

Vaughan Gething AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: VG/0058/19

Mohammad Asghar AM  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

11 December 2019

Dear Oscar,

I refer to the issue you raised with the Trefnydd during the Business Statement on 26 November regarding a study in the European Heart Journal about cardiovascular disease mortality among US cancer patients. Thank you for forwarding a copy of the report, which we have now had time to consider.

The study will no doubt add to current knowledge about the increased cardiovascular risk faced by cancer survivors and is therefore to be welcomed. Cardiologists and oncologists already work closely together in many areas where the toxicity of oncology treatments are known to potentially cause cardiovascular disease. As the study identifies, the increased risk of cardiovascular death among cancer survivors is also associated with shared lifestyle risk factors, such as smoking and obesity.

This all underpins the need for a multi-disciplinary based approach to the treatment of cancer and appropriate management of multi-morbidity in primary care after the acute treatment phase. I am advised that the development of sub-specialities such as cardio-oncology is not yet common across the UK but that there may be opportunities to look at this as part of the development of the new Velindre Cancer Centre and other work being done to improve the outcomes of people living with cancer and heart disease.

Thank you for bringing this report to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AC/AM**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.