Glioblastoma (GBM):

A tumour that arises from the astrocytes – the star-shaped cells that make up the ‘glue-like’ or supportive tissue of the brain.

GBM is a rare cancer and it is the most aggressive form of brain cancer.

Two out of 100,000 people in the world are diagnosed with GBM every year. This is approximately two times the capacity of the Athens Olympic stadium in Greece.

The average age at diagnosis is 64 years.

GBM often develops in a region of the brain known as the cerebrum which controls some of the most advanced processes.

When GBM progresses and invades normal brain tissue, it further impacts on the brain’s ability to control these processes.

Glioblastoma progresses rapidly and patients can deteriorate quickly.

Glioblastoma has a 5-year survival rate of less than 10%.

Disease progression may lead to symptoms that can have significant negative impact on a patients’ quality of life and ability to carry out day to day tasks.

Current treatment options for GBM are very limited. Generally, patients’ tumours get worse within the first 6 months of initial therapy and on average, patients do not survive for more than 15 months following diagnosis.

Slowing or preventing tumour growth (progression) is a key treatment goal in GBM as it may help to maintain an optimal quality of life for patients.