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# Upper GI Cancer MDT



**Patient information**

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**Excellent patient care, together**

## **Upper GI Cancer MDT**

Upper GI refers to the oesophagus and stomach, and this information is about the Multidisciplinary Team (**MDT**) who will be caring for you and how you can contact members of the team.

Your care is planned and delivered by this team, however, depending on your treatment plan, you may need to attend Mount Vernon or the Hammersmith Hospitals. In other circumstances, there may be no treatment but we will advise how we will monitor you. We aim to always keep you informed in as a timely a manner as possible.

This is not a substitute for discussions with doctors and nursing staff but we hope it will help you to ask questions and discuss your investigations and treatment with the MDT.

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

Your future appointments could be at Watford, St Albans City Hospital, Hemel Hempstead Hospital, the Hammersmith Hospitals or at 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 to ensure you have the most appropriate treatment.

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

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (**MRI**) scan
- Computed Tomography (**CT**) and Bone scans
- Ultrasound Scan (**USS**)
- Positron Emission Tomography (**PET**) scan at Mount Vernon
- Endoscopic Ultrasound (**EUS**)
- Biopsies (tissue samples)
- Blood tests and X-Rays
- Laparoscopy (key hole examination under anaesthetic)
- Biopsies (tissue samples)
- Blood tests and X-Rays
- Laparoscopy (key hole test under anaesthetic)

### **The Upper GI Cancer Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)**

This is a specialist team of health professionals which includes:

- A consultant surgeon – who specialises in Upper GI 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,
- A histopathologist – a consultant doctor who specialises in examining tissue samples in a laboratory,
- A consultant gastroenterologist – who specialises in illness affecting the digestive system,
- Dietician – who gives specialised advice on nutrition,
- Physiotherapist – who gives specialised advice on exercise and recovery, before and after having an operation.

The Upper GI Cancer MDT meets every week on a Monday from 12.00pm. During this meeting, the MDT will discuss your case and your test results and decide on the most appropriate treatment options for you. Following the meeting, when you attend your next clinic appointment with your team of consultants, the options will be discussed with you and help you make an informed choice.

### **The next step**

Once you have an upper GI cancer diagnosis the treatment may include some or all of the following:

- Chemotherapy - usually administered at Mount Vernon Hospital
- Endoscopy procedures - Watford General Hospital
- Radiotherapy - always done at Mount Vernon Hospital
- Surgery - always done at Hammersmith Hospital
- Clinical trials - always done at Mount Vernon Hospital

### **What information and support is available?**

The Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is your key worker during your investigations and treatment at the hospital.

You can contact your key worker directly to talk about your care and treatment. There is a team of CNSs who are specially trained in Upper GI cancers and offer a holistic assessment with advice, and emotional support and information to 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. These are 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 Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) in your team are:**

Jennifer Meller      Tel: 01923 436021 or 07388 993785  
(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)

Emma Always      Tel: 01923 436021 or 07816 196282  
(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)

## Upper GI Consultants

Mr Stefan Antonowicz, Consultant Surgeon

Secretary: Tel: **01923 217876**

Mr Piers Boshier, Consultant Surgeon

Secretary: Tel: **01923 217876**

Dr Anthony Leahy, Consultant Gastroenterologist

Secretary: Hayley Goddard Tel: **01442 287060**

Dr Mark Fullard, Consultant Gastroenterologist

Secretary: Hayley Goddard Tel: **01442 287060**

Dr Paul Wolfson, Consultant Gastroenterologist

Secretary: Marta Vitenburga Tel: **01923 217291**

Dr Mohamed Shariff, Consultant Gastroenterologist

Secretary: Rebecca Sanders Tel: **01442 287633**

Dr Arash Vaziri, Consultant Gastroenterologist

Secretary: Shiyara Omerdeen Tel: **01923 217893**

Dr Neel Bhuva, Consultant Oncologist

Secretary: Fiyin Oniyelu Tel: **020 3826 251**

Dr Vasiliki Michalarea, Consultant Oncologist

Secretary: Fiyin Oniyelu Tel: **020 3826 2512**

In addition 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, Level 2 of the main building, opposite the main reception. Tel: **01923 436 326**

Lynda Jackson Centre, Mount Vernon Cancer Centre

Northwood. Tel: **020 3826 2555**

The Macmillan Helpline:

Tel: **0808 808 0000**

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

## Useful contact numbers

Mount Vernon Hospital Switchboard 020 3826 2020

Hammersmith Hospital Switchboard 020 3313 1000

## How to contact us

### Department name

[Watford General Hospital](#)

Vicarage Road

Watford

Hertfordshire WD18 0HB

Hospital switchboard: 01923 244366

### Department name

[Hemel Hempstead Hospital](#)

Hillfield Road

Hemel Hempstead

Hertfordshire HP2 4AD

Hospital switchboard: 01442 213141

### Department name

[St Albans City Hospital](#)

Waverley Road

St Albans

Hertfordshire AL3 5PN

Hospital switchboard: 01727 866122

## PALS

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For more information, on our Patient Advice and Liaison Service, visit our [website](#).



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