



Cancer: The patient journey

Module Coordinator	Dr. Stephen G. Maher, Surgery, School of Medicine
What will you learn from this Elective?	<p>Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally. However, within society there is a critical issue in the lack of fundamental knowledge about cancers, their development, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, survival and frontier cancer research efforts. Indeed, in an online digital age there is considerable pervasiveness of misinformation, misinterpretation and fear that can have a detrimental impact on cancer patients. In this Trinity Elective, students will be guided through an interactive, integrated series of lectures, both face-to-face and online, that aims to comprehensively examine the fundamentals of the field of cancer from a non-specialist perspective. Through active learning students will learn the answers to some of our most fundamental questions about cancer.</p>
Student Workload	<p>5 ECTS = 100 hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Face-to-face contact time is ~12 lecture hours (including a 1 hour introductory session).• Online lecture time through the VLE is ~14 lecture hours.• A 1-hour face-to-face interactive seminar to discuss assessment tasks and strategies.• A 1-hour face-to-face interactive feedback seminar, providing open-forum feedback and revision support.• Private study and revision time is 72 hours.
Assessment Components	<p><i>Assessment 1.</i> Group poster, 3-5 students per group (weighting 30%, peer assessed). Topics will address an aspect of one of the four pillars of the patient journey (Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment or Survivorship). The group poster will include online collaborative group elements, such as a shared wiki-page, to support face-to-face work, as well as provide an opportunity for reflective practices in learning.</p> <p><i>Assessment 2.</i> MCQ exam (weighting 20%).</p> <p><i>Assessment 3.</i> Final SAQ exam (weighting 50%).</p> <p><i>Reassessment:</i> Essay related to the poster and aspect of the patient journey the student to which the student had been originally assigned (2500 words), repeat MCQ, repeat SAQ exam.</p>
Indicative Reading List	<p>Further reading list/materials will be provided during the module.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mukherjee S. (2010) <i>The emperor of all maladies: A biography of cancer</i>. New York: Scribner.2. Skloot R. (2010) <i>The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks</i>. New York: Crown Publishers.3. Goldacre B. (2009) <i>Bad Science. Fourth Estate</i> (Harper Collins Publishers).

Learning Outcomes

Students will be provided with a meaningful, relatable and distinctive learning experience in order to develop the key Trinity graduate attributes.

1. Students will be able to describe the burden of cancer in Ireland and globally, as well as discuss the basic biological nature of cancer, and recognise how basic biological and technological research advances go hand-in-hand with the management of cancer.
2. Students will be enabled to identify and recall the fundamental complexities in answering key questions that relate to the major stages of the cancer patient journey, i.e. the problems faced by clinicians, scientists and the patients themselves in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship of cancer.
3. Students will be enabled to discuss where Ireland and TCD sits within the global cancer landscape, in terms of the provision of cancer management and care, the linkage of cancer care to cancer research, and explain how this will change in the foreseeable future.
4. Through interactive content and self-directed learning students will be enabled with skills in independent thinking and peer-assisted learning.