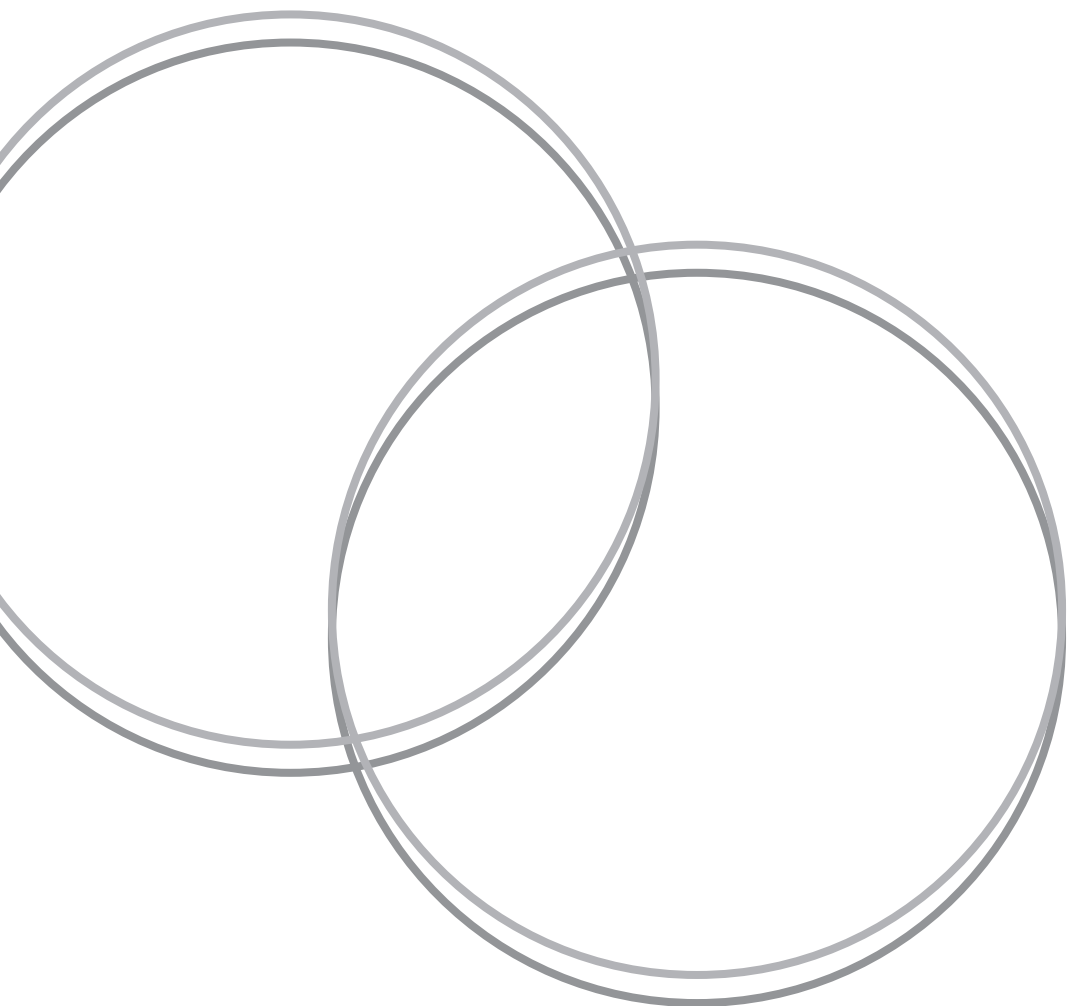




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Acute Oncology Service (AOS)

for patients, relatives and carers



This leaflet has been written to give you information about the Acute Oncology Service (AOS). This service is based at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Horton General Hospital and Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre.

Acute Oncology Services provide care for people who are admitted as an emergency with a cancer diagnosis, suspected cancer or with problems caused by treatment for cancer.

This service was introduced following a National Government initiative to improve access to specialist cancer services across the UK.

The Acute Oncology Service works with your own specialist Oncology Team.

How can we help you?

We are here to communicate between the specialist cancer services and your own medical team, until you are referred on to a specific oncology team. We can provide advice about:

- investigations of your suspected, confirmed or unknown cancer
- the management of complications of your cancer
- the management of complications relating to your cancer treatment
- liaising with your specialist team and providing specialist advice as required
- referrals to community support teams, such as the community palliative care team.

We can also give you information which may help you to make decisions about your care/treatment and can answer any questions you and your family/carers may have.

Our aims

- We will provide professional support and advice about managing the side effects of cancer treatment.
- We will make sure you only receive appropriate tests and investigations.
- We will make sure you are not kept in hospital longer than necessary.
- We will provide advice and support for the clinical staff caring for you.
- We will make sure you are seen as quickly as possible by other specialist clinical teams, if necessary.

Referral to the Acute Oncology Service

When you have been referred to the Acute Oncology Service, one of the team will visit you on the ward to talk with you.

The Acute Oncology Specialist Nurse will work with the medical and nursing team responsible for your care whilst you are an inpatient (admitted to hospital).

You may be seen by an oncologist (consultant in cancer care), who will carry out an assessment of your needs, provide advice about what is likely to happen next and update your named consultant or GP.

Cancer of unknown primary

Rarely, it is sometimes not possible to discover what type of cancer a person has. This is called cancer of unknown primary, or CUP.

If you are diagnosed with a cancer of unknown primary, you will be supported by the Acute Oncology Specialist Nurses. They will explain everything to you.

What to do if you are unwell and need advice

If you feel unwell after you have been discharged from hospital, please telephone the Oncology Triage Assessment Service.

Tel: **01865 572 192**
(24 hours, 7 days a week)

If you are having serious symptoms, such as severe chest pain or problems with your breathing, please call **999**.

Useful information

Macmillan Cancer Support

Provides support and information on the practical, social and financial effects of cancer for patients and those close to them.

Website: www.macmillan.org.uk

Tel: **0808 808 0000**

Cancer Research UK

Provides information about cancer, clinical trials and research.

Website: www.cancerhelp.org.uk

Tel: **0300 123 1022**

Cancer of Unknown Primary Foundation (Jo's friends)

Provides information and support for people diagnosed with cancer of unknown primary (CUP).

Website: www.cupfoundjo.org (online/postal resource only)

How to contact us

Acute Oncology Specialist Nurses

John Radcliffe Hospital and Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre

Tel: **01865 235 037**

Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm

Horton General Hospital

Tel: **01295 224 191**

Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 2.00pm

Your Specialist Nurses are:

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Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information



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