

PROFESSOR LESLEY FALLOWFIELD, DBE, BSc, DPhil, FMedSci



Lesley Fallowfield is Professor of Psycho-oncology and Director of the Sussex Health Outcomes Research & Education in Cancer (SHORE-C) group at Brighton & Sussex Medical School. She qualified as a nurse at Guy's Hospital London in 1971, and then completed a BSc in Experimental Psychology. Her doctoral research in psychophysics and neuroscience was conducted at the Universities of Sussex and Cambridge. Whilst a senior lecturer in health psychology at the Royal London Medical College, she gained a career development fellowship and major programme grants from the Cancer Research Campaign (now CRUK). In 1991 she became Director of a Psychosocial Oncology Group and was awarded a personal Chair in Psycho-oncology from University College London in 1997. Her research interests are wide and include development of patient reported outcome measures many of which have been used in major international clinical trials of cancer therapy. Her team also developed evidence based communication skills training programmes designed to aid HCPs discussing complex information with patients and to assist in patients' understanding about randomised and Phase I trials. She has trained facilitators worldwide to run these training workshops. Professor Fallowfield holds many research grants, (especially in breast cancer) has written >450 papers, many book chapters and 3 text books. She lectures and runs training workshops throughout the world in psychosocial oncology, quality of life assessment and communication skills. She also serves on the scientific boards of many cancer charities and international cancer guidelines committees. Her expertise in these fields has resulted in many prestigious eponymous lectures, awards and visiting professorships. In 2008 she was made a Fellow of the UK Academy of Medical Sciences and in 2016 a Dame Commander of the British Empire. Professor Fallowfield lives in Brighton and has 2 adult children one is a Professor of hepatology, the other leads a community paediatric nursing team.