

Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer (ILC): Lobular Moon Shot Project

I am writing to you as one of your constituents to draw your attention to a matter of personal concern to me.

Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer was first discovered in 1941 and is more common in women than ovarian, brain, kidney, pancreatic and liver cancer, yet has **no** specific treatment. (*Cancer registrations statistics, England - NHS England Digital*).



The Lobular Moon Shot Project (LMSP) is partnering with the world-leading Manchester Breast Centre (MBC). Together we are working to unlock the initial £20 million research funding to establish a UK-led collaborative approach to address the unmet clinical need of Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer (ILC).

Over 250 MPs from all parties have now pledged their support to the Lobular Moon Shot Project. I am writing to ask that you join them.

What is Invasive Lobular Breast Cancer (ILC)?

- ILC is the second most common type of breast cancer in the world and is not a rare cancer with over 8,500 diagnoses annually in the UK alone.
- ILC is a distinct disease with a different genetic, histology and biology to other breast cancers. (Batra et al., 2023)
- ILC does not always present with recognised breast cancer symptoms and is often missed on mammograms and ultrasounds.
- ILC is frequently diagnosed later, at a more advanced stage and has higher rates of recurrence and worse overall survival than the main type of breast cancer (Oesterreich *et al.* 2022)
- ILC has not been designated a research funding priority and patients are often excluded from trials.
- ILC has no specific treatment.
- ILC is an **unmet clinical need**.

Campaign update

- Within 7 months of the new Parliament over 250 MPs have pledged their support. This the link to the full list of MP supporters: <https://www.lobularmoonshot.org/supporters>
- Public donations now stand at over £100,000.
- Manchester Breast Centre is using these funds to recruit a new dedicated research position and to leverage additional funding.
- Helen Hayes secured a Parliamentary debate on ILBC in December 2024. (1)

I am asking you to show your support for the Lobular Moon Shot Project by:

- Emailing your pledge to office@lobularmoonshot.org. They will add your name to the public list (<https://www.lobularmoonshot.org/supporters>)
- Meeting with me and other constituents raising this issue with you.
- Meeting with one of the lead cross-party MPs supporting the Project (including Helen Hayes, Helen Grant, John Milne and Victoria Atkins).
- Contacting Wes Streeting as Health Secretary to ask that he honour the £20 million funding commitment of his predecessor, as part her 2024 Women's Health Strategy. (<http://www.breastcentre.manchester.ac.uk/>)

More information at:

lobularmoonshot.org

I look forward to hearing from you confirming the actions you have taken.

References - Further references available on request:

Batra H, Mouabbi JA, Ding Q, Sahin AA, Raso MG. Lobular Carcinoma of the Breast: A Comprehensive Review with Translational Insights. *Cancers (Basel)*. 2023 Nov 20;15(22):5491. doi: 10.3390/cancers15225491. PMID: 38001750; PMCID: PMC10670219.

[Cancer Registrations Statistics, England - NHS England Digital, digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/cancer-registration-statistics/england-2022](https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/cancer-registration-statistics/england-2022). Accessed 14 Feb. 2025.

Oesterreich S, Nasrazadani A, Zou J, Carleton N, Onger T, Wright MD, Li Y, Demanelis K, Ramaswamy B, Tseng G, Lee AV, Williams N, Kruse M. Clinicopathological Features and Outcomes Comparing Patients With Invasive Ductal and Lobular Breast Cancer. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2022 Nov 14;114(11):1511-1522. doi: 10.1093/jnci/djac157. PMID: 36239760; PMCID: PMC9664185.

1. Parliament. (Tuesday 10 December 2024). Westminster Hall debate: Treatment of lobular breast cancer [Hansard and Video]. UK Parliament.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2024-12-10/debates/E6D4FC53-76E4-4C5E-A695-DE651F7D8512/LobularBreastCancer>

<https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/807b01d2-778e-4c29-ba13-0436fd1f5b43>

