

Haematology Multidisciplinary Team Haematology Cancers



Haematology Department

Haematology MDT – Haematological Cancers

Information booklet for:

Name:

Hospital Number:

DOB:

Address:

Postcode:

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Introduction

You have been given this booklet because you have been found to have a haematological cancer or condition.

- The booklet provides information about:
- Haematological cancers
- The multidisciplinary team organising your care
- Your diagnosis and treatment plan
- Sources of information
- Contact details

What are Haematological Cancers?

The term 'haematological cancers' includes:

- cancers which originate in bone marrow such as leukaemias and myeloma
- cancers of the lymph system of lymph glands such as the lymphomas
- myeloproliferative disorders and myelodysplasia

Patients with these types of cancers are usually treated by haematologists (blood specialists) or clinical oncologists (cancer specialists) with support from a multidisciplinary team.

Who Are the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)?

Good clinical care requires good team work. Your diagnosis and treatment plan will be discussed by members of a team who are experienced in your type of cancer. Team members are dealing with patients with cancer and pre-cancerous conditions of the blood forming tissues (bone marrow and lymph system) on a regular basis. By meeting as a team we draw on the individuals' special skills and knowledge to produce the best plan of management.

The team is composed of a number of people with differing skills and professional backgrounds. This is why it is called a multidisciplinary team. Similar teams exist for all the major cancer types.

The multidisciplinary team which will guide your treatment is shown in the table on the next page.

Role	Main Expertise
Haematologists Dr de Vos Dr L Hendry Dr E Grey-Davies Dr P Alton* Dr J Bosworth* Dr A Laurie** Dr R Mazumdar** Dr S Murali** Specialist Registrars	Overall responsibility for medical care, management plan and treatment supervision. Also carry out and examine bone marrow biopsies.
Haematology Nurse Samantha Darby & Sandy Kirk Lucy Copley* Sally Monaghan**	Key Worker functions (see next page).
Clinical Oncologists Dr S Whitaker Dr V Ezhil** Specialist Registrars	Overall responsibility for medical care, management plan and treatment supervision. Also advises on, and plans details of, radiotherapy treatments.
Histopathologists Dr I Bagwan Dr C Smith*	Examine tissue biopsies to make the diagnosis of cancer.
Imaging Specialist Dr J Crawshaw Dr V Prakesh**	Review x-rays and scans to assess spread of cancer. Also carry out deep tissue biopsies in some cases.
Pharmacists Man-Chie Chow Ms Nirmala Karanjeet*	Supervise provision of chemotherapy and other drugs used in treatment of cancer.
Research Nurses Daniel Jennings Carrie Burgess*	Management of patients who are recruited to participate in clinical trials.
Dietitian Susan Hendry	Assessment of dietary intake.
MDT Co-ordinators Barbara Bailey Clare Bell*	Co-ordinate data gathering and meetings of the MDT.

*Frimley Park Hospital staff

**Ashford and St Peter's Hospital's staff

Who is your Key Worker?

The Key Worker is a 'person who, with the patient's consent and agreement, takes a key role in co-ordinating the patient's care and promoting continuity, ensuring the patient knows who to access for information and advice', National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE, 2004).

Your key worker is usually the specialist nurse and acts as a point of contact for you and your family throughout your treatment.

There are other members of staff who will be working closely with you, for example, medical staff, ward staff, clinic staff, day unit staff, occupational therapists, physiotherapist, dietician and social workers.

What is the purpose of the MDT?

The purpose of the MDT is to plan treatments for patients diagnosed with a haematological condition. The team meets every week – the case history, scans, x-rays, bone marrow results and other test results are reviewed for each patient and discussed by the whole MDT. This allows the team to recommend an individualised treatment plan, which for some patients may mean monitoring only. The benefit of the MDT is that all specialists are together, the different treatment options are discussed and a final decision is then made by the team.

When will I be told of the outcome of the MDT?

Once your care has been discussed, you will usually have a clinic appointment made for you where you will be informed of the treatment plan decision. Your GP will also be informed of the MDT decision. You will still have the opportunity to discuss this decision with your doctor or nurse.

Do I have to accept the treatment plan?

No. The decision to accept the treatment offered, or refuse it, is yours. Your consent is required before any treatment starts. It is, however, the treatment that the specialists think would be most appropriate for you. If at any time you have more questions about your treatment you are most welcome to ask them, and we will put you in touch with the most relevant person to answer your question for you.

You will be given the contact details of your key worker; this is the first person to contact.

Samantha Darby or Sandy Kirk

Haematology Nurse

Telephone: 01483 571122 **ext:** 6365

Email: samantha.darby1@nhs.net

sandy.kirk@nhs.net

Your Consultant is: _____

Telephone: _____

Your key worker is: _____

Form completed by: _____

Date completed: _____

Confidential record of your diagnosis and treatment options

Your doctor will give you additional information as it becomes available.
The name of your type of cancer is:

The following treatment options have been discussed with you:

- Monitoring only**, without specific treatment ('wait and see' approach).
- Supportive treatment** – e.g. blood transfusions, antibiotics, pain killers.
- Radiotherapy** – further information will be provided by the Radiotherapy team.
- Chemotherapy** cycles
of
- Immunotherapy** cycles
of
- Other treatments**

Sources of additional information and support (see table on page 12)

We recommend Macmillan Cancer Support (MCS) as a good source of information.

MCS provides information on:

- various types of cancer
- general topics to do with living with cancer e.g. diet and hair loss
- general information on the types of treatments available e.g. chemotherapy, radiotherapy and immunotherapy
- a telephone counselling services for patients and relatives
- detailed information on individual cancer drugs

MCS information may be accessed in a number of ways:

- by post or telephone
- by visiting their website **www.macmillan.org.uk**
- from the Fountain Centre in the St Luke's Cancer Centre which keeps up to date copies of many of the booklets
- Individual drug information will be provided by the Clinical Nurse Specialist/Key Worker before you start chemotherapy

Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, Myeloma UK, The Lymphoma Association and MPN Voice websites are a good source of more detailed technical information about individual diseases.

Contact details for these and other organizations are given in the table at the end of this booklet

Additional information

If you require more in depth information on a specific aspect of your cancer please ask your consultant or another member of your care team.

Examples include details of the results of your investigations, detailed description of your treatment plan ('regimen' or 'protocol').

The Fountain Centre

The Fountain Centre in the St Luke's Cancer Centre provides access to a wide range of information, support services and complementary therapies. Please read their brochure and visit the centre.

Telephone: 01483 406618, www.fountaincancersupport.com

The Beacon Service

The Beacon Service located in the grounds of the Royal Surrey County Hospital provides help for people affected by cancer and other life-changing illnesses.

Telephone: 01483 783400, www.thebeaconservice.org.uk/centre.html

Coming to terms with cancer

We appreciate that you may feel overwhelmed or isolated when first told that you have cancer. However, over time the vast majority of patients come to terms with their diagnosis and feel able to get on with their day to day life. Individuals and relatives vary greatly as to how much support they require to come to terms with the diagnosis.

Emotional support usually comes from those closest to you; a partner, parent or close friend but we also encourage you to talk to us about your feelings.

Psychological support can be provided by trained counsellors available through the St Luke's Cancer Centre.

Financial advice

Your key worker can provide information on how to access grants and allowances. Macmillan Cancer Support can also help. (see page 12)

Use of patient information to provide specialist clinical care

The delivery of your care in the modern NHS may involve a range of specialist services based in different health organisations. A number of clinical networks (groups of specialists working together) have been established to improve communications between these organisations and to provide a team approach to the delivery of your care.

All the specialists involved with your care want to ensure that the services offered to patients are of the highest quality. We therefore need to prepare regular reports based on information collected about your diagnosis and treatment from the various health organisations involved with your care. These reports are used to review waiting times, monitor quality and plan services across the clinical networks for which we are responsible.

Although it will be necessary to identify individual patients when sharing information, any reports produced will not include details that will identify you personally. The information collected about you will usually be held

on a clinical network computer system. This information will be kept secure and will only be accessed by authorised staff on a strictly 'need to know' basis.

The law protects your rights to confidentiality and all of the organisations involved in your care are required to keep your information confidential at all times. If you would like more details on how your information is used or if, for any reason, you do not wish to have your information used as described here, please talk to a health professional involved with your care.

Useful telephone numbers

Royal Surrey County Hospital	01483 571122
Haematology Secretary (Dr Hendry & Dr de Vos)	01483 571122 ext 4488
Haematology Secretary (Dr Grey-Davies)	01483 571122 ext 4489
CNS Haemato-Oncology Samantha Darby or Sandy Kirk	01483 571122 ext 6365
Dietitian Susan Hendry	01483 464119
Oncology Ward Onslow	01483 406858
Chilworth Day Unit	01483 464897
Fountain Centre (Therapy Bookings)	01483 406618 01483 406629
Macmillan Cancer Support	0808 808 0000
Leukaemia Care Line	0207 405 0101
Myeloma UK	0800 980 3332
Lymphoma Association	0808 808 5555

Sources of additional information and support

Name	Contact details	How it can help
Macmillan Cancer Support	89 Albert Embankment, London, SE1 7UQ. Tel: 020 7840 7840 www.macmillan.org.uk	A UK charity that works to provide support and information for people living with cancer
The Lymphoma Association	PO Box 386, Aylesbury, HP20 2GA. Tel: 0808 808 5555 www.lymphoma.org.uk	Provides information and support for patients with lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease
Myeloma UK	Broughton House 31 Dunedin Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4JG. Tel: 0800 980 3332 www.myelomaonline.org.uk	Provides comprehensive information and support to patients with myeloma and related cancers
Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research	43 Great Ormond Street London, WC1N 3JJ. Tel: 0207 405 0101 www.llresearch.org.uk	Provides detailed Information about blood cancers and other blood disorders
MPD Voice (myeloproliferative disorders)	c/o Guy's & St Thomas Charity 1st Floor, The Counting House, Guy's Hospital, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7EH.	Provides comprehensive information and support for patients with myeloproliferative disorders

Disclaimer

We advise against using unselected information from the internet as the quality is very variable and we cannot vouch for its accuracy or relevance to your case. If you have a specific question please ask a member of your care team if they can help.

Reference source

Improving Outcomes in Haemato-Oncology Cancer, (2003), NICE.

Contact details

If you have comments on this booklet or any aspect of our services, please send them to:

Louise Hendry (Consultant Haematologist) or

Samantha Darby (CNS Haemato-Oncology)

Royal Surrey County Hospital

Guildford

GU2 7XX

Telephone: 01483 571122 **Ext** 4488 / 4489

PALS and Advocacy contact details

Contact details of independent advocacy services can be provided by our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) who are located on the right hand side as you enter the main reception area. PALS are also your first point of contact for health related issues, questions or concerns surrounding RSCH patient services.

Telephone: 01483 402757

Email: rsc-tr.pals@nhs.net

Opening hours: 9.00am–3.00pm, Monday to Friday

If you would like information documents in large print, on tape or in another language or form please contact PALS.

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