

CARDIAC RISK IN THE YOUNG

CRY was a charity set up in 1995 that is dedicated to raising awareness of sudden cardiac death in apparently fit and healthy young (under 35) people; identifying and disseminating information on the most common conditions that could result in young sudden cardiac death, offering screening and support to those who have suffered a tragedy; and through our *Surgery Supporters Club* helping those who have been identified with a potentially life-threatening condition and had an ICD, Pacemaker, or ablation surgery.

In 9 years CRY has developed a proactive screening programme now operated through our *Centre for Sports Cardiology* based at the Olympic Medical Institute; offers support through our team of trained Bereavement Supporters funded by a grant from the Department of Health; *funds a CRY Research Fellow and Research* gained through field based data collected from our screening programme; and *funds machinery* donated to doctor's surgeries and hospitals in memory of a young person, which has successfully placed over £400,000 of cardiac machinery. CRY's literature and dynamic website www.c-r-y.org.uk offers information written by our experts on the causes of young sudden cardiac death of which we have identified the 11 most common conditions.

Most recently the Cardiac Risk in the Young (Screening) Bill, a Private Member's Bill brought to the House by Dari Taylor MP for Stockton South, has afforded CRY the most critically important opportunity for progress in our short history. It achieved recognition for our aims in the House by identifying a gap in service provision resulting in provoking consultation for a new chapter being written for the National Service Framework that will address the issue of young sudden cardiac death and the case for screening.

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