



PATIENT INFORMATION

What happens if I decide not to have the treatment offered to me?

Being diagnosed with cancer is a life changing experience and you may experience a mix of emotions. These can range from shock, disbelief and denial to anger, numbness and helplessness.

You will probably have had appointments with a range of different healthcare professionals and will most likely have been given a large amount of information, both written and verbal.

It can be difficult at times to take all this in and to make choices as to what sort of treatment, if any, you wish to have.

Now that you have come to a decision that you do not wish to have any treatment, it is important to feel comfortable with this and not to feel under pressure to change your mind about something that may have been a positive step for you. It is also very important for you to know that your decision not to accept treatment will not in any way affect the care and support offered to you.

Your Nurse Specialist, Macmillan Radiographer and Medical Team can help in several ways:

- If you would like another appointment, either with them or the Consultant, to talk things through again, this can be arranged
- If you would still like to attend check-ups in the hospital, this can be arranged, but please note that further investigations may not be undertaken unless directly relevant to your care
- If you do not wish to attend the hospital again, staff can notify your G.P. who will take over your care
- If your family and friends are finding it hard to accept your decision, your healthcare professional or Consultant can, with your permission, talk to them
- They can also liaise with a range of healthcare professionals, both within the hospital and the community to provide support and care for you and your family

Please remember your Consultant, Specialist Nurse, Macmillan Radiographer and Medical Team are still here to support you, whatever your decision about treatment is.