

About Us

We are a charity formed of volunteer patients, carers and health professionals who want to help people who are suffering from problems after pelvic radiotherapy – most common in rectal gynaecological bladder and prostate cancer patients.

We work for wider recognition and treatment of pelvic radiation disease within the NHS nationally.

Most of us have suffered from or are still suffering from the late effects of pelvic radiotherapy. We understand what an isolating, frightening and depressing experience this can be. Don't be afraid to come forward and join us. You'll simply be in touch with others who have the same difficulties, and your interest and support will help others with similar problems.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if I have pelvic radiation disease?

You need to be medically assessed to establish the cause of symptoms.

How long after radiotherapy treatment might pelvic radiation disease occur?

Any time following radiotherapy but sometimes side effects aren't evident for months and even years.

Are there other names for pelvic radiation disease?

Yes, the late effects of pelvic radiotherapy or the side effects of pelvic radiotherapy.

Can pelvic radiation disease be treated?

Many symptoms can be improved or cured by life style changes and medication.

My medical team has never heard of pelvic radiation disease - What can I do?

Take the information from the PRDA website to your GP and discuss the possibility of PRD. Ask to be referred to a gastroenterologist, and take the website information with you.

For more information about pelvic radiation disease and the Pelvic Radiation Disease Association please contact:

The Secretary
PRDA
PO Box 602 Epsom
KT17 9JB

E: info@prda.org.uk



www.prda.org.uk

Pelvic Radiation Disease Association is a Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales No. 7998409. Charity No. 1147802



**Cured of Cancer but living with the consequences?
We are here to help.**



www.prda.org.uk

What is Pelvic Radiation Disease?

Bowel/bladder incontinence?

Diarrhoea, urgency, frequency?

Wind, bloating, abdominal pain, rectal bleeding?

Sexual health difficulties?

If any of these symptoms are new since having had pelvic radiotherapy, then you may have pelvic radiation disease

How common is pelvic radiation disease?

In the UK 17,000 patients are treated annually with radiotherapy to the abdomen and pelvis for cancer. The majority develop some bowel upset during treatment but this often settles or remains minor when treatment finishes. About half develop gastro-intestinal symptoms which affect quality of life – ranging from minor inconvenience to being house-bound. Approximately one quarter will develop sexual or urinary problems.

We can help you

Information.

We have the support of gastroenterologists in many parts of the UK experienced in helping patients who have pelvic radiation disease. We can put you in touch with them

Support

We are developing a number of support groups for patients who want friendship and advice. Our groups are professionally supported but informal.

Raising awareness among health professionals

We speak at national and regional conferences and meetings, representing and promoting the interests of everyone that has pelvic radiation disease, and are also represented on various national bodies set up to highlight the interests of patients suffering late effects of pelvic radiotherapy.

We are also working with a growing number of specialists and treatment centres who are committed to helping patients with pelvic radiation disease, as well as promoting awareness within the NHS of the many late effects that can result from pelvic radiotherapy, and of the growing number of effective treatments available.

Our aim is to ensure that everyone with pelvic radiation disease has access to the best possible treatment and health care.

Can you help us?

Our Volunteers play an essential part in helping move the association forward. If you would like to help in any of the ways listed below, please contact us.

Become a supporter

The supporter fee is currently £20 a year but can be waived in case of hardship.

Help with fundraising

We will put you in touch with our voluntary fundraising team to discuss possible fund-raising ideas and how we can support them.

Sign up for our newsletter

We send out a quarterly e- newsletter to all our supporters and friends

Become a support group leader

Professional training paid for by the association can be arranged.

Donations

We rely on donations to fund our activities and service and any donation, however large or small, is always welcome.

You can also donate using PayPal on our website www.prda.org.uk

Support us

I would like to become a regular supporter of the Pelvic Radiation Disease Association (£20 p.a)

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

I would like to make a donation of £ _____

to the Pelvic Radiation Disease Association

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

You can also make a donation using PayPal via our website www.prda.org.uk

Please complete and send with a cheque made payable to PRDA to:

**The Secretary, PRDA
PO Box 602, Epsom KT17 9JB**

Please tick this box.

I am a UK taxpayer and would like PRDA to claim back tax on my membership fee and any donations I have made for the six years prior to this and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise. I understand that I must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount to be reclaimed by the Charity. I am under no obligation to make any further donations and I can cancel at any time.