

PRESS RELEASE

New European effort aims to fund fresh research into glioblastoma, the brain cancer that has defied progress for twenty years

CureGBM, a British clinical stage company founded by Richard Wakefield after he and his sister lost their father to glioblastoma, is working to fund research into sonodynamic therapy, a new approach to one of the hardest brain cancers to treat.

LONDON, 26 August 2026. Glioblastoma is one of the most aggressive brain cancers there is, and one of the hardest diagnoses in medicine to deliver. Despite decades of research, the standard of care has barely changed in twenty years. Patients are still offered, in essence, what patients were offered two decades ago.

For most patients, treatment involves surgery, radiotherapy and a chemotherapy treatment known as temozolomide (TMZ), yet the tumour almost always returns. Survival is still measured in months rather than years.

According to data highlighted by the charity Brain Tumour Research, brain tumours kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer.

CureGBM, a British company, was founded to help change that. The idea came from brother and sister Richard Wakefield and Jane Oberholzer, who lost their own father to glioblastoma. That experience, of sitting with someone you love through a diagnosis like this and seeing how little there was to offer, is what led them to act. Richard founded the company, bringing substantial experience from a career in financial services.

The company's aim is to bring a new approach called sonodynamic therapy into properly designed clinical research. Sonodynamic therapy does not require surgery and can, in principle, be repeated, which matters for a disease that so often returns. Whether it can help patients is an open question, and answering it rigorously is precisely the work CureGBM was founded to fund. The company intends to support a European clinical trial, which it hopes to run at a leading European neurosurgical centre.

Very little that is genuinely new has reached glioblastoma patients in a generation. This is a rare example of a different approach being pursued seriously by a small British company rather than a large pharmaceutical one.

Richard Wakefield said:

We started CureGBM because we watched our father run out of options. It's unacceptable that families face the same options today that they did two decades ago. Our aim is simple: to give a genuinely new approach a proper, rigorous test. We do not yet have the answers, and that is exactly why this research needs to happen.

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About sonodynamic therapy

Sonodynamic therapy is an investigational treatment. It has not been approved, and no claims are made here about its effectiveness. This release concerns the unmet need in glioblastoma and the company's intention to fund research, not clinical outcomes.

About CureGBM

Cure GBM Ltd is a clinical stage British company working to bring a new approach to glioblastoma treatment into properly designed clinical research. It was founded by Richard Wakefield after he and his sister Jane Oberholzer lost their father to glioblastoma.

Images

Images of Richard Wakefield and Jane Oberholzer can be found on the CureGBM website. Please credit CureGBM.

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