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Dear ,

Thanks you for asking me to engage in this consultation, unfortunately I have prior commitment on the day so will not be able to attend.

Incidentally that commitment is Chairing a workshop as a first step to developing a research program for the never smoker lung cancer population, now one of the 10 largest cancer population in the UK.

This brings me to my key concern on-going support for NHS research particularly as research input is going to be key in finding effective solutions to tackling the COVID induced cancer backlog.

As you will be aware COVID has a profound impact on cancer research and the group may want to consider

1. Accelerating the reopening of the cancer trials portfolio, the most recent estimate from NIHR is that around 50% of our pre-COVID trials portfolio has been able to fully reopen at this point.
2. Mitigating the impact that COVID has had on (charitable) income that supports research our research programs. The reduced income is reducing patients opportunities to participate in research as some trials in the current portfolio having to close early and reduced funding leading to a smaller number of trials coming onto our national studies portfolio.

Kind regards,



Matthew Hatton

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