The GAP5 project is made up of two sub-projects. The first is a translational research project, which aims to improve our understanding of why some men with testicular cancer relapse (i.e., their cancer comes back) after primary therapy while other men are cured. The project will also unearth the cellular mechanisms of relapse, which until now have been relatively poorly understood. The second project is the financial support of the TIGER trial in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. The TIGER trial is a large, complex, multinational clinical trial, which intends to answer critical questions to determine the best treatment for men who have been treated for testicular cancer and for whom the cancer has relapsed.

Understanding why the current treatments are so effective for a large proportion of men treated for testicular cancer and not for others has the potential to identify better treatment targets or develop better treatment regimens. The goal of the TIGER trial is to determine what the most effective treatment is for men who have been treated already, and for whom the cancer has returned. It is widely agreed that TIGER is the single most important study to be conducted for men with testicular cancer.

The translational research project involves lead investigators and clinicians who are from the USA, UK, Australia, Canada, The Netherlands, and Denmark. This team are working collaboratively to design the project detail. The TIGER trial is funded by the National Cancer Institute in the USA and Canada, as well as by national research bodies in France, UK, and Italy. The Movember Foundation's role is to provide funding to the sponsors of the study in Europe (a group called EORTC) and Australia (a group called ANZUP) so that the trial can recruit patients in these countries. Without the Movember Foundation’s support to allow European and Australian hospitals to recruit patients, this trial would likely have never been launched in any country.

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The translational research project team are continuing to develop the proposal. This involves regular teleconferences across all 6 countries and use of Promoveo to discuss and share ideas.

The first patient was recruited to the trial in late 2015 in the US and the first European site in Belgium was opened in January of 2016.

420 patients will be recruited globally, and the Movember Foundation is supporting the recruitment of 252 of them.

Paul Villanti, Executive Director, Programs says: “As a rare cancer, the issue of men who not only face a diagnosis of testicular cancer, but for whom the cancer returns can only be addressed by global efforts. The Movember Foundation’s unique global position and fundraising efforts are perfectly placed to help these men by connecting researchers across the globe to work together to better understand the problem of recurring testicular cancer.”