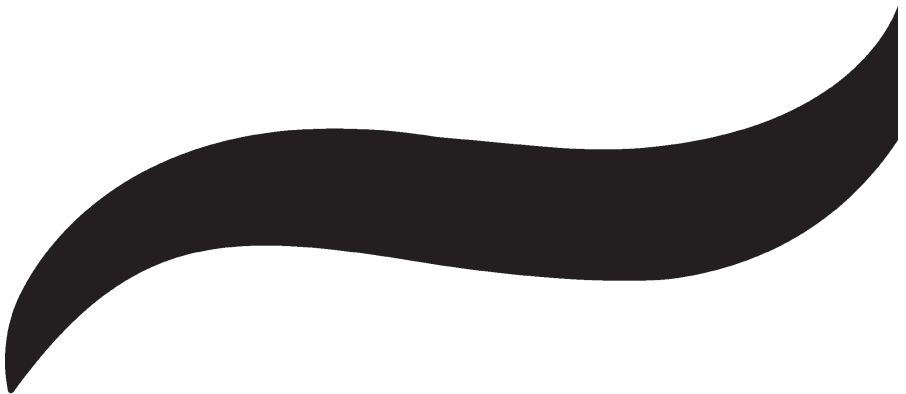




# Role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist for Lung Cancer

Information for patients



The Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is a qualified nurse who has knowledge and experience in looking after the physical, emotional and social needs of people with Lung Cancer and Mesothelioma. The clinical nurse specialist will support you and those close to you during your illness and treatment. This leaflet explains the different ways the clinical nurse specialist team may be able to help you, both now and in the future.

You will be informed of the Lung Cancer CNS, who will be your main contact, however we work as a team to provide a service.

## **THE TEAM CARING FOR YOU**

People with Lung Cancer have many different needs. For this reason, most hospitals have a team of health professionals to look after all aspects of your care. This team is called a Multi-Disciplinary Team (or MDT for short). The team itself may vary from hospital to hospital but generally will include a Consultant Respiratory Doctor, a Consultant Oncologist (Cancer Specialist), Consultant Radiologists (X-Ray Specialists), a Pathologist, and Lung CNS.

## **INFORMATION AND SUPPORT**

The lung CNS is a point of contact for you and your family, for advice, information and support, acting as a “link person” improving communication so that your care plan runs as smoothly as possible. The lung CNS can help you contact various individuals and services that may be of help to you and your family, for example District Nurses.

Some lung cancer clinical nurse specialists have advanced training or experience, which allows them to act in an “extended role”. This involves some tasks usually done by doctors, such as carrying out examinations, assessing your condition and reviewing and requesting investigations and tests.

## **THE LUNG CANCER CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST CAN HELP WITH:**

- ❖ Good communication and information
- ❖ Easy Access to specialist help and advice
- ❖ Sign post to Psychological Support
- ❖ Symptom control advice
- ❖ Co-ordinate your care

If you are ever admitted to a hospital please ask the nurses on the ward to let the Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist know that you have been admitted to hospital.

## **MAIN CONTACT DETAILS:**

### **HOURS OF WORK**

When we can be contacted: Monday to Friday: 8am - 4pm

If you call us and the phone goes to the answer service, please leave a message stating your name and telephone number, we will call you back as soon as possible, this might be the next day, or on a Monday if you call at the weekend.

### **AT OTHER TIMES**

It is important to note that this is an information and support service, it is not an emergency service. If you become acutely unwell you should contact your own family Doctor (G.P.) or NHS 24.

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