

Best Supportive Care for Lung Cancer Patients

Important information for patients



What is best supportive care?

Best supportive care is offered to people with a life threatening illness where there is no option of treatment to cure your condition. Treatments can be offered to control the symptoms you may experience that causes you distress, however assessments can be made to help improve your quality of life. Assessments can also be offered to review who and what type of care you may need now and as your condition changes.

Who can I turn to for help?

District Nurses (DN's)

DN's will arrange to meet with you in your home to do an initial assessment of your needs. This will inform them and you of what kind of equipment you may need to support you at home together with any care needs you may have. DN's do not provide 'hands on care' but can deliver medications for symptom relief and talk to you about your preferred place of care and death.

The DN's are available 24 hours a day and will be your main point of contact. Please be aware they may not be able to come out to you immediately, so if your needs change please contact them as soon as possible.

Community Macmillan Nurses (CMN'S)

CMN's can also visit you at home to provide support and advice to you and your family if you have complex needs related to symptom control. You and your family will have the opportunity to discuss physical, emotional and social needs and support you all to express your thoughts and feelings. They can also support you to plan for future care needs and identify your preferred place of care and death.

The CMN's are available via your local Community Care Hub Monday to Friday, 9.00am- 5.00pm on the telephone numbers listed below; **out of these hours there will be an answer machine message with instructions to follow.**

Community Care Hub

Crewe: 01270 278420

Nantwich and Rural: 01270 278430

Northwich: 01606 564134

Winsford: 01606 564139

Smash: 01270 278440 (Sandbach, Middlewich, Alsager, Scholar Green and Haslington)

General Practitioner (GP)

You can also turn to your GP for help at home. They will have been informed of your condition and that the focus of your care is for symptom control.

Macmillan Lung Cancer Nurse Specialist Team

You will remain under the care of the Specialist Lung Cancer Team and you will receive appointments to meet with them. If you want to change your appointment, have questions or concerns, or do not understand something you have been told, please telephone the Macmillan Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialists on 01270 612598.

The nurses are available Monday to Friday, 8.00am – 4.00pm (excluding bank holidays). If the nurse is not available, please leave a message on the telephone answering machine with your name and telephone number. All messages will be responded to as quickly as possible, although this may not always be the same day.

Useful Contact Details

Macmillan Information and Support Service (based at Leighton Hospital)

Provide a confidential service for anyone affected by cancer making sure the right information and support is given at the right time.

Telephone number: 01270 273603

Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 3.00pm (excluding bank holidays)

Email: Macmillan.Info-Support@mcht.nhs.uk

www.mcht.nhs.uk/mac.info

Macmillan Cancer Support

Offer emotional, physical and financial support from the moment you're diagnosed.

Telephone number: 0808 808 0000 (7 days a week, 8.00am-8.00pm) or visit www.macmillan.org.uk

This leaflet is available in audio, Braille, large print and other languages. To request a copy, please telephone 01270 612598.

