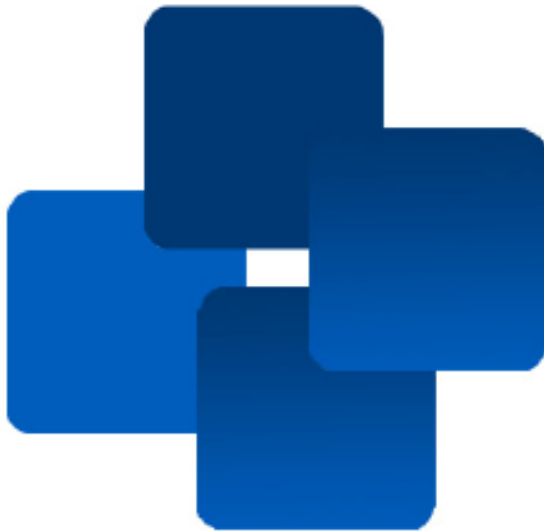


The Haematology Cancer Service

Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)

Cancer Services

Information for Patients



Introduction

This leaflet contains information about the haematology service and the multidisciplinary team who will be looking after you. It has been written to help you understand more about the services available to you.

What is a multidisciplinary team? (MDT)

A multidisciplinary team is a specialist team of health professionals who, together with you and your consultant, decide your diagnosis, care and treatment. The consultant looking after you will take responsibility for your care. The team meet weekly to review and discuss a suspected or diagnosed cancer. Your treatment plan will be discussed at the multidisciplinary meeting.

Members of the multidisciplinary team

Haemato-oncologist

A consultant oncologist specialises in treating cancer with chemotherapy (anti-cancer drugs). Chemotherapy may be given at the Lister Hospital or the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. If you need to have radiotherapy (X-rays that destroy cancer cells), this is usually given at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

If you are concerned about receiving chemotherapy or radiotherapy at a hospital not local to you, please discuss this with your consultant or key worker.

Radiologist

A consultant radiologist specialises in diagnosing cancer from tests such as CT scans and X-rays. These tests and X-rays may be done at your local hospital or the Lister Hospital.

Histopathologist

A consultant histopathologist specialises in determining the type of cancer you may have from the tissue samples taken. This is normally at the Lister Hospital. The results will be discussed by the MDT and also sent to your GP.

Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)

A clinical nurse specialist provides information, advice and support during your diagnosis and treatment and is usually your 'key worker' during treatment at the hospital. They will be your main point of contact.

Clinical support nurse

The clinical support nurse works with the clinical nurse specialist to support you during and after your diagnosis and treatment and may also be your key worker at the hospital.

Research nurse

A research nurse supports patients taking part in clinical trials. If appropriate you may be referred to a research nurse for information about a clinical trial.

Chemotherapy nurse

The chemotherapy nurse specialises in giving chemotherapy, managing its side effects and supporting you through your treatment.

Multidisciplinary team patient pathway facilitator

A patient pathway facilitator is responsible for organising the MDT meeting and is not involved in direct patient contact. In the event of any queries please contact your consultant's secretary.

Spiritual/pastoral care team

The spiritual/pastoral care team is available to listen and support patients and their relatives. You can request this service via your CNS or, if you are an inpatient at the Lister hospital, via the ward.

Other members of the MDT

You may be referred to other members of the multidisciplinary team during your stay at the Lister Hospital. This will depend on your individual needs and symptoms.

Other members of the team include palliative care.

What can you expect from the multidisciplinary team?

The team will recommend and agree a treatment plan. This will be discussed with you at your next outpatient appointment. You can request a second opinion about your diagnosis, the recommended treatment plan and care if you wish.

You will be offered access to a CNS and you will be given information about your care and the treatment, as well as information about local and national support services.

The team will regularly review your case and you will have the opportunity to discuss your progress.

Your GP will be kept up to date with your care and treatment.



What is a key worker?

A key worker is a member of the multidisciplinary team you can contact to talk about your care/treatment or other matters. Your key worker can be any member of the team, but is usually the CNS, who will communicate with other services involved in your care and with the treating hospital.

Treatment


Your key worker will discuss with you what the MDT feel is the right treatment for you and how you feel about the treatment plan. Please discuss any questions or concerns with your key worker.

Who should I contact for advice and support?

During normal working hours, please contact your key worker or CNS. Outside normal working hours, please contact your GP or NHS 111.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

This is a confidential help and support service for patients who use our hospitals. If you have a particular concern and would like to discuss this outside your team, please call PALS on **01438 285811**.





Will my confidentiality be protected?

Yes. All information regarding your tests, diagnosis and treatment plan will be treated in a confidential manner. Only members of the multidisciplinary team and other healthcare professionals involved in your care, will have access to information about your diagnosis and treatment.

Will data about me be protected?

Yes. Information about your personal details is held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.


Where can I get more information?

For information about your cancer and its treatment please contact your key worker.

Further help and support

If you would like further information and support, please come to the Macmillan Information & Support Centre, located near the main entrance at the Lister Hospital, or telephone **01438 284657** or **0755 443 6746**.

If you would like information about other issues, please see contact numbers on the back of this leaflet.



Useful Contact Information

Lister Hospital	01438 314333
The New QEII / Outpatient	01438 314333
Mount Vernon Cancer Centre	020 3826 2020
University College Hospital	0845 155 5000
	or 020 3456 7890
Consultant Secretary (Lister)	01438 286112
Consultant Secretary (New QEII/Hertford)	01707 228356
Haematology Clinical Nurse Specialist	01438 284294
	or 07887 650801
Haematology Support Nurse:	01438 284294
	or 07887 650801

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