

# Who is the 'Primary Care Team?'

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## **Primary Care**

Your hospital team have referred you to primary care services who work in partnership with your hospital team and together they will share your health care needs.

Your primary care team includes your General Practitioner (GP), district nurses, community Macmillan nurses, and other health professionals that you may or may not see throughout your treatment. They will provide support and care before, during and following your treatment.

#### **General Practitioners**

Your General Practitioner will be informed of your diagnosis and to whom you have been referred to for treatment.

Throughout your treatment the hospital will keep your GP informed of your progress.

Your General Practitioner should remain your first point of contact for general medical advice.

Early and continued contact with your General Practitioner is very important as they can provide you with help, support and information, additional to the Upper Gastrointestinal Team.

#### **District Nurses**

You may be referred to your local district nursing service, who work alongside your General Practitioner and other community services.

The District Nurse will have an overview of your care and will work closely with other services involved, whether in hospital or community.

The role of the District Nurse is for you and your family to have a contact within your community and access to specialised nursing care, support and advice at home.

If the district nursing team had a concern they would either discuss with your GP, contact your hospital team or ask for the Community Macmillan Team to see you.

They can also arrange for equipment to be provided within your home to make you more comfortable and to enable you to maintain independence wherever possible in your daily activities.

Your first contact from your District Nurses may be a visit at home or a telephone call.

The District Nurse will provide you with contact details of their service and discuss with you and your family your individual needs, and plan further contact as necessary.

### **Community Macmillan Nurse**

The Community Macmillan Nurse Specialists' are qualified nurses with additional specialist experience in symptom management.

They provide support and advice to patients, families, and other healthcare professionals.

When you are at home, you can be referred to a Community Macmillan Nurse by your General Practitioner, District Nurse or the Upper Gastrointestinal Specialist Nurse. Once referred, they will contact you direct and arrange to visit you at home.