

Colorectal  
Cancer MDT



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Patient information

# Colorectal Cancer Multidisciplinary Team

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Excellent patient care, together

## **Colorectal Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)**

This leaflet tells you about The Colorectal Multidisciplinary Team (MDT). It gives you names and contact details of some of the team members.

It is designed to help you understand the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and how it functions within West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. This team plans and delivers your care. In some instances, there will be no treatment, but you will be actively monitored.

It is not intended to be a substitute for discussion with doctors and nursing staff, but we hope that by reading this leaflet you will find it easier to ask questions and discuss your investigations and treatment with the colorectal team.

Your investigations and treatment will vary depending on your circumstances so please read this leaflet as a guide.

Your future appointments could be at Watford General, St Albans City or Hemel Hempstead Hospitals or at the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre.

### **What investigations and tests may be needed?**

You may already have had some investigations, but you may need more to give the team as much information as possible. This will ensure you have the most appropriate treatment.

#### **Common tests include:**

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan
- Computed Tomography (CT)
- Ultrasound scan
- Colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy (camera inside bowel)
- Biopsies (tissue samples)
- Blood tests

## **The Colorectal Cancer Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)**

The MDT is a specialist team of health professionals that includes:

- A consultant surgeon: who specialises in colorectal surgery
- An oncologist: a consultant doctor who specialises in treating cancer
- Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS): a specialist nurse who provides advice, information, and support
- A radiologist: a consultant doctor who specialises in examining scans and X-rays
- An histopathologist: a consultant doctor who specialises in examining tissue samples in a laboratory.

The Colorectal Cancer MDT meets every week. During the meeting they will discuss your case and your test results and decide on the most appropriate treatment options for you.

Following the meeting, you will attend a clinic appointment with your consultant where the treatment options will be discussed with you and the team will help you make an informed choice.

Your appointment may be at Watford General, Hemel Hempstead or St Albans City Hospitals.

## The next step

Once you have a diagnosis of colorectal cancer, the treatment may include some or all of the following:

- Surgery at Watford General Hospital
- Chemotherapy at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre
- Radiotherapy at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre monitoring and surveillance of your cancer

## Information and support

One of the clinical nurse specialists will act as your key worker during your investigations and treatment at the hospital.

The key worker is the person you can contact directly to talk about your care and treatment. They are specially trained in colorectal cancers and offer a holistic assessment with advice, emotional support and information for patients and their families.

Your key worker will make sure that you have written information about the type of cancer you have and treatment you may need. Some of this information will be booklets produced by national cancer organisations which have been approved by cancer charities and patient organisations. Your key worker can advise you about benefits that may be available for you and about free prescriptions for cancer patients.

The CNS team is available from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Telephone: **01923 217 983**

## The Clinical Nurse Specialists in your team are:

### Linda Crawl

**07471 952 950**

Mondays, Tuesdays and  
alternate Wednesday and Fridays

### Dee Mccarthy

**07741 078005**

Mondays, Tuesdays and  
alternate Wednesday and Fridays

### Larissa Holloway

**07770 189702**

Monday to Friday

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**07770 189702**

Monday to Friday

### Foina Mitchell

**01923 217983**

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

### Grainne Finnerty

**01923 217983**

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays

## Colorectal consultant surgeons

### Mr Arbuckle

Secretary: Karen Deacon  
**01923 217692**

### Mr Franklyn

Secretary: Tess Boxford  
**01923 217875**

### Mr Patel

Secretary: Kelly Harding  
**01923 217401**

### Mr Daulatzai

Secretary: Tess Boxford  
**01923 217875**

### Mr Hollingshead

Secretary: Kelly Harding  
**01923 217401**

## Other key members of the MDT are:

### Dr Bhuva – Consultant Oncologist

Secretary – Lois Sims  
Mondays and Fridays: 8:30am – 4.30pm  
**01923 436122**

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### Dr Macfarlane – Consultant Gastroenterologist

### Dr Patel – Consultant Radiologist

### Dr Agarwal – Histopathologist

### Harry Watts – Colorectal MDT coordinator

## Further information

There are Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Centres where you can visit and receive information. These centres are located at:

Macmillan Information and Support Centre  
Watford General Hospital, main building reception area  
Telephone: **01923 436 326**

Lynda Jackson Centre, Mount Vernon Cancer Centre  
Northwood. Telephone: **020 3826 2555**

The Macmillan Helpline: **0808 808 0000**

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

## Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

The Trust's Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) are available to patients and families who would like to raise any concerns or issues with the way that they have been treated. This service can be contacted on **01923 217 198** or [westherts.pals@nhs.net](mailto:westherts.pals@nhs.net)

## Useful numbers

### [Watford General Hospital](#)

Vicarage Road  
Watford  
Hertfordshire WD18 0HB  
Hospital switchboard: 01923 244366

### [Hemel Hempstead Hospital](#)

Hillfield Road  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire HP2 4AD  
Hospital switchboard: 01442 213141

### [St Albans City Hospital](#)

Waverley Road  
St Albans  
Hertfordshire AL3 5PN  
Hospital switchboard: 01727 866122

## PALS

If you need this leaflet in another **language, large print, Braille or audio version**, please call **01923 217198** or email [westherts.pals@nhs.net](mailto:westherts.pals@nhs.net).



Language



Large Print



Braille



Audio

### Concerns, complaints or suggestions

If you are unhappy with your experience or would like to give feedback, please contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). PALS is available to patients, relatives, carers and friends to raise concerns.

For more information, please scan the QR code or visit our [website](#).

We welcome feedback about your care, this feedback is shared with all staff we can improve patients' experience. Click this [link](#) or use the QR code with your smartphone.



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