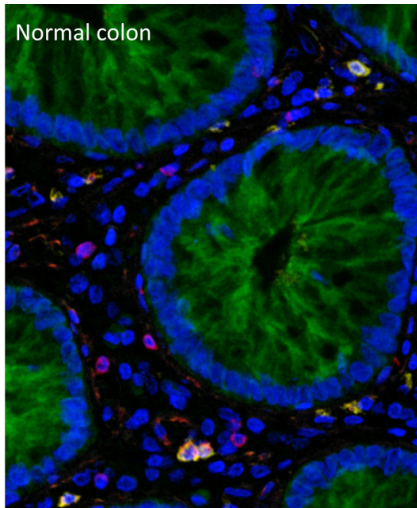


Translational Cancer Pathology Group Newsletter

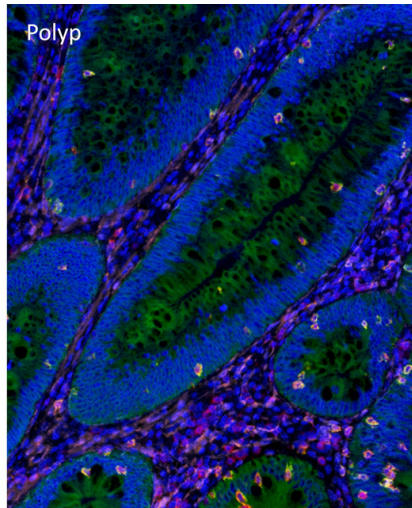


University
of Glasgow

July 2026



Normal colon



Polyp



Colon cancer



Three images showing the differences between normal colon, a polyp, and colon cancer. Each colour represents a different type of cell. Polyps and colon cancer show different numbers of immune cells and changes in how the colon cells are organised. Image credit: Dr Aula Ammar

Welcome to our newsletter, where we'll keep you updated on our research.

Our research is dedicated to making lives better for people living with bowel cancer, both in the short-term and long-term.

Enjoy our newsletter!

The Edwards Lab

Our recent highlights:

- We are excited to be part of a **new £1.75m, five-year research programme**, funded by Cancer Research UK and the Bowelbabe Fund. This programme will investigate how bowel cancer develops from early pre-cancerous growths known as polyps.
- Our amazing **PPIE group** are **co-authors** on a paper investigating what patients and healthcare staff think about surveillance colonoscopies. This work was funded by Bowel Cancer UK.
- Emma and **John (patient advocate)** gave a talk about **our PPIE Group** at the NHS Research Scotland PPI conference in Stirling. Thank you John!



Read an STV news article about our new research programme



Read our paper about surveillance colonoscopy acceptability.



Public Engagement

Aidan (pictured) took to the stage at The Stand with a comedy routine all about the INCISE project! Scan the QR code to watch on YouTube.

Kathryn and Emma attended a Girls in STEM event at Duncanrig Secondary School. They got great questions like "What advice would you give students?" and "What difference is your job making to the world?"

Molly and Emma took part in STEMfest at Glasgow Science Centre, talking about the digestive system and gut health with school students (P4-P7).



Grants & Awards

Amna and Aula received a grant from Bowel Research UK to study how a signalling pathway called Wnt (rhymes with mint!) may cause changes in bowel cancer cells that help them become more mobile and spread.

Emma (pictured) received a travel grant to attend training in Brussels on participatory and citizen-led research.

Aula's entry to the Cancer Research UK Research is Beautiful competition was highly commended! See it on p1.



Conferences

Molly (pictured) gave a talk about our "Immune Squad" workshop at the ScotPEN Annual Gathering in Edinburgh. Scan the QR code to check out our case study.

Emma and Steve spoke at the Bowel Cancer UK Research Together Day in London.

Joanne presented a poster about INCISE at the AACR conference in San Diego.

Amna had a great time at the EACR conference in Budapest.

C gave a talk on tumour buds (small clusters of cancer cells) in bowel cancer at the Spatial Sessions Roadshow in Belfast.

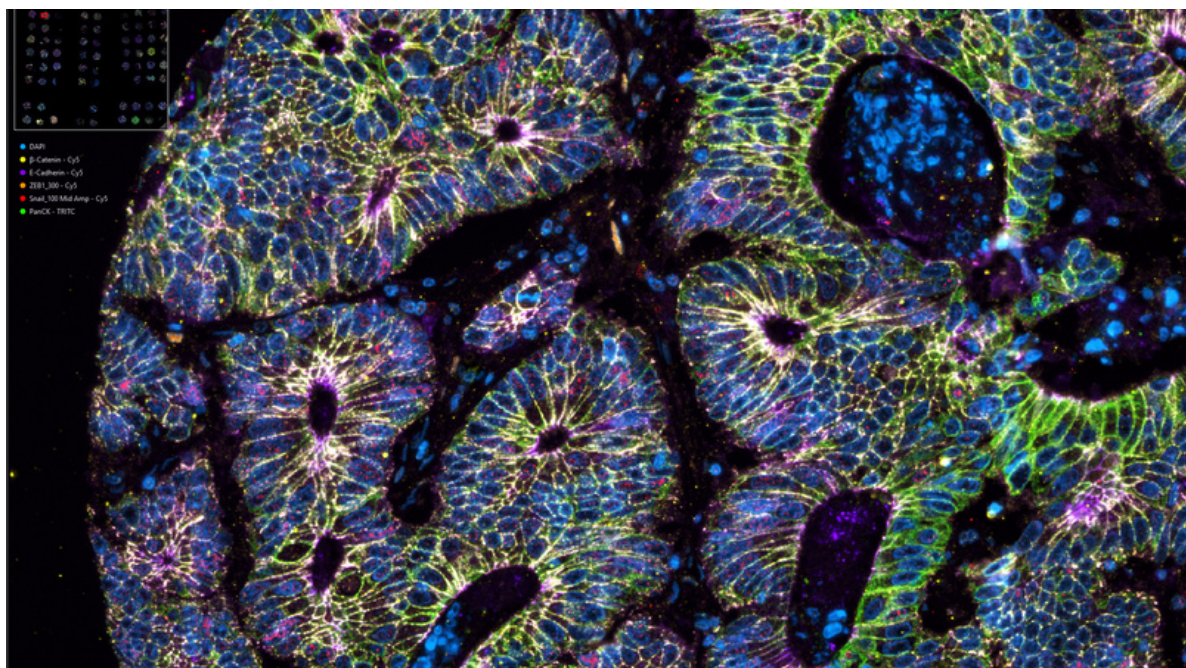


Team Updates

Some members of the Edwards lab got dressed up to celebrate Sara, Gift, Nam, and Mark graduating with their PhDs (pictured). Sara is now working at the Cancer Research UK Scotland Institute, Gift and Nam have returned to Thailand to start their own research labs, and Mark is back working in the clinic.

The whole lab attended the second IMPACT Away Day, a great opportunity to hear project updates and network with the other IMPACT groups.

Congratulations to Amna, C, and Emma on their recent promotions.



Using a method called multiplex immunofluorescence, or “mIF”, we can stain different parts of cells in different colours. This lets us look at different cell features and study how tumour cells change, interact with other cells, and potentially become more aggressive. This helps us understand how cancer behaves and develops and could help find ways to improve treatments. Image credit: Dr Guang-Yu Lian



We would like to thank our funders, past and present, who make our research possible.

Thank you for reading!



Check out our new video series on LinkedIn hearing from researchers.



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