



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February is Awareness Month for the disease Cholangiocarcinoma (CC)

Take part in the **CChallenge!**

There's a disease which claims as many lives in Britain as cervical cancer, but most people have never heard of it.

Cholangiocarcinoma, '**CC**' for short, is a cancer which occurs within the bile ducts of the liver. It can be very difficult to detect and is, therefore, often diagnosed too late for surgery; currently the only curative treatment available. **CC** affects 1500 people in the UK every year and is increasing at an alarming rate*.

Cholangiocarcinoma specialist, Dr Shahid A Khan (Clinical Senior Lecturer and Consultant Physician at Imperial College London) comments, 'Despite treatment advances in many other types of cancer, with **CC** only 5% of patients are likely to survive beyond a year. Why the cancer arises, how it can be better diagnosed and new treatments are key areas which urgently require further research.'

For the month of February, AMMF, the UK's only cholangiocarcinoma charity, is asking people to spread the word about **CC** to friends and family. AMMF is also launching the **CChallenge** for 2012.

The **CChallenge** is simple. AMMF is asking people to raise money by doing something beginning with **C**. There are lots of ideas for sponsored challenges on the AMMF website. It could be **Climbing** the 3 Peaks, **Cycling** in the Lake District, or you might prefer something a little less strenuous, like **Cake Baking**, or the **Chef Challenge**, where you invite your friends to dinner and they make a donation to AMMF. For further details visit www.ammf.org.uk

AMMF is funding the first research fellowship into the disease at Imperial College, London. The research will further work into the causes and diagnosis of **CC**. However, so much more needs to be done.

Help us to **CChallenge CC**.



Visit the AMMF website www.ammf.org.uk

Follow AMMF on Facebook www.facebook.com/pages/AMMF/347407223911

For further information please contact Sarah Eden at sarah@ammf.org.uk or 07814 453151.

* Khan SA, Emadossadaty S, Ladep N, Thomas HC, Elliott P, Taylor-Robinson SD, Toledano MB. Rising Trends in Cholangiocarcinoma: is the ICD Classification system misleading us? J Hepatology 2012. [Epub ahead of print]