

The role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist for Skin Cancers

Information for patients



This leaflet describes the role of Heidi Allen and Ma Hong, the Clinical Nurse Specialists for skin cancers.

What does the Clinical Nurse Specialist do?

Heidi and Ma Hong are able to offer extra support, advice and guidance to people who have skin cancer anywhere on their body.

Heidi and Ma Hong are qualified nurses with extensive knowledge and experience. They work as part of the Health Care Team, offering advice and support to people with skin cancer at any stage in their illness. Heidi and Ma Hong can act as a useful link between you and other team members in the hospital, as well as at home. Their aim is to help you to be as independent as possible and to maximise your quality of life.

How can the Clinical Nurse Specialist help you?

Heidi and Ma Hong may be able to help you in a variety of ways. They can offer:

Support

Sometimes it can help to just talk things through.

Information

Many people find that knowing more information eases their worries. For example, you may want to know more about:

- diagnosis
- proposed surgery
- other treatments such as radiotherapy and chemotherapy
- symptom control
- financial resources
- community help and other support
- coping with a changed appearance.

Advice

Heidi and Ma Hong can advise you on a range of issues, directly or indirectly related to having skin cancer. They can also recommend other sources of advice and information.

How to contact Heidi and Ma Hong

Heidi Allen: Macmillan Advanced Nurse Practitioner

Ma Hong: Macmillan Specialist Nurse Practitioner

Tel: **01865 228 233**

Mobile: **07881 951 769**

Monday-Friday, 8.00am - 4.00pm

(There is an answerphone available outside these hours.)

Email: **heidi.allen@ouh.nhs.uk** **hong.ma@ouh.nhs.uk**

These contact details are not for emergencies. If the matter is urgent and you are at home, please contact your GP, out of hours service, or your nearest Accident and Emergency department.

If you are still in hospital and need urgent advice or help, please speak to one of the nurses.

Key worker

Whilst you are being cared for at the Churchill, John Radcliffe or the Horton Hospital, the Clinical Nurse Specialist will act as your key worker.

This role is important, as your key worker will be the main person involved in co-ordinating your care and arranging things for you.

When you are discharged or your care is transferred, your key worker may change. We will let you know when this happens. If you have any questions about key workers please speak to the Clinical Nurse Specialist.

Other useful numbers

Macmillan Cancer Support

Provides support to people affected by cancer.

Tel: **0808 808 0000**

www.macmillan.org.uk

Maggie's Cancer Information Centre

This Centre is based at the Churchill Hospital and provides information, guidance and support to anyone affected by cancer.

Tel: **01865 225 690**

www.maggiescentre.org.uk

Macmillan/Oxfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau Benefits Advice

This service is based at the Churchill Hospital at the Maggie's Centre and also at the Horton Hospital. The service can offer advice and support to people affected by cancer and their families about benefit issues and money worries.

Tel: **01865 225 689**

macmillan.oxcab@gmail.com

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

