

**INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS**

**ABOUT**

**THE COLORECTAL MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM  
(MDT)**

This information is available in other formats on request. Please ask your nursing staff to arrange this

## **What is a multidisciplinary team (MDT)?**

A group of health care disciplines, meet together every week, to discuss the care of individual patients.

Their main focus is the clinical management of each patient's future care and treatment. The MDT links to the wider care team, in particular the patient's GP. This ensures that when treatment decisions are made, ongoing support and care is continued.

## **Who makes up the Colorectal MDT?**

### **MDT Co-ordinator**

This person arranges the meetings, and documents decisions made within the meetings.

### **Consultant Colorectal Surgeons**

A senior Colorectal Surgeon who will consider the surgical options for patients.

### **Consultant Specialist Physicians**

A senior doctor who diagnose cancer and refer onto the surgical team

### **Consultant Clinical Oncologist**

A senior doctor who specialises in treating patients with radiotherapy and chemotherapy.

### **Consultant Radiologist**

A senior doctor who determines the precise location and extent of a cancer in the body using imaging such as Computerised Tomography (CT) and PET (Positron Emission Tomography) scans

### **Consultant Histopathologist**

A senior doctor who looks at tissue samples under a microscope to make a diagnosis and to grade the cancer

### **Colorectal Clinical Nurse Specialists**

A registered nurse who has received additional training in bowel cancer and its treatment and care

### **Nurse Endoscopist**

Registered nurse who has undergone specialist training in performing endoscopy i.e. colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy

### **Dietician**

A registered practitioner trained in the nutritional requirements of patients.

### **Stoma Care Sister**

A registered nurse trained in the management and care of stomas, colostomies, ileostomy, urostomies

### **Specialist Palliative Team Care member**

A registered nurse who specialises in the management of the symptoms of cancer.

It has been shown that:

**The best outcomes for patients are achieved when health care professionals work together and generate innovation to ensure progress in practice and service.**

(Department of Health 1993).

For More Information Contact:

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