

# Information for patients and carers

## Neuro - Oncology CNS

Decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of three overlapping wavy bands in shades of blue.

My Clinical Nurse Specialist/Key Worker is:

.....

Neuro-Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

Our team consists of nurses with specialist expertise in the field of brain and central nervous system tumours. You may sometimes hear your clinical specialist nurse referred to as your Key Worker.

A Key Worker is someone who coordinates between the various people that may be involved in your care both in the hospital and when you are at home.

You will meet a member of the CNS team either at a clinic appointment or on the wards. You may have contact with any member of the team throughout your treatment and follow up at Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.

We form part of a multidisciplinary team who provide care during your admission, at diagnosis, during treatment and follow-up care. The team consists of a Neurosurgeon, Neuro-Oncologist, Doctors, Nurses, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapists, Radiotherapists as well as other health care professionals.

The CNS role involves:

- Meeting you and your family/carers both pre- and post-surgery, giving you the opportunity to ask any questions or discuss any information that has been given to you by your Neurosurgeon or Oncologist.
- Providing a telephone service which is accessible to all patients to discuss any problems that you may be experiencing.
- Providing you with written information and contact details.
- Providing nursing advice regarding any symptoms you may experience post-surgery or during treatment.
- The CNS is a main point of contact for you during and after your treatment, for information, advice and support (However, this is NOT an emergency service; please dial 999 if you need urgent medical attention).
- Offer a Health Needs Assessment (HNA) and emotional support. A HNA is a discussion with your CNS to talk about how you are feeling and what is most important to you. Together, we will then create a personalised care plan which focuses on how to manage your concerns and provide contact details. We will signpost you to helpful organisations or services that can offer support.

The information gathered from a HNA can also be shared with the multidisciplinary team (MDT) and your GP to improve your management and care.

- Advanced Care Planning conversations about what is important to you and how you wish to be cared for as your illness progresses. It enables those looking after you to know what matters to you and ensure that your wishes are followed should you become unable to make decisions for yourself.

## **The CNS team link with other health care professionals who they can refer you to for additional help and support if required:**

- Benefits advice and social service referrals
- Epilepsy Specialist Nurse
- Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist and Speech and Language Therapists
- Counselling services/Psychologist
- Complementary Therapist
- Other community teams regarding your care such as GP, therapists, District Nurse and Palliative Care services

## **Contact details**

Neuro Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist Team are available:

Monday – Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm excluding Bank Holidays.

Contact details: Telephone 01772 523231

A voicemail service is available, we may not always be available to return your call immediately, but we will always try to return your call as soon as possible.

Ward 2a	01772 522217
Ward 2b	01772 522713/528182
Ward 2c	01772 528180
Occupational Therapist	07565 013 689
Dr Sanderson's Secretary	01772 522984
Dr Lam's Secretary	01772 523002
MRI Appointments	01772 523999
Radiotherapy Reception	01772 522923
Chemotherapy Support Team	01772 523205
Epilepsy Nurses	01772 523132
Macmillan Information Centre	Call in or telephone 01772 523709

## Sources of further information

[www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk)  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
[www.accessable.co.uk](http://www.accessable.co.uk)  
[www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)

Macmillan Cancer Support  
0808 808 0000

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

The Brain Tumour Charity

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

Braintrust

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

DVLA

0300 790 6802

[www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla](http://www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla)

Epilepsy Action

0808 800 5050

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

**Follow us on social media @lancshospitals**

**Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.**

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

[www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets](http://www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets)

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is a smoke-free site. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on any of our premises, either inside or outside the buildings. Our staff will ask you about your smoking status when you come to hospital and will offer you support and advice about stopping smoking this will include Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal and the opportunity to speak to a nurse or advisor from the specialist Tobacco and Alcohol Care Team.

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.**

Our patient information group review our new leaflets regularly, if you feel you would like to feedback on this information or join our reading group please contact on email address:

[patientexperienceandinvolve@LTHTR.nhs.uk](mailto:patientexperienceandinvolve@LTHTR.nhs.uk)

**Department:** Neuro Oncology

**Division:** Surgery

**Production date:** April 2025

**Review date:** April 2027

Document Code and version: CA230 V2