



impact report 2022–2023



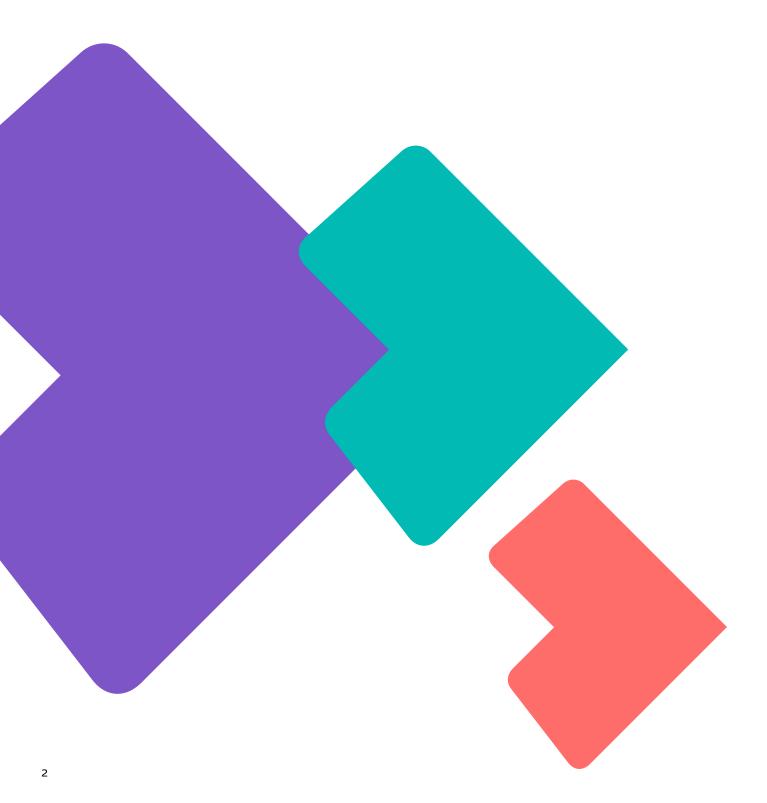


Welcome to our impact report	2
A message from our Chair and Chief Executive	3
About Barts Charity	2
Our 2022–2023 highlights	Ę
A timeline of our year	(
Research	
Our research funding highlights 2022–2023	8
Accelerating the development of new cancer treatments	10
Pioneering research into blood transfusions	12
Curing high blood pressure	14
Developing a first-of-its kind test to detect	
deadly heart inflammation	15
Healthcare	
Our healthcare funding highlights 2022–2023	16
Improving health and healthcare for Somali women	
in East London	18
Supporting the next generation of NHS heroes	20
Earlier cancer diagnosis for people in East London	2:
Everyday impact	22
Thankyou	24
Thank you to our Trustees and Advisors	25

Welcome to our impact report

Our mission at Barts Charity is to support improvements to healthcare and transformative research to benefit the health of the people of East London. We do this in partnership with the NHS and local research institutes, through the generous support of our donors and volunteer fundraisers and income from our diverse investment portfolio.

You can find out more about our funding highlights and governance in our latest **annual report**.



A message from our Chair and Chief Executive

Our impact report shines a light on the people and projects that we have been proud to support in the last year.

This has been our biggest year ever for funding, with £43.6m being invested in healthcare and research.

You will read about some of our most recent funding in this impact report. It includes a £6.6m grant to develop a centre for healthy ageing at Whipps Cross Hospital. The centre aims to explore ways to extend healthy living and treat frailty (page 8).

You will also find more about our £1.7m funding for the Barts Health Psychological Support Service. This will support staff with their mental health and wellbeing for another three years (page 16).

We are delighted to highlight the impact that our funding continues to have. This includes:

- a cancer research programme at Queen Mary University of London (Queen Mary) which has led to a number of high-profile scientific breakthroughs and hope for new treatments (page 10).
- research we have supported that has played an important role in developing a new diagnostic blood test for heart inflammation that could mean patients receive lifesaving treatment earlier (page 15).
- funding to upgrade an MRI machine at Mile End Hospital, which is reducing the time people with suspected cancer need to wait for their scans (page 21).
- a Community Engagement Officer who is supporting Somali women in East London to access vital healthcare and improve their experience of using these services (page 18).

Barts 900

In 2023, St Bartholomew's Hospital celebrates the remarkable milestone of 900 years since it was founded. To honour this extraordinary anniversary, we've joined with Barts Health NHS Trust (Barts Health) and Barts Heritage to create the Barts 900 Campaign. Our campaign focuses on two important health projects that will help to transform treatment for patients in East London into the future.

The first is a Clinical Research Facility at The Royal London Hospital, which will bring innovative clinical trials closer to the people of East London. Plans for this project were formally approved by us and Barts Health in January 2023, and we're now moving forwards with the delivery (page 8). The second project is a state-of-the-art Breast Cancer Centre at St Bartholomew's Hospital, plans for which are progressing well. You can find out more about this campaign at bartscharity.org.uk/barts900.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the donors and supporters whose contributions make the impact we achieve possible. You can find a list of some of our incredible philanthropists, trusts and foundations, and corporate supporters on page 24. We are so grateful for their generosity and belief in our vision.



Fiona Miller SmithChief Executive
Officer



Andy Bruce Chair of Trustees



About Barts Charity

As East London's oldest healthcare charity, we've been at the forefront of advancing healthcare for hundreds of years. The hospitals we support strive to provide excellent care to their patients. Yet too many people's lives in East London are affected by ill health. At Barts Charity, we have East London in our hearts and we want healthier, longer lives for everyone in our community.

Our vision

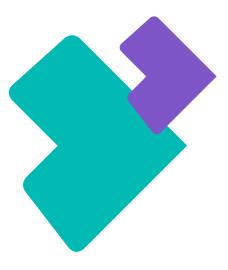
Life-changing improvements to health for the people of East London.

Our mission

A charity with its roots in East London, dedicated to supporting improvements to healthcare and transformative research for local health benefit.

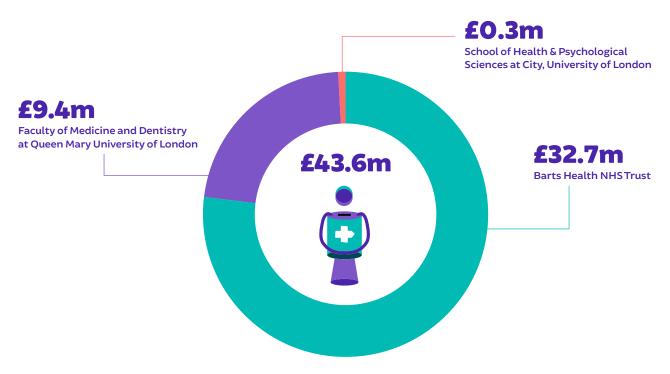
We work in partnership with the NHS, local research institutes and others who can help us achieve our goals and maximise our impact.

Together with our partners, we make better healthcare possible, funding brilliant ideas and ground-breaking research to transform lives. We invest in inspiring people and projects that have the greatest impact on the health and lives of local people. And as our local community is one of the most diverse places to call home, what makes a difference in East London has the potential to touch lives across the world.



Our 2022-2023 highlights

We gave **£43.6m** in funding to support research and healthcare in East London – the most we have ever awarded in a year.



We also gave £1.2m to East London NHS Foundation Trust.

Through our funding we supported:



grants for healthcare improvement initiatives in East London



grants to support world-leading medical research



improved spaces for patients and carers, including refurbished clinics and waiting areas



training fellowships for healthcare professionals to undertake a PhD



new pieces of vital medical equipment



425 scientific publications

A timeline of our year

June

We award £2.3m to The Royal London Dental Hospital and the Institute of Dentistry so they can get a digital upgrade, transforming dental healthcare for people across East London (page 16).

August

BBC News reports on a Barts Health-led programme called Healthcare Horizons that helps students to learn about careers in healthcare, supported by Barts Charity thanks to a gift from Monday Charitable Trust (page 20).



April

Our volunteer fundraisers raise £6,000 through the London Landmarks Half Marathon.



2022



May

For the first in-person View Day in three years, guests are welcomed to St Bartholomew's Hospital to hear about the impact of our work to date, and plans for the future.



July

We announce our <u>new</u> <u>five-year impact-focused</u> <u>strategy for 2022-2027</u> and vision to support life-changing improvements to health for the people of East London.



September

We award £1.7m to the Barts Health Psychological Support Service to support staff with their mental health and wellbeing for a further three years (page 16).



October

Our volunteer fundraisers raise £46,000 for Barts Charity by taking part in the London Marathon.





December

Researchers at Queen Mary discover how melanoma skin cancer spreads through the body, a study that was part funded by Barts Charity (page 10).

February

The first successful tests of a new device to diagnose heart disease take place at the Cardiovascular Devices Hub, which was established with funding from Barts Charity and The Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust.



2023



November

His Majesty The King visits St Bartholomew's Hospital ahead of our 900th anniversary in 2023, meeting donors, hearing about our ambitions and helping to raise the profile of our impact.

January

Our funding helps to develop a 10-minute scan that can detect the most common cause of high blood pressure (page 14).





March

We celebrate the 900th birthday of St Bartholomew's Hospital with a plan to build two transformational healthcare projects: a state-of-the-art Breast Cancer Centre and a new world-class Clinical Research Facility (page 8).

Research

Our research funding highlights 2022-2023

We invest in innovative health-related research that has the potential to transform the health of our East London community. Here are just a few highlights of our research funding from the last year.

We were the **sixth largest charitable medical research funder** in the UK, according to the latest figures from the Association of Medical Research Charities.



£30.8m

funding awarded



6

fellowships awarded for healthcare professionals to train in research



66

research projects funded



425

scientific papers published



£67m

further funding leveraged from other funders to do more research



R

PhD students funded to join research groups at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

A new centre for research into healthy ageing

With one of the fastest growing populations in the UK, residents in East London experience poor health at a much earlier age than those in more affluent parts of the capital.

This is why we awarded £6.6m to Barts Health and Queen Mary to establish the Academic Centre for Healthy Ageing at Whipps Cross Hospital. It will

drive research and help develop better local health and care services that will improve the quality of life for older people across East London.

Improving access to online therapy for stroke patients

Around one third of stroke survivors experience aphasia, which affects someone's ability to speak and understand what others say.

Online therapy could help meet the high need for speech therapy and make it easier for people who need support from a carer to access services.

This is why we awarded £240,000 to Professor Katerina Hilari from City, University of London to investigate the barriers to accessing online speech therapy for patients in East London. She will develop a toolkit and training resources to help speech therapists implement online therapy effectively, bringing benefits to more patients.

Barts 900 Campaign: A brand new Clinical Research Facility at The Royal London Hospital

We're moving forwards with plans to create a dedicated new space for patients to safely take part in clinical trials. Located on the 15th floor of The Royal London Hospital, the new Clinical Research Facility will benefit from overnight and laboratory spaces, a pharmacy and proximity to important hospital services.

This new facility will engage more local patients from diverse communities in research, accelerate the development of new treatments and attract the world's best researchers to run clinical trials in East London.

Support our Barts 900 Campaign at: bartscharity.org.uk/barts900

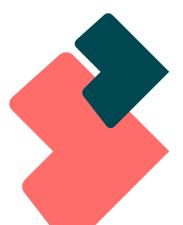


Developing researchers to improve care for patients

Patients who are treated in hospitals that carry out research have a more positive experience, as well as better outcomes and survival.

This is why we're helping to increase the number of local healthcare professionals working on patient-focused research. We're doing this by enhancing and expanding research training opportunities. Our PhD research training programme is open to professionals from across different areas of healthcare, including physiotherapists, psychologists, nurses and doctors.

This year we awarded six new fellowships for healthcare professionals to train in research. Read about just two of our inspiring new fellows, Ricarda and Vijay (right).





Dance classes to help young people with cerebral palsy

Ricarda Tillman is a physiotherapist at The Royal London Hospital. As part of her fellowship, she's designing group dance classes to improve the physical activity levels of young people with cerebral palsy. The aim is to help build their confidence and give them a better quality of life.



Using artificial intelligence to transform diagnosis for heart problems

Vijay Shyam-Sundar is a cardiologist at St Bartholomew's Hospital. As part of his fellowship, he's developing artificial intelligence tools that could help doctors to better interpret images of patients' heart scans. This will help patients get a quicker and safer diagnosis and remove the need for invasive biopsies.



Accelerating the development of new cancer treatments

In 2018, Barts Charity made a £10m strategic investment into cancer research at Queen Mary to expand its programmes and recruit new scientific talent to East London.

These researchers are building our biological understanding of cancer and aim to translate their discoveries into new ways to prevent, detect and treat the disease.

So far, our funding has helped to pay for 14 research group leaders who have brought their expertise to East London. They are building brilliant teams who are making scientific breakthroughs that could transform patients' lives.

Barts Charity cancer programme achievements in the last five years:



£21m

further funding leveraged from other funders to do more research



200

scientific papers published



14 PhD students



11

postdoctoral research assistants



14 research group leaders

Q&A with Professor Victoria Sanz-Moreno

Victoria joined Barts Cancer Institute as a research group leader in 2018. Her research focuses on understanding how cancer cells spread through the body. Patients whose cancer has spread often face tougher treatments and have less chance of survival. Since she joined the institute, Victoria and her team have published several high-profile scientific papers that have received international coverage. These insights into how cancer cells can move around the body are building our knowledge of how the disease works. They could help researchers find new interventions that make it harder for cancer to spread.

What inspired you to become a cancer researcher?

"My father was a very enthusiastic scientist. Visiting his lab as a child made me see science as a fun thing and something I could do for a career. Then, when I went to university, my grandmother died very quickly from stomach cancer. During her surgery, they found that the cancer had spread everywhere and there was nothing they could do.

We were very close, so this was a huge motivation for me to want to make my own small contribution to understanding how cancer spreads. It has motivated me for my whole life."

What is the focus of your research?

"Not every cancer cell can spread. We want to understand exactly what makes a cancer cell able to break away and get to another place in your body and survive and grow there. We've been doing a lot of work in melanoma skin cancer in recent years. Melanoma is one of the quickest-spreading cancer types and, in this way, it helps us understand how other types of cancer spread. So far, we've been able to apply what we've learnt in melanoma to work in sarcomas, and breast, pancreatic and liver cancer."



Professor Victoria Sanz-Moreno

What are some of your recent findings?

"This year, we discovered a molecule inside cancer cells. It helps cells change their shape so they can squeeze through small gaps and holes in tissues in the body and spread to other organs. This was done as a fantastic collaboration with researchers at King's College London and The Francis Crick Institute.

More recently, we've shown how cancer cells can rewire their internal energy systems to change the amount of energy they use as a way to spread more efficiently."

In October 2022, Victoria received the prestigious Estela Medrano Memorial Award from the Society for Melanoma Research for her contributions to the fight against melanoma.

What impact could this work have on patients in the future?

"Cancer that has spread has a very poor outlook for patients. So, if we can stop it spreading, then we can help many more people survive. Through our work, we're discovering the different strategies that cancer cells use to spread around the body and to escape treatments. Understanding these strategies means that if we don't have drugs that can target a particular molecule, we can use our knowledge to think about other ways to block this process, or to think about other vulnerabilities in these cells that we could target."

What has Barts Charity funding allowed you to do?

"Science is expensive, but generous funding from Barts Charity has meant that we can explore high-risk ideas that wouldn't usually be possible. These high-risk ideas have really paid off. We are discovering truly novel biological findings that are offering new hope for cancer treatments."

Victoria's research group receives major funding from Barts Charity, Cancer Research UK, Worldwide Cancer Research and UK Research and Innovation.



Pioneering research into blood transfusions

Every second counts when someone is seriously injured and bleeding, like when they're by the roadside after an accident. But getting blood transfusions to patients in these settings is challenging.

Up until 2012, patients only received saline, a mixture of salt and water, before they arrived at hospital. London's Air Ambulance at The Royal London Hospital was the first service in the UK to give a transfusion of red blood cells at the scene of the accident to people who had serious bleeding.

In December 2022, a trial called Study of Whole Blood in Frontline Trauma (SWiFT) launched. The results could transform the way we give blood transfusions to people who have serious bleeding before they arrive at hospital. This could save the lives of many patients at a time when any delay to getting a blood transfusion could be fatal. The trial is being led by Dr Laura Green, Consultant Haematologist at Barts Health and NHS Blood and Transplant. Our funding was essential for helping Laura to get the evidence she needed to design and set up this trial.



Single bag of whole blood containing red blood cells, plasma and platelets



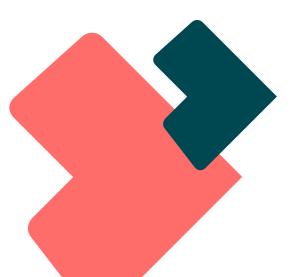
Dr Laura Green

Getting patients to hospital quicker

In 2018, Barts Charity, London's Air Ambulance and NHS Blood and Transplant awarded funding to Laura and her team to explore the best ways of transfusing blood to patients before they get to hospital.

At the moment, patients who need it get a transfusion of red blood cells and blood plasma, which come in separate bags. But in urgent situations, it can be difficult to carry out multiple blood transfusions. Staff have to carry a lot of bags of blood, which slows down how quickly they can give it to patients.

Laura's team found that patients who received a transfusion combining red blood cells and plasma in one bag were one and a half times more likely to survive the first 24 hours after their traumatic injury than patients who only got red blood cells. Using one bag was also easier for medical staff, meaning patients got to hospital quicker.



Developing a 'whole blood' product

Studies on military casualties suggest giving patients 'whole blood' could help more people survive. Whole blood contains platelets, as well as red blood cells and plasma. Platelets help blood to clot, which is important to stop bleeding.

Currently, manufacturing processes remove platelets from whole blood when blood transfusion products are made. With our funding, Laura's team successfully developed new filters that can preserve platelets when these products are manufactured. This shows it's possible to make a whole blood product.

Along with the evidence that providing blood in one bag is logistically much easier, this was the research Laura's team needed to design and run SWiFT.

"International colleagues are waiting to see what happens"

The SWiFT trial will recruit 850 patients to find out how well whole blood transfusion in a single bag works, compared to the current treatment. It is being funded by NHS Blood and Transplant, the Ministry of Defence and 10 Air Ambulance services across England.

Barts Charity is funding the sub-study of SWiFT to research how whole blood transfusion works inside the body. These findings could be applied widely, for example to patients bleeding severely during cardiac surgery or childbirth.

"We've seen over the last decade how our research into blood transfusion at The Royal London Hospital influences national and international protocols," says Laura. "Now, as we carry out the SWiFT trial into whole blood transfusion, our international colleagues are waiting to see what happens. The world is watching us."

Our impact in traumatic injury research



In 2012, we awarded £3.8m to Professor Karim Brohi (left) to establish the Centre for Trauma Sciences. This is a world-leading Centre of Excellence for trauma research at Queen Mary that's partnered with The Royal London Hospital.

Since the centre opened, the team's innovations in trauma care have helped to almost halve the number of patients bleeding to death at the hospital. This work has been incorporated into national and international clinical guidelines, improving outcomes for trauma patients worldwide.

In 2021, we awarded an additional £3m to Karim to reconfigure the patient pathway at the hospital and carry out research that aims to reduce deaths caused by traumatic injuries by a further 60%. This was made possible by the visionary support of our London's Lifeline donors:

- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Bank of Montreal
- Rosetrees Trust
- Canary Wharf Contractors Limited
- The Cadogan Charity
- Aspen Insurance UK Services Limited
- Paul Rawlinson
- Richard Buxton
- Charles Hoare Nairne
- Carter Lemon Camerons LLP



Curing high blood pressure

If someone has high blood pressure, it greatly increases their risk of having a heart attack and stroke. High blood pressure affects around 242,000 people in North East London alone.

For around one in 20 people, high blood pressure is caused by tiny nodules on the adrenal glands. These nodules produce a hormone, called aldosterone, that causes salt to be retained in the body, increasing blood pressure. When only one adrenal gland is affected, patients can be treated, and even cured, by removing the gland through surgery.

For around 60 years, doctors and scientists have struggled to successfully detect these nodules. Until now, doing so involved a complicated procedure that is only available at a few hospitals and often fails. This means only around 1% of patients are diagnosed with nodules that cause high blood pressure.



Research leads Professor William Drake, Dr Xilin Wu and Professor Morris Brown (front L to R) with the team (back)

"Barts Charity funding has allowed us to think outside of the box and test blue sky ideas, which often turn out to be the ones that change clinical practice and bring benefits to patients."

Professor Morris Brown

What are adrenal glands?

The adrenal glands are at the top of each of your two kidneys. They produce hormones that control many important functions in the body, including regulating blood pressure.

Solving a 60-year problem

At the William Harvey Research Institute (Queen Mary), Professors Morris Brown and William Drake are at the forefront of research into this common cause of high blood pressure. We previously awarded them £720,000 for their research and to contribute to a large National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)-funded study.

The study involved 173 patients – 115 from St Bartholomew's Hospital. It has shown that a simple, painless test can accurately diagnose the nodules that cause high blood pressure and identify who should get surgical treatment. The test involves injecting patients with a safe, short-lasting radioactive dye to make nodules containing aldosterone glow for a few minutes during a hospital computerised tomography (CT) scan.

When the scan was used with a urine test, researchers could also predict a group of patients who could come off all their blood pressure medications after surgery.

This 10-minute scan recently received regulatory approval for clinical use. Now the team is working with the NHS to help get the test funded for widespread use in patients in the future. This could potentially transform the lives of millions of people.



This research was funded by Barts Charity, the National Institute for Health and Care Research, the Medical Research Council and the British Heart Foundation.



Developing a first-of-its kind test to detect deadly heart inflammation

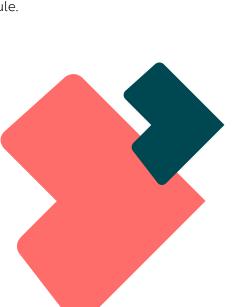
In the UK, one young person dies suddenly every week because of undiagnosed inflammation of the heart. Our research has played an important role in developing a new diagnostic blood test that could help patients get lifesaving treatment for this condition earlier.

Inflammation of the heart muscle usually happens after someone has had a viral infection. It can cause palpitations, chest pains and shortness of breath. Although most people recover, the condition can lead to serious complications, such as heart failure. Detecting inflammation deep inside the heart muscle is challenging. It requires a heart biopsy, which is a risky procedure and may fail to detect cases.

Revolutionising diagnosis

Professor Federica Marelli-Berg from the William Harvey Research Institute has identified a tell-tale sign of heart inflammation. She found that people who have the condition have high levels of a specific molecule which is on the surface of certain blood cells.

Thanks to a £50,000 award from Barts Charity, Federica carried out research in her laboratory to explore the potential of using a blood test to detect this molecule.





Professor Federica Marelli-Berg

Our early support helped Federica collect the pilot data she needed to secure significant further funding from the British Heart Foundation to continue her research. Federica used the funding to work closely with consultant cardiologist Dr Sam Mohiddin and patients from the Barts Heart Centre at St Bartholomew's Hospital to develop the first blood test to detect heart inflammation in people.

The test could soon become a quick and simple addition to routine blood tests that are ordered in GP surgeries. This would reduce the need for invasive biopsies, saving the NHS money. By helping more people get early treatment, the test could prevent thousands of unnecessary deaths from the life-threatening complications of heart inflammation.

"Barts Charity funding was essential in the early stages of the development of this test. With it, we can save lives by detecting heart inflammation as part of routine blood tests and reduce the need for more invasive treatments."

Professor Federica Marelli-Berg

healthcare

Our healthcare funding highlights 2022-2023

We invest in innovative and everyday solutions to improve healthcare for our local East London community. By working with Barts Health and the staff at its five hospitals, we bring brilliant ideas to life, improving health and healthcare locally. Here are just a few highlights of our healthcare funding from the last year.



£12.8m
healthcare funding
awarded



42 grants awarded



improved spaces for patients and carers, including refurbished clinics and waiting areas



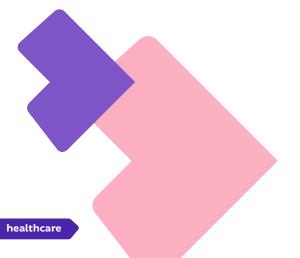
community engagement projects



new pieces of vital medical equipment



improved spaces for Barts Health staff, including upgraded staff rooms and tea rooms



Transforming dental care

We awarded £2.3m to The Royal London Dental Hospital at Barts Health and the Institute of Dentistry at Queen Mary to help transform dental healthcare for people across East London. This is our first major investment in dentistry.

Our funding is being used to:

- create a new electronic dental record-keeping tool
- acquire the latest digital technology for dental procedures
- introduce virtual reality training tools for dental students at Queen Mary.

This digital transformation will make the dental hospital the first in the UK to fully integrate dental and general health records for more efficient and better coordinated care for patients.

Continuing to support the wellbeing of Barts Health staff

In response to the pressures of the Covid-19 pandemic, we established a psychological support service at Barts Health, which offers staff at each hospital support from a dedicated psychologist. This was thanks to generous support from Capula Investment Management, Bank of America and Goldman Sachs Gives.

During its first two years, the service was in touch with staff almost 20,000 times through one-to-one sessions and support for teams.

In 2022, we awarded an additional £1.7m to continue funding this invaluable support service for Barts Health staff for a further three years. This will allow the team to build on the existing service, which could be replicated in other hospital trusts around the UK.



Barts Health Psychological Support Service

Using data to help find the best treatments for patients

The NHS captures the detail of almost every interaction patients have with health services across the UK. For this to be useful, experts need to carefully link, securely store and manage the data, and make it accessible for researchers to analyse.

We awarded £4.9m to Barts Health to find a way to do this. They will develop a Precision Medicine Platform – a highly secure database of patient data from a diverse community of over 2.5 million people in East London.

The database means researchers will be able to access research-ready data to study a wide range of diseases and help find out which treatments work best for each patient.

Introducing a play specialist to Whipps Cross Hospital

Hospitals can be scary places for anyone, especially children. We awarded £40,000 to Whipps Cross Hospital to introduce a play specialist role to their emergency department.

The play specialist helps to prepare children for procedures and provides respite to parents who can often be going through an emotionally challenging time themselves. This will significantly improve the quality of care for children, and give them a better experience while they're in hospital.

New technology to improve skin cancer diagnosis and treatment

We've provided £285,000 of funding to The Royal London Hospital for two new machines that will allow suspected skin cancers to be diagnosed in the hospital, without the need for surgical biopsies. The technology could mean people get faster diagnoses.

The tumour could also be more accurately mapped before surgery. This means patients are less likely to need to come back for further surgery.

This is the first time that these two types of imaging machines will be used in combination in the NHS. If successful, this technology could be introduced across the rest of the UK.



Improving health and healthcare for Somali women in East London

East London has one of the largest and fastest growing Somali populations in Europe. Cultural and language barriers, and being treated differently because of their ethnicity, can have an impact on Somali people's access to and experience with healthcare.

These challenges have long been an issue and there's a lack of information and evidence to design ways to address health inequalities in this community.

This is why we provided £50,000 to fund a Somali-speaking Community Engagement Officer across Barts Health hospitals to engage with Somali women and gain a deeper understanding of their needs.

The role has been developed in partnership with Barts Health and a community-based charity called the Women's Inclusive Team (WIT). WIT is a Somali-led women's group, run by Safia Jama MBE, that offers activities and initiatives to empower Black and ethnic minority women in Tower Hamlets.





Farah Dualeh and Safia Jama MBE from WIT, pictured with Edna Ahmed (L to R)

Effective community engagement

Edna Ahmed was appointed into the Community Engagement Officer role to work closely with colleagues at Barts Health and WIT. Together they have worked on ways to improve Somali women's access to, and experience of, hospital services. These have included:

- one-to-one engagement sessions to listen to the experiences of local women
- health promotion events with clinical specialists from Barts Health that focus on key areas, such as maternity and breast cancer awareness
- building the understanding and confidence of Barts Health staff to communicate with the Somali community.

During the first year, which was 2022–2023, the team engaged with over 100 Somali women from the Tower Hamlets community who now regularly attend ongoing engagement and health awareness sessions. Barts Health quickly agreed to fund Edna's role for a further 12 months as the impact of the project was clear from early data. Now that the foundations are in place, Edna is planning to expand into Waltham Forest and Newham to engage more women across East London.

Edna Ahmed, Somali Community Engagement Officer, shares the impact she has seen over the last year.

"My role has been challenging but rewarding. It was created to tackle the needs of the Somali community in relation to health inequalities. This, of course, is no mean feat. I knew there was a lot of trust to build with the community.

In this unique role, I was able to hear first-hand some of the challenges and health-related issues the community were experiencing. A topic that was consistently brought up by the women was maternity.

Some of the issues they disclosed included language barriers, mistrust of the healthcare system and discrimination. All these factors contributed to a lack of engagement with maternity services, often translating into missed antenatal appointments until very late in women's pregnancies – if at all."

Improving health outcomes

"Together, with the amazing Patient Experience Midwives at Barts Health, we designed and organised a biweekly maternity drop-in session at WIT. The sessions give local Somali women direct access to a midwife in a familiar setting.

I am Somali myself and have been present during these sessions to be an active translator and familiar face. We've been able to successfully overcome language and cultural barriers while providing a safe space for these women. By bringing maternity services to a community setting, such as WIT, we hope to build trust between the community and Barts Health. This is helping to improve health outcomes by reducing the risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth.

Through all of the sessions we're delivering, we're empowering and equipping these women with the tools they need to make informed decisions and take their health into their own hands. As we all know, empowered communities are healthy communities."



Edna Ahmed

Within the first year:

more than 100

Somali women engaged with the team

10

health awareness events were delivered collaboratively between Barts Health and WIT

25

pregnant women accessed
antenatal care and support through
maternity drop-in sessions, after which **10** said they engaged with hospital
maternity services

60

women attended breast cancer awareness sessions, after which **two** went to their first ever breast cancer screening appointment

community members

said they felt more welcome in the healthcare system, and they had greater awareness of what services were available to them

healthcare staff

said they had improved their communication skills and understanding of working with people from other cultures



Supporting the next generation of NHS heroes

The NHS is the largest employer in Britain, but starting a career in healthcare can be a challenge – particularly in East London, where unemployment rates are high.

The Healthcare Horizons programme aims to attract young people from local communities into health careers. It also supports local schools to provide access to high quality career guidance so young people can make informed decisions about their future, and access higher education or employment.

The team supports 37 schools across Newham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest and runs a range of activities. This includes career events, parents' evenings, online mentoring, a summer school, a virtual work experience platform and a pre-employment programme.



Filling skills gaps and increasing diversity in healthcare roles

The project team focuses training on professions where there are national shortages, such as nursing and allied health professional careers, as well as helping to attract a more diverse range of people to careers such as medicine and dentistry.

Since its launch, Healthcare Horizons has been a great success and continues to raise young people's career aspirations and promote Barts Health as a local employer.

Barts Charity continues to support this highlyregarded programme thanks to a generous gift from Monday Charitable Trust.

Since it began in 2018, the Healthcare Horizons programme has:

- enrolled and offered work experience, online mentoring or career events to 3,283 students
- supported **505** young people to complete a pre-employment training programme
- helped 227 young people to secure employment following their pre-employment training
- supported **404** people to progress into health-related degrees
- delivered 22 parents' engagement events

Follow the Healthcare Horizons team on X @BartsHorizons

Zahra's story

"If it wasn't for this programme, I probably wouldn't have a job. It has opened up so many opportunities to me."

These are the words of Zahra. When she finished college two years ago, she was having no luck getting a job. Zahra wanted to get one in healthcare but, despite applying for various vacancies, was unsuccessful.

The Healthcare Horizons Pre-Apprenticeship Programme helped Zahra to improve her confidence and interview skills. It also provided useful insight into different career opportunities within the NHS. The programme team helped Zahra find suitable job vacancies and do mock interviews.

After applying for a few roles, Zahra got a job as an Appointment Coordinator. "Taking part in Healthcare Horizons is the best thing I've done, career wise," says Zahra.

Healthcare Horizons was previously supported with a gift from JPMorgan Chase.



3T MRI machine and the team at Mile End Hospital



Earlier cancer diagnosis for people in East London

Today, more people are surviving cancer than ever before, but those in North East London have some of the poorest outcomes in the country. Introducing new diagnostic services to help spot more cancers sooner is key to improving survival for our patients.

In 2021, an Early Diagnosis Centre opened at Mile End Hospital as a joint initiative between three local NHS trusts – Barts Health, Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals Trust and Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

The centre is part of the England-wide drive to develop one-stop diagnostic hubs, based in the community. Their aim is to improve waiting times for scans and early cancer diagnosis, and relieve pressures on NHS staff.

The centre is equipped with two endoscopy suites, two ultrasound rooms, a CT scanner and an MRI suite. With £500,000 funding from Barts Charity, the team were able to upgrade their plans to purchase a 1.5T MRI machine to a 3T MRI machine.

Faster and more accurate diagnosis

MRI machines use powerful magnetic fields and radio waves to produce detailed images of inside the body. A 3T MRI scanner generates a magnetic field twice the strength of that of a 1.5T scanner. This means it can produce exceptional images that can more accurately diagnose patients, reducing the need for unnecessary interventions, such as biopsies.

These scanners are also much more efficient, which means faster scans for patients. Since the MRI suite opened in autumn 2022, it is already helping to dramatically reduce the waiting time for scans. And because the same sized workforce can get through more scans, the scanner is helping to relieve pressure on staff.

Before the MRI suite at Mile End Hospital opened, only **45% of Barts Health patients** were getting their scan within six weeks.

Now, **more than 90% of patients** are getting their scan within six weeks.

Everyday impact

Barts Health staff are full of ideas for how to improve the care, experience and wellbeing of patients and their families. They see that, sometimes, a relatively straightforward and easy-to-implement change could have a big impact. Here, you can read about how our funding helps to turn these ideas into a reality.

Enhancing care at difficult times

We awarded £9,000 to allow Barts Health hospitals to buy:

- 4,000 specially-designed bags to carry the belongings of patients who've passed away
- 300 heartbeat bears for maternity units which record a baby's heartbeat to comfort parents during times of separation.



Waltham Forest

City of London





New ward kitchen to improve the wellbeing of patients

We awarded £50,000 to turn an existing room on ward 5A of the cancer treatment centre at St Bartholomew's Hospital into a new kitchen-diner for patients and visitors. This is making the ward feel more homely and improving patients' experience and wellbeing.

Since opening in 2022, the room has also hosted **three weddings** for the families of patients staying on the ward.

Helping patients and visitors to stay in touch

We helped the emergency department at The Royal London Hospital install a phone charging station so people can contact family and friends when they need their support most.

In its first three months, the charging station – made possible thanks to our £25,000 funding – charged people's phones more than **2,400 times**. This meant that it provided **720 hours** of charging time.

A small survey showed that **100% of visitors** said it helped them to feel calmer and improved their hospital visit.



Hospital volunteer transport buggy

We awarded £20,000 to fund a buggy for hospital volunteers to transport patients, visitors and staff across the vast Whipps Cross Hospital site. The buggy also helps move medication, supplies and patient samples to different buildings, as well as delivering sandwiches to the chemotherapy centre.

Since this buggy started running in 2021, it has:

- made more than 12,000 trips
- transported more than 10,000 patients.

Refurbishing the tuberculosis clinic waiting area

We awarded £4,000 for refurbishing the tuberculosis clinic waiting area in the Max Caplin Clinic at Mile End Hospital to create a more welcoming environment for patients and their families.

This is improving their experience and it includes repainting, adding comfortable new chairs, installing a play area for children and hanging artwork on the walls.

The refurbishment will benefit around **30 patients** and visitors every day.

New gym equipment to improve rehabilitation

We awarded £19,000 to the therapy gym at Newham Hospital for new equipment to improve care for patients with a wide range of rehabilitation needs.

This equipment is benefiting more than **1,200 patients each month** who visit the gym for their therapy.

This award is generously supported by ZVM Rangoonwala Foundation.

Thank you

We are so grateful to everyone who has contributed to Barts Charity over the last year and beyond, from our community fundraisers to philanthropic supporters. Thank you to our individual and corporate supporters, trusts and foundations, and donors who want to remain anonymous. It's thanks to all of your support and generosity that we have been able to create the impact you have read about in this report.

The Abed Family

Andy Bruce

Ares

Bank of America

Bank of Montreal

BDB Pitmans

The Blyth Watson Charitable

Trust

The Cadogan Charity

Capula Investment Management

Carter Lemon Camerons LLP

Charles Perrin CBE and Gillian

Perrin

Charles S French Charitable Trust

Charles Hoare Nairne

The Charles Wolfson Charitable

Trust

Garfield Weston Foundation

Gavin Williams

Goldman Sachs Gives

Goldman Sachs Gives Nimesh Khiroya

JPMorgan Chase

The J P Moulton Charitable

Foundation

Kusuma Trust UK

Landesbank Baden-Wurttemberg

Michael Jacobson & Jonathan Ball

Monday Charitable Trust

NHS Charities Together

Ocorian Trustees

Paul Rawlinson

PF Charitable Trust

Richard Buxton

Rosetrees Trust

Silicon Valley Bank

The Spectacle Makers' Charity

Sylvia Waddilove Foundation UK

The Worshipful Company of Barbers

The Worshipful Company of Brewers

The Worshipful Company of Broderers

The Worshipful Company

of Builder's Merchants

The Worshipful Company

of Dyers

The Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners, In Memory of Wendy Broadley

The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths

The Worshipful Company of Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers

The Worshipful Company of International Bankers

The Worshipful Company of Leathersellers

The Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks

The Worshipful Company of Salters

The Worshipful Company of Tin Plate Workers Alias Wireworkers

The Worshipful Company of Turners

The Worshipful Company of Tylers & Bricklayers

The Worshipful Company of World Traders

ZVM Rangoonwala Foundation

Thank you to our Trustees and Advisors

We could not have achieved so much in the last year without the guidance of our experienced and engaged Trustees and Advisors. We feel very fortunate to have their support – which they give on a purely voluntary basis – and would like to extend our thanks for all they do.

Non-executives

Trustees

Andy Bruce, Chair Vijay Bharadia (to April 2022)

Claire Brown (to March 2023)

Sally Flanagan

Professor Catherine Godson

lan Hart, Deputy Chair

Professor Dame Parveen Kumar

Dr Richard Lewis

Jean Murphy

Nimesh Patel

(from January 2023)

Professor David Rampton (to September 2022)

Dr Thomas Round

Rt Hon Jacqui Smith (ex officio Trustee, Chair of Barts Health NHSTrust)

Dr Lorna Williamson OBE

Board Advisor

Moira Gitsham (communications) (to 30 September 2023)

Appointments and Remuneration Committee

Andy Bruce, Chair Sally Flanagan Ian Hart

Finance and Audit Committee

Claire Brown, Chair (to March 2023)

Nimesh Patel, Chair (from April 2023)

Vijay Bharadia (to April 2022)

Ian Hart

Dr Richard Lewis

Mohammad Memon

Grants Committee

Dr Lorna Williamson (Chair)

Professor Mirela Delibegovic (from September 2022)

Professor Adrian Dixon (to 30 September 2023)

Professor Catherine Godson

Dr Richard Lewis (to April 2022)

Professor Sarah Purdy OBE

(from January 2023)

Professor David Rampton

(to September 2022)

Professor Kanchan Rege

Thrasher (from September 2022)

Dr Thomas Round

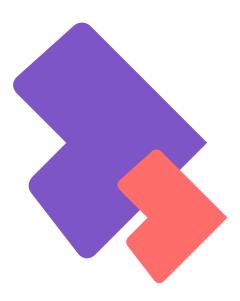
Dr Ultan McDermott (from June 2022)

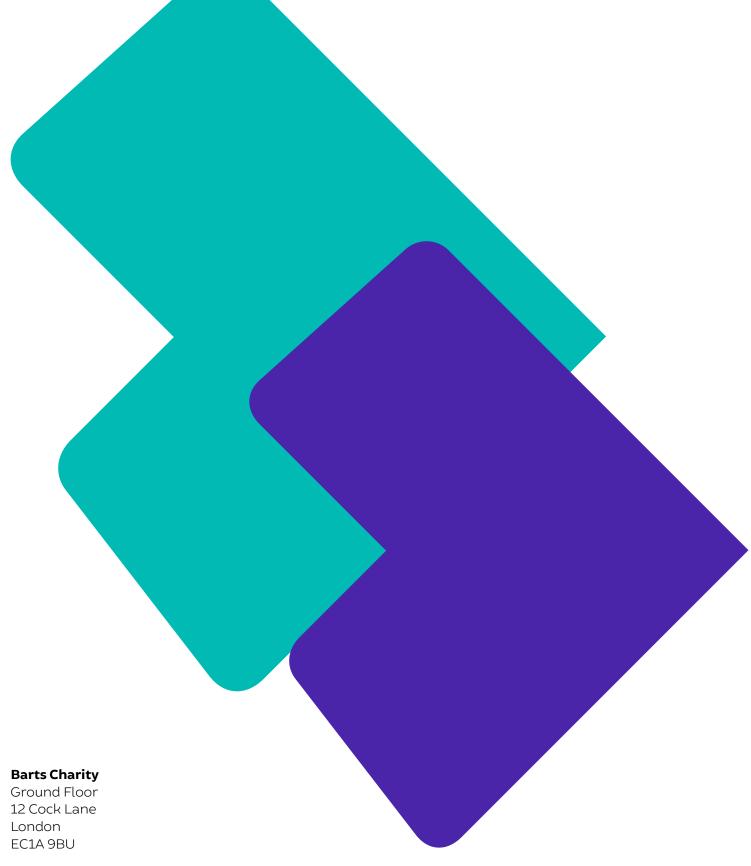
Investment Committee

Sally Flanagan, Chair Andy Bruce Philip Glaze

lan Hart

Jean Murphy





E: hello@bartscharity.org.uk

T: 020 7618 1717

Registered charity no. 212563

Registered company no. 07168381











