



Information for
patients and
carers

Radiotherapy a General Guide for Patients and Carers

Welcome

Welcome to the radiotherapy department of the Rosemere Cancer Centre. This leaflet contains general information about radiotherapy treatment and our department.

What is radiotherapy?

Radiotherapy is the use of exact, carefully measured doses of radiation to treat disease (mainly cancer). It works by directing X-rays at the tumour (cancer). These cells are more sensitive to radiotherapy than normal cells and the aim is to kill them. Normal cells within or near to the treated area will also be affected, but they are usually able to recover. The number of radiotherapy treatments you have and how often they are given will depend on the size and type of tumour we need to treat. Radiotherapy treatment is painless and will not make you radioactive.

It is important that female patients inform us immediately if they suspect they may be pregnant. If you are under the age of 55 years we have to ask you before first treatment and then weekly if you could be pregnant.

Who is involved with your radiotherapy?

We work as a team and you may see a number of different people throughout your treatment:-

Clinical Oncologists and Specialist Registrars are specialist doctors who treat people with cancer.

Review Radiographers are advanced radiographers who work closely with your consultant to review your care at regular intervals throughout your treatment.

Radiation Therapists (Therapy Radiographers) are responsible for planning and delivering your treatment, and for your day-to-day care whilst receiving radiotherapy.

Radiotherapy Assistant Practitioners assist radiation therapists to deliver treatment and day-to-day care.

Support Workers are team members who assist with your care and general running of the department.

Medical Physicists are scientists who work specifically within the radiotherapy department. They are responsible for ensuring the safety and accuracy of the radiotherapy equipment.

Radiotherapy Engineers are engineers who work specifically within the department and are responsible for maintaining and servicing radiotherapy equipment.

Radiotherapy Appointment Officers are team members who are responsible for scheduling appointments.

Reception and Clerical Personnel are team members responsible for the administrative work within the department.

Trainees and Students are part of Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust our department is committed to supervising the training of future health professionals.

Any of the above staff members directly involved in your day-to-day care may be male or female. If you have any concerns regarding any

staff member or trainee being involved in your treatment please discuss with a staff member.

Useful Information

Travel

Radiotherapy does not affect your ability to drive unless advised by your doctor. The hospital is accessible by public transport and details can be obtained from reception. Car parking at the hospital can be difficult so allow extra time to find a space. This is particularly so between 2pm and 3pm. Radiotherapy patients are entitled to complimentary car-parking-ask about this at reception

Hospital Transport

This service is available for patients who have a medical condition that would stop them attending their appointments or are unable to attend the department by any other means. If you use this service please be prepared to be away from home for at least 4 hours.

Accommodation

Bowland House is a free self-catering patient hotel, within the hospital grounds with disabled access for patients and carers undergoing radiotherapy, primarily from the East Lancashire and Morecambe Bay area. Please ask for a leaflet if you would like more information. Relatives may also be able to stay on request.

Refreshments

A wide selection of refreshments is available in the main hospital.

Contact details

Should you require further advice or information please contact:

Radiotherapy Reception/Transport queries (01772) 522900

Radiotherapy Appointment queries (01772) 522931

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.patient.co.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.macmillan.org.uk

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

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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

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 including Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal.

If you want to stop smoking you can also contact the Quit Squad Freephone 0800 328 6297.

Please ask if you would like help in understanding this information. This information can be made available in large print and in other languages.

Gujarati:

આ માહિતીને સમજવામાં સહાયતા જોઈતી હોય તો કૃપા કરીને પૂછો. આ માહિતી મોટા છપાણામાં અને અન્ય ભાષામાં ઉપલબ્ધ કરી શકાય છે.

Romanian:

Vă rugăm să întrebați dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor pentru înțelegerea acestor informații. Aceste informații pot fi puse la dispoziție în format mare și în alte limbi.”

Polish:

Poinformuj nas, jeśli potrzebna jest ci pomoc w zrozumieniu tych informacji. Informacje te można również udostępnić dużym drukiem oraz w innych językach

Punjabi:

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਸਮਝਣ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮਦਦ ਲੈਣੀ ਚਾਹੋਗੇ ਤਾਂ ਕਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਪੁੱਛੋ। ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵੱਡੇ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਟ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

Urdu:

دو سر ی زبانوں او ر بڑی اگر آپ کو ہی معلومات سمجھنے کے لیے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو یی چھپا یں ییہ ابی دست بو یسکت ہے برا ئے مہر یان پو ے یچھہ ی۔ معلومات

Arabic:

مطبوعه بأ حروف كبير ة و بلغات إذا كنت تر يد مساعده في فهم هذه لمعلومات يُرجى أن تطلب أخرى يملكن تو فسير هذه المعلوما ت

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Division: Surgery
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