



WELLBEING  
OF WOMEN



## Remembering Wellbeing of Women in your Will

Invest in the future of women's health, today

As an obstetrician and gynaecologist, women's health is my life's work. During my time as President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists we spearheaded the Better for Women campaign to develop a national women's health strategy. In fact, throughout my career I have fought to improve women's healthcare and to empower women to make the best possible choices when it comes to their health.



This is at the very heart of what we do at Wellbeing of Women.

Wellbeing of Women's work is so vital because research into women's reproductive and gynaecological health is still chronically underfunded and overlooked. I received a Wellbeing of Women grant early on in my career and I know from personal experience the value that research contributes to clinical practice and sustainable improvements in women's health.

Thank you for taking the time to read this booklet. I hope you will consider leaving a gift in your will to Wellbeing of Women. To do so is a wonderfully worthwhile means of supporting women's health for future generations.

Meaningful change is never quick and we know that it could be a long journey to many effective treatments and cures. By leaving a gift in your will to Wellbeing of Women you will be joining us on that journey and ensuring progress happens as rapidly as humanly possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Regan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Professor Dame Lesley Regan, DBE**  
Chair of Trustees

# Safeguarding the future health of women, girls & babies

Wellbeing of Women's mission is to save and change the lives of women, girls and babies.

Women make up 52% of the population and their health and physical and mental wellbeing is key to the health of society as a whole. However, women's health is routinely overlooked and underfunded with only 2.1% of publicly funded research dedicated to women's reproductive health and childbirth.

Despite progress:

- 15 BABIES DIE JUST BEFORE, DURING OR AFTER BIRTH EVERY DAY IN THE UK
- CASES OF ENDOMETRIAL CANCER HAVE INCREASED BY 65% IN THE LAST 4 DECADES
- 1.5 MILLION WOMEN IN THE UK SUFFER THE CHRONIC PAIN OF ENDOMETRIOSIS
- 1/3 OF WOMEN HAVE EXPERIENCED SEVERE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SYMPTOMS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

By investing in cutting-edge research today, Wellbeing of Women aims to find tomorrow's cures, treatments and preventions across the breadth of reproductive and gynaecological health. Only by investing in pioneering research can it ensure women, girls and babies everywhere are diagnosed and treated for life-changing illnesses before it's too late.

**£65m**

Towards vital health research

**57 years**

Of saving and changing lives

**560**

Research projects

**Only 1**

UK charity funding all women's reproductive and gynaecological health



There will be no woman alive today that has not in one way or another benefited from the work of Wellbeing of Women."

Sir Marcus Setchell, Honorary President and former Royal Gynaecologist

Research is focussed on three key areas: pregnancy and childbirth, gynaecological cancers, and wellbeing issues. This research aims to provide the body of evidence needed to make the big medical breakthroughs in women's reproductive health as well as training the next generation of specialists to take research in this area forward in the future.



### Pregnancy and birth complications

Including miscarriage, stillbirth, premature birth and fertility



### Gynaecological cancers

Cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, vaginal cancer, vulval cancer and womb cancer



### Wellbeing issues

Including endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome, menopause, incontinence and other health areas

Wellbeing of Women's Research Advisory Committee is made up of top researchers and clinicians and follows a rigorous selection process to choose the most promising research to address the areas of greatest unmet need in women's health care.

## Aoife's story

Following her cervical screening that was HPV positive, Aoife 27, was diagnosed with advanced cervical cancer. Aoife was understandably very frightened. She had a hysterectomy and is undergoing chemotherapy to reduce the risk of recurrence to 10%. Her recovery is slow but thankfully her cancer was detected in time.



Wellbeing of Women's research helped discover the link between HPV and cervical cancer, which led the way to the cervical screening we are so familiar with today. Without this, Aoife's cancer may not have been discovered until it was too late. It also led to the HPV school vaccination programme, meaning young women today and future generations are protected from HPV, significantly reducing the number of cases of cervical cancer.

Over the past 56 years, Wellbeing of Women's research has contributed to many of the tests and treatments that now form part of everyday clinical practice, saving the lives of countless women and babies.

- 1964 PROFESSOR WILL NIXON ESTABLISHED WHAT WILL LATER BECOME WELLBEING OF WOMEN
- 1972 ESTABLISHED THE IMPORTANCE OF TAKING FOLIC ACID DURING PREGNANCY
- 1978 ESTABLISHED THE USE OF LASER TREATMENT TO REMOVE ABNORMAL CELLS IN THE CERVIX INSTEAD OF CUTTING OUT THE TISSUE
- 1991 BEGAN RESEARCH THAT LEADS TO THE DISCOVERY OF THE LINK BETWEEN HPV AND CERVICAL CANCER
- 2009 CREATED THE BABY BIO BANK, 7000 TISSUE SAMPLES FROM 'TRIOS' CONSISTING OF A MOTHER, FATHER AND BABY, USED FOR BIRTH COMPLICATIONS RESEARCH.
- 2015 ESTABLISHED 6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL HUB, THE HARRIS-WELLBEING PRETERM BIRTH CENTRE TO AID RESEARCH INTO PREMATURE BIRTH.
- 2019 DISCOVERED A POTENTIAL NON-SURGICAL, NON-HORMONAL TREATMENT FOR ENDOMETRIOSIS

## Key facts

**60,000**

**babies are born prematurely every year in the UK**

**1/2**

**of women with endometriosis have felt suicidal**

**21,000**

**women are diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer every year in the UK**

**1 in 4**

**pregnancies end in miscarriage**

**2.1%**

**is the percentage of all UK public funding that goes into pregnancy and women's reproductive health – which is why your support could make all the difference!**

**25%**

**of women experience debilitating heavy menstrual bleeding during their reproductive years**

# Leave a lasting legacy

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Wellbeing of Women relies on donations to fund much needed research into women's health. Leaving a legacy to Wellbeing of Women is a simple but enduring way to continue your support and ensure a more certain future for the health of women, girls and babies. We exist to help address the gender bias evident in the UK healthcare system. This may take years.

A legacy is a wonderful way of telling the world what you were passionate about, whilst giving hope to families everywhere.

## Woon's story

"Nothing prepares you for infertility. Some days I do not know how I get through it. I think I suffered from a bout of depression and most definitely all the stages of grief. New treatments for infertility, fibroids and endometriosis would change many people's lives immensely."



Dr Jane Cleal's research at the University of Southampton aims to understand why some women struggle to become pregnant or experience miscarriage. She and her team are looking at the differences between 'receptive' and 'unreceptive' womb lining to find better ways of predicting whether a woman will successfully conceive.

The project will bring doctors and researchers one step closer to providing a more effective way to screen, diagnose and treat women with difficulties in conceiving and maintaining their pregnancy, giving hope to thousands of women who struggle to have the family they dream of.



"This work will provide much needed targets for interventions to improve pregnancy outcomes. Our work will help the 1 in 3 couples in the UK with subfertility."

# Remembering Wellbeing of Women in your will

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When the time is right for you and after taking care of your loved ones, we ask that you consider leaving a gift to Wellbeing of Women in your will. You can include a legacy when you write your will or add it as a codicil to your existing will.

Although this is an easy process we strongly advise you to seek professional legal advice to ensure your wishes are recorded in a legally binding way. It is easy to alter your will should your circumstances change. There are several ways you can remember Wellbeing of Women in your will and your solicitor will be able to guide you to the right way for you.

You can leave a specific amount; assets such as property or shares; or a residuary legacy which is what remains of your estate after personal commitments are honoured, or a percentage thereof. For a confidential discussion about your options and how your legacy will be used to drive forward women's health **please call our Senior Philanthropy Manager, Caroline Christensen on 020 3697 6347.**

If you do kindly choose to leave a legacy to Wellbeing of Women, we suggest you use the following wording when making or amending your will:

"I give to Wellbeing of Women, of 10-18 Union Street, London SE1 1SZ, registered charity number 239381 (England & Wales) SC042856 (Scotland), [\_\_\_\_\_% of my estate] or [the sum of £\_\_\_\_\_], to be used for general charitable purposes absolutely and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge."

Should you or your solicitor require any further information regarding wording, then **please contact Caroline Christensen on 020 3697 6347 or [cchristensen@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk](mailto:cchristensen@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk).**

Any gift you can leave, however big or small, will make a tangible difference to the health of future generations of women by funding groundbreaking research.



Dr David Jeevan, University of Birmingham, is developing an early screening test for ovarian cancer

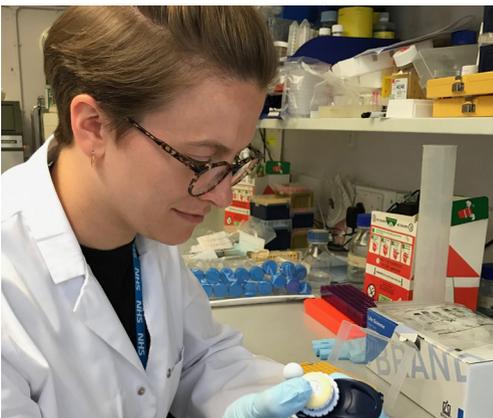
### Key Information

The most important information to include is our name, address and registered charity number. That way, you can be sure your gift gets to the right place.

The following key information is required by your solicitor for the preparation of your will:

**Wellbeing of Women**  
10-18 Union Street  
SE1 1SZ

**Registered Charity No.: England & Wales (239281), Scotland (SC042856)**



Dr Emily Cornish, University College London, is investigating three placental diseases that cause recurrent miscarriage, stillbirth, fetal growth restriction and preterm birth.

# The Good Will Partnership

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Wellbeing of Women is an official charity partner of The Goodwill Partnership, the largest distributor of home-visit, solicitor-provided wills in England and Wales.

Appointments can be made to have your will drawn up from the comfort of your own home or over the phone. All wills are checked by a panel of solicitors who can also provide legal advice and storage of your signed will.

Wellbeing of Women supporters can access The Goodwill Partnership's service at a low, fixed rate, with no obligation to leave a gift to charity in your will.

Find out more about the Goodwill Partnership or book an appointment at [www.thegoodwillpartnership.co.uk/Wellbeing-of-Women/](http://www.thegoodwillpartnership.co.uk/Wellbeing-of-Women/)

the  
**Goodwill**  
Partnership

A 34 week old premature baby in an incubator - our research aims to decrease the likelihood of preterm birth and improve the care of mothers and their babies.



# Championing Women's Health Together

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After you have completed the formalities to include Wellbeing of Women as a beneficiary in your will, please let us know. You can contact our Senior Philanthropy Manager, Caroline Christensen on **020 3697 6347** or [cchristensen@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk](mailto:cchristensen@wellbeingofwomen.org.uk). You need only tell us as much information as you wish and it does not change your right to amend or update your wishes if circumstances change.

Knowing of your legacy allows us to plan our future distribution of research funds with more confidence. It also ensures we can thank you for your donation in person, on behalf of current and future generations of women.

You will have the satisfaction of knowing you will help Wellbeing of Women continue in our mission to safeguard the future of women, girls and babies.

Treatments we take for granted today – from the HPV vaccine to taking folic acid during pregnancy – exist thanks to Wellbeing of Women's research, and you can be confident that your gift in your will will help us find the breakthroughs of tomorrow.

**Your commitment now will be a lasting legacy for the future.**





# WELLBEING OF WOMEN

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