

Information for patients and carers

Upper Gastrointestinal (UGI) Multi-Disciplinary Team Meetings

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Multi-Disciplinary Team Meetings

The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) is a team of experts who specialise in caring for patients with Upper Gastrointestinal (UGI) cancers. The MDT works in partnership with other hospitals in order to co-ordinate your care.

What happens at the MDT?

The MDT meets on a weekly basis to discuss your treatment, and the team will always keep you informed of your treatment plan.

Who is at the MDT meeting?

Consultant Surgeon for Upper Gastro-Intestinal Surgery.

This is a specialist who can assess oesophageal and gastric problems and diagnose upper gastrointestinal cancers. Once your condition has been diagnosed, the surgeon will discuss with you the different options for treatment and will carry out any operations needed to remove the cancer or refer you to an oncologist. Your gastrointestinal surgeon will also see you after your operation to discuss the results.

Gastroenterologists

A Gastroenterologist has extensive training in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions that affect the oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine (colon), and biliary system (e.g. liver, pancreas, gallbladder, bile ducts). Gastroenterology is a subspecialty of internal medicine.

UGI Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

This is a nurse who specialises in the care and support of people with oesophageal and stomach problems. They will provide information to

help you understand your treatment and will support you during your treatment. They will also advise you on practical issues.

The Clinical Nurse Specialist can talk to other members of the MDT on your behalf if you wish and will act as your key worker providing a point of contact for you.

Consultant Pathologist

This is a doctor who specialises in looking at cells under a microscope and working out the type of cancer, so we know how to give further treatment if necessary.

Consultant Radiologist

This is a doctor who specialises in carrying out diagnostic tests such as CT (computerised tomography), MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) and other special scans. The radiologist is specially trained in the detection of disease through the interpretation of investigative techniques. Their work is fundamental to the management of cancer care.

Consultant Oncologist

This is a doctor who specialises in the non-surgical treatment of cancer. They work closely with your surgeon and the other members of the multi-disciplinary team to plan your treatment.

Your oncologist will discuss the different non-surgical options for treatment with you which could include chemotherapy (drug treatment), radiotherapy or hormone treatment. Oncologists also monitor your progress during treatment and help you deal with your cancer and its effects including symptoms relating to cancer and treatment, medical problems and emotional issues.

Who else is involved in your care?

Other team members will be involved in your treatment and will also provide information and support for you and your family. This will continue throughout your care.

Dietitian

The dietitian is a qualified healthcare professional registered with the Health and Care Professions Council. They specialise in the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of dietary and nutritional problems. They work alongside the clinical team to provide nutritional advice to patients before and after surgery.

Specialist Palliative Care Nurses

These are experienced nurses who specialise in the support and symptom management of patients with cancer. These nurse specialists are part of a team working in the hospital and in the community.

What happens after the MDT?

Following the MDT a member of your team will contact you and arrange the appropriate follow-up appointment. You may require additional tests prior to seeing your consultant to discuss treatment options.

Clinical Trials

A clinical trial may be discussed with you as a potential option for treatment. This discussion does not commit you to taking part.

You may also want to ask your doctor or nurse if there are any clinical trials available for which you might be suitable.

Contact Details

Your CNS/key worker is: _____

Contact number: _____

Questions about cancer?

We are here to help, the Macmillan Cancer Information & Support Service at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is open to anyone affected by cancer and is situated at both Chorley Hospital & Royal Preston Hospital. Contact us on 01772 523709 or cancerinfocentre@lthtr.nhs.uk

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

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All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638**

Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.
This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.

Department: Upper GI

Division: Surgery

Production date: January 2025

Review date: January 2027

Document Code and version: CA220 V3