

# The gynaecology oncology team looking after you

Women's and Children's Division  
Information for patients

Produced: Feb 2025  
Review: Feb 2028  
Leaflet number: 552    Version: 10

## Your key worker is:

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Contact: 0116 258 4840

Monday - Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)

8.00am - 4.00pm (answerphone for all other times)

**Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk) for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals  
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact [InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

## The multidisciplinary team (MDT)

The team of health professionals looking after you is known as the multidisciplinary team, or MDT.

### Healthcare professionals in your MDT:

- Consultant gynaecology oncologist - the doctor in charge of your care, an experienced specialist in their field.
- Oncologist - a doctor who specialises in the treatment of cancer.
- Radiologist - a doctor who understands and interprets any scans or X-rays you have had.
- Histopathologist - uses specialised equipment to examine any tissue removed during biopsy. This enables the team to diagnose the type and extent of the problem and also helps when planning further treatment that may be required.
- Clinical nurse specialist (CNS) / specialist sister—also known as your key worker. Their role is outlined later in this booklet.
- Palliative care nurse or doctor - professionals who specialise in cancer and palliative care. Provide emotional support, information and help with the control of symptoms.
- MDT co-ordinator - an administrator who ensures the smooth running of the MDT meetings.
- Other members of your health care team may be present at the MDT meeting, for example, a dietitian, occupational therapist or physiotherapist might be involved in the meeting.

## What happens at the MDT meeting?

The MDT meets weekly to ensure that each patient is given the same high standard of care, and has the most appropriate investigations and treatment, no matter who their GP is or which hospital they attend.

During the meeting, your healthcare team will at your medical notes and any relevant tests, scans etc that you have had. As a team, they will decide on the best treatment plan for you, based on the results of these tests, taking and any other relevant issues. Your team may decide that you need to have further tests or be referred to other members of the healthcare team.

## How will I find out the outcome of the meeting?

A member of the team will discuss your treatment plan with you. This will usually be at your out-patient appointment, or may be by telephone, if you have agreed to being contacted by telephone.

Your GP will be informed of the MDT discussion by letter. You will also receive a copy of this letter through the post.

## Who is my key worker?

In order to ensure that patients with cancer and their families are able to access appropriate support and information, all patients should have a known healthcare professional who they can contact. This person is called a **key worker**.

Your key worker will be available from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. Your key worker is a nurse who has undertaken education and training in the specialty of gynaecological cancer. They understand the impact that a diagnosis of gynaecological cancer can have upon women, their carers and families.

Your key worker works as part of the health care team in the Gynaecology Wards and Outpatient Departments of both Leicester Royal Infirmary and Leicester General Hospital.

Because care takes place in a variety of settings, such as in hospital and in the community, your key worker will change at various times. However, it will always be the most appropriate person for your circumstances, and you should always know who they are and how to contact them.

Currently your key worker is the Gynaecology Oncology Nurse Specialist. Being told your diagnosis may cause you or your family some anxiety. Talking through some of your fears or concerns with your key worker may help you to cope with your illness and its treatment. We aim to provide continuous information, advice and support for women and their carers, from diagnosis onwards.

### Here are just some areas you may wish to discuss with the nurses:

- surgery
- radiotherapy
- chemotherapy
- support services, including social services information, hospice care, home care
- emotional and psychological support
- psychosexual issues
- pain management and control of other symptoms
- lymphoedema
- local or national groups for support, information and advice
- Referral to other members of the healthcare team, such as district nurses or community palliative care nurses

## What is a Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA)?

After your treatment has ended, you will have an appointment to see the nurse specialist in a health and well-being clinic, to check your recovery and provide you with an end of treatment plan.

This is a chance for you to think about your concerns and discuss possible solutions with your key worker. It gives you the time to explore what resources, help and support are available.

Please ask your key worker for a Holistic Needs Assessment if you think that this would be helpful for you.

For more information go to [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk) and search for "holistic needs assessment".

## How to contact us

### Gynaecology-oncology nurse specialists (key workers)

Telephone: **0116 258 4840** (8:00am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday)

Please contact us if you would like:

- Further information about your condition
- To discuss your treatment options and what to expect
- Someone to listen to your concerns and worries about your diagnosis and treatment

Answerphone available - messages are checked regularly, but messages left at the weekend will be dealt with on the next working day.

## Other sources of information and support

### Macmillan Information and Support Centre

Osborne Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary

Telephone: **0116 258 6189**

Email: [cancerinfo@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:cancerinfo@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

Website: [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/cancerinfo](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/cancerinfo)

### Macmillan Cancer Support

Freephone: **0808 808 00 00**

Website: [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)

### Cancer Research UK

Specialist nurses providing a confidential service.

Freephone: **0808 800 4040**

Website: [www.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.cancerresearchuk.org)

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔  
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل  
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email [equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)