

The Macmillan Speech & Language Therapist (SLT) is part of the Head and Neck Oncology Multi-Disciplinary team at Torbay Hospital involved in your care.

The SLT can be available to meet you at your initial visit to the H&N Oncology Clinic to briefly explain their role in your care.

The SLT will meet you with the Head & Neck Support Team (made up of Clinical Nurse Specialist [CNS], SLT and Dietitian [RD]) in the Pre-Treatment Clinic. The SLT aim is to give you an explanation of how your communication and/or swallowing will be affected by the planned surgery, and answer any queries or concerns you may have.

The SLT will:

- Compare the normal anatomy with post-operative anatomy and explain what this means;
- explain post-operative speech and swallow;
- assess current function;
- identify need for pre-surgery therapy;
- arrange for you to meet another person who has undergone the same surgery, if you wish;
- provide written information.

The SLT will meet you post-surgery to:

- look at communication options;
- provide patient and family support;
- reiterate plans for rehabilitation;
- engage in teaching (jointly with CNS) cleaning, humidification, etc.;
- provide support through any further treatment, such as radiotherapy.

The SLT will provide regular follow-up and support, as required.

The SLT will introduce you to our patient-organised support group based at Torbay Hospital

## Contact details

Your contact telephone number for  
Sam Gregory and Sarah Thomas  
Speech and Language Therapists

01803 654949

Speech & Language Therapy  
Service

Crow Thorne Therapies Centre

Level 2

Yellow Zone

Torbay Hospital

Lowes Bridge

Torquay, TQ2 7AA

For further assistance or to  
receive this information in a  
different format, please contact  
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 TorbayAndSouthDevonFT

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[www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/](http://www.torbayandsouthdevon.nhs.uk/)

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**Torbay and South Devon**  
NHS Foundation Trust

## PATIENT INFORMATION

# Speech and Language Therapy Service (Macmillan)

Head and Neck Oncology  
Laryngectomy

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Working with you, for you