

# Head and Neck Cancer Specialist Nursing Service

Information and advice for patients

## ENT

### What is the service?

This service is to provide access to a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) for anybody with a diagnosis or with a suspected cancer of the head or neck.

### What does the service offer?

This service aims to provide:

- Specialist information on your particular type of cancer
- Information and support regarding your treatment
- Support and advice on any investigations
- Referrals to another team or outside agencies
- Advice on how to access local support groups, relevant websites and charities
- Access to help for any physical, social or financial problems that may be caused by your cancer
- Support and advice when you have gone home

We appreciate that this is a very worrying time for you and your family and you may experience a wide range of emotions. Often you will come away from a clinical appointment and not remember everything that you were told. Your specialist nurse is available to help support you and your family by giving you the opportunity to discuss any issues.

The Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) for Head and Neck Cancer requires a team of experts. The team is made up of people who are cancer experts – head and neck consultant surgeons, radiologists, pathologists, consultant clinical oncologists and clinical nurse specialists (CNS) both at Sandwell and City Hospital and the University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (Heartlands, Queen Elizabeth (QE) and Solihull Hospitals).

Once all your investigations have been carried out, the team discuss the results in the MDT meeting which is held once a week on a Wednesday morning at QE Hospital (you and your family do not need to attend this). A treatment plan is discussed and this will be explained at your next outpatient appointment.

### How can I access the service?

The Macmillan Head and Neck Cancer Nurses work Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. If no one is in the office to take your call please leave a message on our answerphone and we will endeavour to return your call within 24 hours. We also offer a text service for people who may find talking on the telephone difficult

- CNS office number – 0121 507 5490
- Mobile text service – 07977148255

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### Who is it run by?

**Jim Doherty**

Macmillan Head and Neck cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist

**Sarah Phillips**

Macmillan Head and Neck Cancer Development Nurse

Further information and support is available at:

**Cancer Research**

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

**Macmillan**

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/head-and-neck-cancer>

**Changing Faces**

[www.changingfaces.org.uk](http://www.changingfaces.org.uk)

**Head & Neck Cancer Foundation**

<https://hnccf.org.uk/>

**The Swallows Head and Neck Cancer Group**

<https://theswallows.org.uk/>

**Throat Cancer Foundation**

<https://www.throatcancerfoundation.org/>

If you would like to suggest any amendments or improvements to this leaflet please contact SWB Library Services on ext 3587 or email [swbh.library@nhs.net](mailto:swbh.library@nhs.net).



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