King's College Hospital
NHS Foundation Trust

Multidisciplinary team (MDT)

For

The Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) is a team of health professionals with many different areas of expertise who will provide your cancer care. This leaflet aims to provide information about what the MDT is and what it does.

Confirming your identity

Before you have a treatment or procedure, our staff will ask you your name and date of birth and check your ID band. If you don't have an ID band we will also ask you to confirm your address.

If we don't ask these questions, then please ask us to check.
Ensuring your safety is our primary concern.

What does a multidisciplinary team (MDT) do?

The MDT will carefully review your test results at dedicated meetings and discuss your individual care. They will recommend the most appropriate treatment in your situation, based on the best evidence available. The MDT approach is recognised as the most effective way to reach balanced recommendations. However, you are entitled to request a second opinion about your diagnosis, recommended treatment plan and care, if you would like to.

The MDT consists of the following people who attend each meeting:

- **Consultant surgeon** – specialises in performing the type of surgery that may be needed.
- **Specialist consultant** (depending on cancer type) – for example a consultant haematologist specialises in blood diseases.
- **Consultant physician** – organises the relevant tests and procedures to make a diagnosis.
- **Oncologist** – a consultant oncologist specialises in treating cancer with chemotherapy (anti-cancer drugs), radiotherapy (radiation therapy that destroys cancer cells) and hormone therapy. They advise on further testing, monitoring or management.
- **Consultant radiologist** – reviews and reports on scans and x-rays to confirm diagnosis and can advise on further testing, monitoring or management.
- **Consultant histopathologist** – specialises in working out the type of cancer you may have from the tissue samples (biopsies) taken.
- **Clinical nurse specialist (CNS)** – an experienced nurse who is able to give expert advice related to your specific condition or treatment. They will take a key role in supporting your care

and will be the central point of contact between you and your treating MDT.

- **Research nurse** – supports patients taking part in clinical trials. If appropriate, you may be referred to a research nurse for information about taking part in a clinical trial.
- **MDT coordinator** – responsible for the admin and organisation of the MDT.

Depending on your individual needs and symptoms, you may be referred to other specialists who are not core members of the MDT, such as:

- physiotherapist
- palliative care specialist
- cancer psychology team
- dietitian
- speech and language therapist

After the MDT meeting

- We will inform you of the outcome either face to face or over the phone.
- We will offer you written information about your care and treatment.
- Your GP will be kept up to date with your care and treatment.
- We will offer you copies of letters written about your care to other health professionals, including your GP.
- We will offer you access to a clinical nurse specialist (CNS) when informed of your diagnosis (if this has not already happened).
- We will let you know about local and national support services.
- The team will regularly review your case and you will have the opportunity to discuss your progress.

Making decisions about your treatment

We will give you additional information and support to make sense of the clinical advice from the MDT before giving your consent. Your CNS will discuss the treatment plan with you and support you with decision-making. Your personal circumstances will be taken into consideration as much as possible, so please do not hesitate to discuss this with your CNS.

Depending on your diagnosis, your suggested treatment may include surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy or hormone therapy. The process and facts of each option will be explained to you.

Contact for advice and support

For advice and support during normal working hours (9am to 5pm), please contact your CNS. You can also leave a message. Messages are checked regularly, and your call will be returned.

If you have a life-threatening emergency, please call 999.
For an urgent health problem, please contact your GP or call 111.

Patient and public involvement

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust regularly seeks feedback from our patients. We are committed to involving patients and the public in helping to improve the cancer patient experience.

If you are interested in helping us to improve cancer care at King's, please get in touch with us if you:

- have used King's Cancer services at any of our hospital sites in the last five years
- are a family member or carer of a King's patient who has used our Cancer services in the last five years

- are from a voluntary or community group who supports King's Cancer service users

Local Care Records

The Local Care Records enables the sharing of electronic information between GP practices, hospitals and community services.

The Local Care Record will allow care professionals to view medication, previous treatments, tests results and other important information at the touch of a button. This will make care safer and quicker by allowing professionals to review all relevant information before making decisions.

To find out more information, please talk to your GP or care professional. If you wish for your information not to be shared, call **020 7188 8801** or email **gst-tr.GSTPALS@nhs.net**
You can also visit the website: **www.kingshealthpartners.org/localcarerecord**

Further information and support:

King's Macmillan Information and Support Centre
The centre can help with the following:

- free prescriptions
- Macmillan grants
- wigs and scarf tying
- wellbeing support
- emotional support
- someone to talk to
- signposting to community services and practical support
- support groups
- benefits advice

Location: King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Cicely Saunders Institute, Ground Floor
Denmark Hill
London SE5 9RS

Phone: **020 3299 5228**
Email: **kch-tr.macmillan1@nhs.net**
Opening hours: 9am to 4pm

Macmillan Cancer Support
Support Information Line: **0808 808 2020**
Website: **www.macmillan.org.uk**

Cancer Research
For information on diagnosis, treatments and clinical trials.
Website: **www.cancerresearchuk.org**

If you have an urgent medical problem and you are not sure what to do, go to **111.nhs.uk** or call **111**. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Sharing your information

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has partnered with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust through the King's Health Partners Academic Health Sciences Centre. We are working together to give our patients the best possible care, so you might find we invite you for appointments at Guy's or St Thomas' hospitals. King's College Hospital and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trusts share an electronic patient record system, which means information about your health record can be accessed safely and securely by health and care staff at both Trusts. For more information visit **www.kch.nhs.uk**.

Care provided by students

We provide clinical training where our students get practical experience by treating patients. Please tell your doctor or nurse if you do not want students to be involved in your care. Your treatment will not be affected by your decision.

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams.

PALS at King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS
Tel: **020 3299 3601**
Email: **kch-tr.palsdh@nhs.net**

PALS at Princess Royal University Hospital, Farnborough Common, Orpington, Kent BR6 8ND
Tel: **01689 863252**
Email: **kch-tr.palspruh@nhs.net**

If you would like the information in this leaflet in a different language or format, please contact our Communications and Interpreting telephone line on 020 3299 4826 or email kch-tr.accessibility@nhs.net.

Notes