



Royal Berkshire  
NHS Foundation Trust

# **Introduction to the gynaecological cancer multi- disciplinary team (MDT)**

Information for patients,  
relatives and carers

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**This leaflet provides you and your family or friends with information about the multi-disciplinary team (MDT) involved in your care at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. There are also some useful telephone numbers and website addresses which you may find helpful.**

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## **The multi-disciplinary team**

The multi-disciplinary team (MDT) comprises of doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals who are involved with your individual care. The MDT meets on a weekly basis on a Monday afternoon to discuss patients who have been newly diagnosed with a gynaecological cancer or have been undergoing treatment or require their cases to be reviewed.

Once investigations such as a CT/ MRI or PET scan or a biopsy have been performed and the results are reported, your case will be added to the MDT. The specialists will review your case and results at the MDT meeting, then the specialist team will formulate a plan of treatment best suited to the individual. It can take about two weeks following the tests for the results to be discussed at MDT and sometimes if a further opinion is required, it could take longer.

Sometimes, the local MDT team (Reading) may wish to refer your case to a specialist regional MDT team at another hospital. If this is recommended, it can take one or two weeks for the regional team to review your case and report back to the local team (Reading).

Following the MDT meeting, the discussions at these meetings will be documented in your medical notes so that it is clear to your clinician (doctor) what investigations and treatment are recommended.

The MDT team will either arrange an appointment, which could be in a clinic setting or a telephone consultation, to discuss your results within one or two weeks, or one of the clinical nurse specialists will telephone you to inform you of the results and proposed treatment plan. They will also try to answer any of your questions you may have.

## Who are the gynaecological cancer MDT?

- **Lead clinician**, who will take overall responsibility for the service.
- **Consultant oncologist**. Specialist in cancer and its treatments.
- **Consultant gynaecologist**. Specialist in cancer surgery.
- **Consultant radiologist**. Specialist in the examination and interpretation of x-ray / scans and other investigations.
- **Consultant histopathologist**. Specialist in the examination of biopsy / specimens and identification of cancer cells.
- **Clinical nurse specialist**. A nurse specialising in gynaecological cancers or Supportive and Palliative Care, who will provide support and information during your cancer experience.
- **MDT co-ordinator**. A person who provides the relevant information for the team and coordinates the meeting.
- **A Key Worker** from the MDT is designated to each patient. They will act as the main point of contact and are responsible for coordinating your care. This will be recorded in your hospital notes to inform other healthcare professionals.

**The Key Workers for gynaecological cancer patients are the Clinical Nurse Specialists Lisa Clarke and Deborah Carolan, supported by Support Worker, Tonita Lorde.**

## Your Key Workers / Clinical Nurse Specialists are:

**Lisa Clarke / Deborah Carolan Tel: 0118 322 8195**

**Support Worker – Tonita Lorde Tel: 0118 322 8195**

**Email: [gynaecancernurse@royalberkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:gynaecancernurse@royalberkshire.nhs.uk)**

If you have any questions about the MDT or need further information, please contact the team on the above number – they will be happy to speak to you.

## Useful numbers

Miss R Vijayanand (Surgeon) via the Gynaecology Clinical Admin Team (CAT6), Tel: 0118 322 8964 or email [rbbh.CAT6@nhs.net](mailto:rbbh.CAT6@nhs.net)

Dr H O'Donnell (Oncologist) secretary	Tel: 0118 322 6911
Dr M Bhattacharyya (Oncologist) secretary	Tel: 0118 322 6911
Sonning Ward Gynaecology (anytime)	Tel: 0118 322 8204
Gynaecology Clinic	Tel: 0118 322 7290
Adelaide Ward Oncology (anytime)	Tel: 0118 322 7471
Berkshire Cancer Centre (9am–5pm)	Tel: 0118 322 7890
CHEMO 24 hr advice line	Tel: 0118 322 7762
Chaplains (multi-faith)	Tel: 0118 322 7105
Patient Advice & Liaison Service	Tel: 0118 322 8338

## Support groups

**Macmillan Cancer Support** Freephone 0808 808 00 00

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

**Health Talk Online** [www.healthtalkonline.org](http://www.healthtalkonline.org)

## Additional referrals

If you need a referral to any of the following services this can be arranged through either the consultant or the clinical nurse specialist.

- Counsellor
- Occupational therapist
- Dietitian
- Community Palliative Care nurse
- Physiotherapist
- Citizen Advice

To find out more about our Trust visit [www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk](http://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk)

**Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.**

RBFT Berkshire Cancer Centre

Reviewed: May 2026. Review due: May 2028.