

The Skin Cancer Team

Information for patients



This leaflet is for you to read after you have been told that you have cancer and need treatment. It includes information about the Skin Cancer Multidisciplinary Team and how each of the specialists in the team can help you.

If you have any questions, please do talk to a member of the team.

What happens first?

When you have been diagnosed with cancer, your results and personal medical history will be discussed in a multidisciplinary team (MDT) meeting. 'Multidisciplinary' means that the team is made up of many different specialists. At this meeting the team plans a programme of treatment specific to you. This programme will be explained to you at your clinic appointment.

You will usually meet your Clinical Nurse Specialist (Keyworker). At this appointment your Keyworker will be the main person involved in coordinating your care. Your appointment may be in a clinic at the Churchill Hospital, John Radcliffe Hospital or Horton General Hospital.

The Skin Cancer Team

Dermatology Team

The Dermatology Team members are experts in skin conditions. They will know your personal medical history and give you the help and advice you need.

The team includes the Consultant Dermatologists.

Plastic Surgery Team

Your GP may have referred you directly to the Plastic Surgery Team, or you may have seen the Dermatology Team first. The Plastic Surgery Team can offer expert assessment for more complex surgical procedures that may need reconstruction. It will also be able to offer more complex surgical investigations.

The team includes the Consultant Plastic Surgeons.

Oncology Team

This team may be able to offer you treatment, such as radiotherapy. The team includes Consultant Clinical Oncologists and a Consultant Medical Oncologist.

Skin Cancer Specialist Nurse

The Specialist Nurse will support you from your diagnosis and through your treatment. At each stage of your treatment the Specialist Nurse will give you information about the different treatments you can have so that, together with the doctors and nurses, you can decide what is best for you. The Specialist Nurse can also give you practical help and information about any part of your illness or treatment and act as a link between you, your local healthcare team and the hospital.

Histopathology Team

This team will look at any tissue samples (biopsies) that have been taken from you. The team may also confirm what type of cancer you have.

The team includes Consultant Histopathologists.

Radiology Team

This team will look at any X-rays or scans that you have. This information will help the team to plan the best treatment for you.

The team includes a Consultant Radiologist.

The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Co-ordinator

The MDT Co-ordinator will plan the MDT meetings, making sure that your medical records are available to the team.

The Skin Cancer Team will follow your progress once your treatment has been completed. When the team is happy with your progress, your care may be passed back to your GP for routine follow-up. Your GP will be happy to refer you back to the Skin Cancer Team for any further support if you need it in the future.

You may also need help from other healthcare professionals, each with their own roles, such as the Dietitian or Physiotherapist. Your team will make referrals to these specialists if you need further support or advice during your treatment.

If I have any questions or concerns?

We know this is a lot of information for you to take in. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

Heidi Allen, Advanced Nurse Practitioner – Skin Cancers

Ma Hong, Specialist Nurse Practitioner – Skin Cancers

Monday to Friday, 8.00am - 4.00pm: 01865 228 233

Additional helpful information

Macmillan Cancer Line

Provides support to people affected by cancer.

0808 808 0000

www.macmillan.org.uk

Maggie's Cancer Information Centre

Based at the Churchill Hospital, this centre provides information, guidance and support to anyone affected by cancer.

01865 751 882

www.maggiescentres.org

If you have a specific requirement, need an interpreter, a document in Easy Read, another language, large print, Braille or audio version, please call **01865 221 473** or email **PALSJR@ouh.nhs.uk**

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www.ouh.nhs.uk/patient-guide/leaflets/library.aspx

