

Patient information factsheet

Your key worker nurse for gynaecological cancer care

We have given you this leaflet to explain how your key worker nurse can support you throughout your gynaecological cancer care.

Who is my key worker nurse?

Your key worker nurse will be one of the four clinical nurse specialists (CNS) in our Macmillan gynaecology oncology team.

They specialise in supporting people who have a suspected or confirmed gynaecological cancer, such as:

- ovarian, primary peritoneal and fallopian tube cancer
- cervical cancer
- endometrial, womb, uterine cancer
- vulval cancer
- vaginal cancer

One of these nurses will be assigned to you as your key worker nurse.

There are also support workers and a pathway navigator in our team who may answer the phone if you call us. They can also offer support and advice.

Your link to other healthcare professionals

Your key worker nurse is a useful link between you and the other healthcare professionals involved in your care, both in the hospital and in the community, such as your GP.

MDT team

Our clinical nurse specialist team is also part of the gynaecology oncology multi-disciplinary team (MDT). This is the wider team of experts in gynaecological cancers, who work together to make sure you get the best treatment for your cancer at the right time.

The wider team includes:

- MDT coordinator
- surgeons (specialist gynaecological cancer surgeons)
- oncologists (specialist doctors who treat cancer with radiotherapy and chemotherapy)
- histopathologists (specialist doctors who look at cancer in the laboratory)
- radiologists (specialist doctors who look at x-rays and scans)
- clinical nurse specialists

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This team meets weekly to discuss the results of investigations and decide on treatment plans for each patient. Your key worker nurse will attend every meeting and can express your views to the rest of the team on your behalf.

A source of information and advice

Your key worker nurse, or another member of the team, can help if you have questions or concerns about your diagnosis and treatment. They can give you more information and advice on a range of issues. They can also recommend other sources of information and advice.

For example, you may want to know more about:

- your diagnosis
- treatment options and plan
- managing side effects of treatment
- symptom control
- financial or work-related issues
- community help and support
- psychological and emotional support
- caring for someone with cancer

Someone to talk things through with

Cancer affects people in different ways. During your diagnosis and treatment, you may experience a range of strong emotions including fear, anger, or hopelessness. These feelings can be difficult to manage, and it is not unusual to have times when you feel low.

Sometimes it can help to talk things through. You may get support from your family and friends, but sometimes it can be easier to talk to someone less involved, such as your key worker nurse.

You might want to talk about making a decision regarding your treatment, coming to terms with your diagnosis or living with the impact that the cancer is having on you or your family. If you would find it helpful to talk, please don't hesitate to ask your key worker nurse, or another member of our team.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your key worker nurse or another member of our team. We will be happy to help.

Macmillan gynaecology oncology clinical nurse specialists

Email: gynaecologysupport@uhs.nhs.uk

Telephone: **023 81208765**, 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday (except bank holidays)

If we don't answer or if you are calling out of hours, you can leave us a voicemail message. Please note that at busy times it may take up to 48 hours to reply to emails and voice messages.

Acute oncology service (AOS)

If you are having chemotherapy or radiotherapy and are experiencing side effects associated with treatment or your cancer, and you need urgent advice, please contact the acute oncology service on telephone: **023 8120 1345**

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Doctors

You can contact your doctor's secretary by telephone:

- Mr Metcalf, Mr Crawford and Mr Constable Phelps: **023 8120 6032**
- Dr Green: **023 8120 8657**
- Dr McFarlane: **023 8120 5225**
- Dr Bennett: **023 8120 2518**

Other useful hospital contacts

CT scan enquiries: **023 8120 4198**

MRI scan enquiries: **023 8120 8914**

Bramshaw Ward (surgical ward): **023 8120 6035**

Chemotherapy outpatient and blood appointments: **023 8120 6494**

Chemotherapy treatment appointments: **023 8120 8497**

Radiotherapy appointments booking team: **023 8120 8851**

Cancer information and support (UHS Macmillan centre): **023 8120 6037**

Maggie's Centre: **023 8212 4549**

Additional support

Hampshire Macmillan Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB): **0344 847 7727**

Macmillan Cancer Support: **0808 808 00 00**

Useful links

Cancer charities supporting patients with any type of gynaecological cancer

Lady Garden Foundation: www.ladygardenfoundation.com

The Eve Appeal: eveappeal.org.uk/supporting-you/

GO Girls: www.gogirlssupport.org

Ovarian, primary peritoneal, fallopian tube cancer charities

Target Ovarian: targetovariancancer.org.uk/

Ovacom: www.ovacome.org.uk/

Endometrial, womb, uterine cancer charity

Peaches: peachestrust.org/

Cervical cancer charity

Jo's cervical cancer trust: www.jostrust.org.uk/

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