our newsletter will let you know about a couple of interesting events we've been involved in lately.

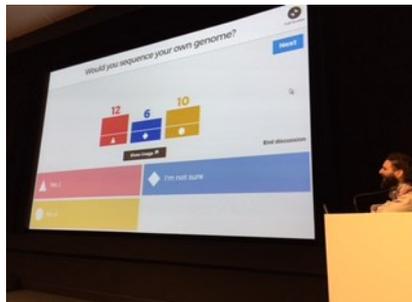


Science Saturday

The Edinburgh team were involved in a 'Science Saturday' event on the theme of genome sequencing at the National Museum of Scotland a few weeks ago.

There was an interactive marketplace with stalls, exhibitions and fun activities for all age groups, such as quizzes and challenges. This was a great opportunity to talk to people in depth about their views on genome sequencing and the uses of genomic data.

We asked people to fill in a questionnaire about genetic testing and there were lots of scientists and researchers on hand to answer questions.



In the afternoon, there was a debate exploring the scientific and ethical challenges around genome sequencing.

The audience was asked before and after the debate 'Would you sequence your own genome?' Interestingly, more people said at the end that they would, so the discussion had changed their minds!



In the news

In case you missed it, here's an interesting article from back in June about [precision medicine and the 'new era' of personalised cancer drugs](#).

Follow the project on Twitter for regular links to interesting articles in the media as well as from academic sources...

Do you tweet?

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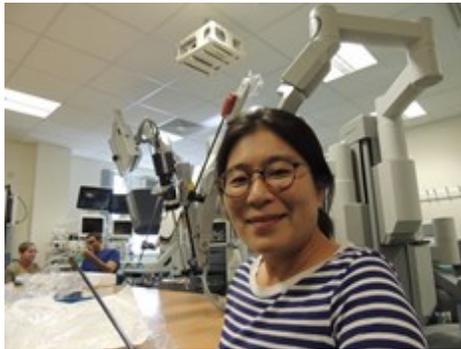
Choon Key reports back from VOICE 2016

Last month, we mentioned that Choon Key was going to attend [VOICE 2016](#), a 5 day residential course, organised by Independent Cancer Patients' Voice (ICPV) and hosted by the Warwick Clinical Trials Unit.

ICPV is a unique patient group which is passionate about improving clinical research 'by patients being partners with clinicians and healthcare professionals, rather than passive recipients of healthcare'.



Nine enthusiastic students attended this year's jam-packed course – most of them were affected by various cancers, as patients themselves or as family members of cancer patients. The course consisted of lectures on cancer biology in the morning and then practical sessions in the afternoon. Choon Key attended this course as a student, to learn about cancer biology and cancer research. She learned about how tumour cells function and acquire the 'tools' they need, and she got to visit laboratories and do actual lab work.



She also attended as a researcher, so that she could find out more about what kind of information patients and activists value and how science is communicated to them. Choon Key said, 'this course was a fascinating example of "patient research advocacy" in action and it was very interesting to observe interactions between professionals and patients. A number of clinicians and scientists generously gave up their time over the 5 days, but it was clear that they were enjoying students' genuine interests and questions'.

ICPV has organised this course once a year since 2013 and welcomes participation from interested members of the public.

Join us at the Scottish Cancer Conference

We'd like to invite two members of the panel to join Emma, Emily and Tineke at the Scottish Cancer Conference on Monday 21st November at Surgeon's Hall, Edinburgh.

This conference brings together people and organisations involved with cancer, including patients, clinicians, charities, policy makers and pharmaceutical companies. It is an opportunity to share, learn, network and understand the latest developments in cancer research and care.

We would like panel members to help us to promote the project, to identify people who may be interested in participating, and to write a blog afterwards about your impressions of the conference. We will give you any support you need to do this.

For more information and to view the programme, see: <http://scottishcancerconference.org.uk>

If you'd like to come, please contact us on cas21c@ed.ac.uk as soon as possible. We'll give the places to the first two people to get in touch. Your place at the conference and any additional expenses will be paid for.