

**Press release**  
**25 May 2017**

**As latest statistics on cancer are released, GRiD urges employers to look at Group Risk for support**

- In 2015 there were almost 300,000 cancers registered in England\*
- Approximately 822 per day
- Breast (15.4%), prostate (13.4%), lung (12.5%) and colorectal (11.6%) cancer continue to account for over half of the malignant cancer registrations

**Katharine Moxham, spokesperson for GRiD said:** "Cancer continues to be the number one\*\* cause of claim under all three Group Risk products (employer-sponsored life assurance, income protection and critical illness). Group Risk benefits absolutely come into their own when it comes to supporting employees with cancer. Support includes financial pay outs - at a time when those diagnosed have other things on their mind - providing much-needed relief from financial pressures. In 2016 the industry paid out benefits for more than 6,000 cancer sufferers - either to those newly diagnosed with cancer or to the families of those not fortunate enough to survive this dreadful disease. Just as importantly, Group Risk providers give a lot of additional support, including fast-track access to counselling and second medical opinion services that can be a great help to cancer sufferers and their families.

"When you hear first-hand from those that benefit from their group risk insurance, both financially and emotionally, it really brings the products to life. Offering them within employee benefit packages isn't just a tick-box exercise, it can mean the difference between someone being financially and emotionally supported or not.

"Employers that get the best appreciation and take-up of their group risk benefits are those that explain the support that's available within the products."

- Ends -

\*<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/cancerregistrationstatisticsengland/2015>

\*\* GRiD claims survey 2017

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## **Notes for editors**

### **About GRiD**

Group Risk Development (GRiD) is the industry body for the group risk protection sector, promoting the value to UK businesses of providing financial protection for their staff, enhancing their wellbeing and improving employee engagement. Our membership includes insurers, reinsurers and intermediaries who have a collective wealth of experience built over years of operating in the group risk protection market. Under the chairmanship of Lee Lovett, CEO of Ellipse, GRiD aims to promote group risk through a collective voice to Government, policymakers, stakeholders and employers.

GRiD works with government departments and regulators involved in legislation and regulation affecting group risk benefits, and with other organisations involved in the benefits and financial protection arenas. GRiD also seeks to enhance the industry's standing by encouraging best practice and by participating in industry-wide initiatives such as the professional qualification in group risk managed jointly with the Chartered Insurance Institute.

GRiD's media activity aims to generate a wider awareness and understanding of group risk products and their benefits for employers and employees.

GRiD's dedicated spokesperson, Katharine Moxham, provides expert media comment on a full range of group risk issues.

[www.grouprisk.org.uk](http://www.grouprisk.org.uk)

Follow Katharine Moxham on Twitter @KMoxham