ESC Cardiovascular Round Table



Mr. Richard STEPHENS, UK

Richard is a survivor of two cancers and a heart emergency (stented) and continued co-morbidities (including CHD) and late effects from cardio-toxic treatments. He has participated in four interventional trials and has donated tissues and samples for research.

Richard is in his third decade as a Patient Advocate, which is now his full-time activity. He currently chairs CRAF-UK (Cancer Research Advocates Forum) and is a past Chair of BBMRI-ERIC's Stakeholder Forum (Europe's biobanking infrastructure). He has sat on strategic and/or research groups in the UK and internationally and has worked with advocates and patient groups in Europe, Canada, the USA and India.

Richard was the patient co-author of the 2015 Cancer Strategy for England, and in 2020 was an advisor to the UK government on several Covid issues. He was the patient lead for the NCRI-JLA *Living With And Beyond Cancer* research priority-setting project (later adopted by the EORTC Survivorship programme), with a particular interest in late effects, in view of his own heart problems.

Richard helped found the *AllTrials* campaign and the *useMYdata* movement, and he is the founding co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Research Involvement and Engagement*. He has represented ESC's Patient Forum at several events and was a member of the Taskforce for the Cardio-Oncology Guidelines, jointly leading the authorial team for the Patient-friendly version.

Richard has spoken at meetings of the UK and European Parliaments on the need for international standardisation and co-operation in health research and delivery of care, and the importance of turning research into evidence, evidence into guidelines, and guidelines into clinical practice.