

Useful Contact Numbers

Macmillan Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist (Key Worker)	020 8535 5469
Consultant Chest Physician	020 8539 5522 ext
Secretaries	5453/5454/5016
Macmillan Cancer Information Centre at Whipps Cross	020 8535 6790
Medical Day Unit (Chemotherapy Unit)	020 8539 5522 ext 5102
Chest Clinic Reception	020 8535 6674
St Bartholomew's Hospital	020 7377 7000
St Bartholomew's Hospital Radiotherapy Department	020 7601 8357/ 8358
Dr Wells Secretary, St Bartholomew's	020 7601 8044
Macmillan Cancerline	0808 808 00 00
Whipps Cross University NHS Trust	020 8539 5522

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**Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma
Multidisciplinary
Team**

Patient Information

Cancer Services

An Introduction to the Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma Multidisciplinary Team

This leaflet contains information about the team who will be looking after you and aims to help you understand more about the services available to you.

All the health professionals involved in your treatment will meet as a specialist multidisciplinary team to agree a diagnosis and treatment plan for you.

Every team works by following national guidelines or rules on how they should work with you, each other, your GP and other specialist services.

If you have a comment or complaint

We welcome your views on the care we provide as this can help us make improvements.

Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

Provides patients and carers with assistance to sort out problems and concerns. Working within the hospital, the team is ideally located to liaise directly with clinicians and other staff to deal quickly with issues raised. You can contact PALS on: 020 8535 6767 or extension 6282.

Complaints

If you are unhappy with any of your care please speak to a member of the team; this allows staff to address your concerns. If you wish to make a formal complaint it is important to do so as soon as possible following the event. Please put your complaint in writing to: The Complaints Manager, Whipps Cross University Hospital, Leytonstone, London, E11 1NR or e-mail complaints@whippsx.nhs.uk

Interpreting Service/Language Support

If you need an interpreter (including sign language) in hospital or at a clinic appointment, please ask the team looking after you to arrange this.

Confidentiality and data protection

All information regarding your personal details, tests, diagnosis and treatment plan will be treated in a confidential manner.

Only members of the multidisciplinary team and other relevant health professionals will have access to information about your diagnosis and treatment.

Any information that is shared with national organisations such as the Department of Health for clinical audit purposes is sent without your personal details. This is in accordance with national data requirements and the Data Protection Act 1998.

The multidisciplinary team is a specialist team of health professionals who meet once a week to discuss your diagnosis, care and treatment.

The team is responsible for:

- Deciding whether further tests are necessary.
- Diagnosing your condition.
- Discussing your treatment plan.
- Keeping your GP up to date with your treatment and care.
- Collecting information and keeping accurate records.

The Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma multidisciplinary team is usually made up of the following staff members:

- **Lead Clinician**

A clinician who takes responsibility for the service. The Lung and Mesothelioma Multidisciplinary team's Clinical Lead is the Chest Physician.

- **Consultant Chest Physician**

A doctor who specialises in diseases of the chest and the lungs.

- **Consultant Oncologist**

A doctor who specialises in the treatment of cancer with chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

- **Consultant Radiologist**

A doctor who specialises in interpreting tests such as CT scans, x-rays, MRI or Ultrasound scans.

Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centre

The centre is open Monday – Friday from 10.00am - 4.00pm and is located at Junction 4 on the main hospital corridor. The centre provides:

- Literature on all aspects of living with cancer.
- Internet access to guide people to appropriate information resources.
- Opportunities to discuss treatments, side effects and other cancer related issues.
- Opportunities to talk to someone in a private, comfortable, quiet room.
- Over the phone information and support for those not able to access the service in person.

Financial advice

You may be entitled to financial assistance such as help with travel costs and the cost of prescriptions. Ask your key worker for further information or drop into the Macmillan Cancer information and support centre.

Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy is the use of anti-cancer drugs to destroy cancer cells. You may require chemotherapy as part of your lung cancer treatment. The majority of chemotherapy is given at the Medical Day Unit at Whipps Cross University Hospital. If you have chemotherapy you will be given 24 hour contact details in case you need to speak to someone about your treatment.

Information and support

Contact your key worker (the lung cancer nurse specialist) for information about your cancer treatment and local and national support services. If you need any of these details written down for you, please ask.

They can be contacted Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays) between 9.00am – 3.00pm. When you ring please leave a message on the answer phone as the nurses are often seeing patients in clinic or on the wards. If you need advice about your treatment or its side effects outside normal working hours please contact your GP or NHS Direct on 0845 46 47.

- **Consultant Histopathologist**

A doctor who examines tissue samples under a microscope to diagnose lung cancer.

- **Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon**

A doctor who specialises in surgery to the lungs and heart.

- **Macmillan Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist (CNS)**

A nurse with specialist skills in caring for patients with lung cancer. They will provide you with information, advice and support during your diagnosis and treatment.

Key Worker

A key worker is a member of the multidisciplinary team who you can contact to talk about your cancer, care, and treatment. The lung cancer nurse specialist is your key worker.

- **Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Coordinator**

The MDT Coordinator is responsible for providing administrative support to the multidisciplinary team.

They also help ensure a timely journey from referral to treatment.

- **Palliative Care Specialist**

A doctor or specialist nurse who provides specialist advice on symptom control when cancer cannot be cured.

- **Research Nurse**

Supports patients taking part in clinical trials.

If appropriate you may be referred to a research nurse for information about a clinical trial.

- **Spiritual/Pastoral Care Team**

Available to listen and support people whatever their beliefs or background, as well as providing religious service and advice. For further information contact the team on: 020 8539 5522 extension 5005.

You may be referred to other members of the multidisciplinary team. This will depend on your individual needs and symptoms.

Other members of the multidisciplinary team you may meet are the physiotherapist, dietician and social worker.

Treatment for lung cancer

Lung cancer can be treated with surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and supportive care. Sometimes one or more of these treatments are used.

Surgery

Most surgery for lung cancer patients takes place at St Bartholomew's Hospital or the London Chest Hospital.

Radiotherapy

Radiotherapy is the use of high energy x-rays to treat disease. Radiotherapy is given at St Bartholomew's Hospital where the treatment machines are based.