We are

Heart Research UK

We're dedicated to taking on heart disease

Cardiovascular disease kills more than one in four people in the UK, and coronary heart disease is one of the UK's single biggest killers.

Since 1967, we've invested over £27m in lifesaving medical research into the prevention, treatment and cure of heart disease.

We know research works, but there's a lot more that needs to be done.

We've also invested over £2.5m in community projects all over the country, aimed at increasing the heart health of the nation, and our healthy messaging has reached over 4m people already this year.

OUR MISSION

'Through pioneering research and accessible education, we will reduce the number of people developing and dying from heart disease, while improving and extending the lives of those affected.'







CASE STUDY

When Alan was born with a rare heart condition, surgeons had to operate when he was just a few days old, they used everything that research had discovered so far. As he grew up, new or improved treatments rose up to meet him just as his heart needed them. Then, the doctors reached the end of what they could do for him.

His brother Henry says, "Alan was lucky to be born when he was, 20 years earlier he may not have even got through his first years. It gives us hope, there are massive breakthroughs all the time, perhaps in the future someone like him will have a chance."

That's what our research aims to do, give people like Alan a chance.



"Our pioneering and world-class research focuses on delivering benefits to patients as soon as possible. We want to bring advancements made in the lab to those who need it."

HISTORY

Heart Research UK was founded in Leeds in 1967 by eminent cardiovascular surgeon Mr David Watson, with the aim of making heart surgery safer.

Following the death of a young patient after a long heart operation, Mr Watson launched an appeal with the Yorkshire Evening Post to raise funds to research ways to improve the safety of heart surgery.

In the last 50 years, Heart Research UK has funded major breakthroughs, including the invention of pioneering artificial heart valves, funded six of the first eight successful UK heart transplants, and funded the implantation of the world's first permanent artificial heart, given to Peter Houghton, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. Mr Houghton was fitted with a Jarvik 2000 pump, and is to this day a Guinness World Record holder for the 'Longest surviving artificial heart transplant patient.'

Kate Bratt-Farrar, Heart Research UK Chief Executive, said: "Heart Research UK is a forward thinking charity, always chasing the next major breakthrough that will save lives.

"Our pioneering and world-class research focuses on delivering benefits to patients as soon as possible. We want to bring advancements made in the lab to those who need it.

"Almost everyone knows someone who has been affected by heart issues. Together, we are taking on heart disease, the nation's single biggest killer."



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT:

7.4M people are living with cardiovascular disease in the UK





Z.JIVI people are living with coronary heart disease in the UK

Around **1 in 4** people die from cardiovascular disease in the UK **(167,000 deaths)**.

In the 1960s, most babies born in the UK with a heart defect did not survive to their first birthday. **Today, around 8 out of 10 survive to adulthood.**





At least **1 in 150** babies are diagnosed with a heart defect at birth in the UK an average of **13 babies every day.** Healthcare costs relating to CVD are estimated at **£9 billion** each year (£138 per person).

In the 1960s, more than 7 out of 10 heart attacks in the UK were fatal. **Today at least 7 out of 10 people survive a heart attack.**

#1 Coronary heart disease is one of the UK's single biggest killers and caused more than 64,000 deaths in 2018.

If you have any questions please call Isabel on 07927 009763 or email isabel@heartresearch.org.uk

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