

PATIENT INFORMATION

Borderline Ovarian Tumours

Following your diagnosis of borderline ovarian tumour, you will have been given information regarding this illness and the treatment options. This information may be relevant to you and women all over the country. The following information relates to the care of women who are treated by the multi-disciplinary team at South Devon Healthcare Foundation Trust.

Multi-Disciplinary Team

This is the name we use to describe the people involved in your care. It is called this because they all have different jobs, but together, are the people best placed to give advice about what treatment you receive.

The core members of the team are gynaecologists, radiologists, pathologists and nurse specialists. When the team discuss your case you are able to have feedback from the meeting which will probably happen in your out-patient appointment or by phone if you are not having an appointment in the near future. Please feel free to ask about this.

You are also entitled to a copy of any letters sent to your GP if you would like one please ask.

The team who are concerned with your care are: -

Mr Singh- Consultant Gynaecologist with a special Interest in Ovarian cancer.

Can be contacted via his Secretary on 01803 654624 during office hours.

Mr Singh will be involved in your diagnostic tests and surgical treatment and follow-up.

Mrs S Coleridge Consultant Gynaecologist

Can be contacted via her Secretary in Torbay on 01803 654647 or Exeter on 01392 406614 during Office hours.

Mrs Coleridge carries out surgical procedures in Exeter for Torbay patients.

Dr S Higgins & Dr S Harrison - Consultant Radiologists

Interpret scans and x rays taken and report their findings to other doctors involved in your care during the Multi-Disciplinary Team Meetings.

Tracy Hill, Bridget Reddy & Debbie Fitzgerald - Specialist Nurses in Gynaecological Oncology.

Can be contacted during office hours (or by prior appointment) on 01803 654627 or 07585961858 or bleeped via hospital switchboard on 01803 614567

They are able to discuss all aspects of your care with you and your family and will liaise with other members of the team on your behalf. They will be able to offer support throughout your whole cancer journey.

You may find that you have to visit various departments within Torbay Hospital; these are most likely to be:

Gynae/oncology Clinic – This is situated in the Women’s Health Unit and a clinic is held on Monday afternoons for patients following treatment. This clinic is run by Dr Lo, Miss Leggott and Mr Hannemann so you can have advice from anyone in the team if necessary.

Your Specialist Nurse will also usually be present for you to discuss any concerns or problems you may have, please ask any of the clinic nurses if you wish to see her. If she is not present they will ask her to phone you at home.

Our aim is to make this difficult time as problem free as possible for you, so please feel free to discuss any concerns or problems that you may have. All of the people whom you will come into contact with are here to help you. All of your questions and concerns, no matter how simple, are important to you, so please do not hesitate to ask the Doctors and Nurses for their advice.

Sexuality and cancer

Living with cancer and the treatments involved may have an effect on a person’s self- image and ability to function on a sexual and relationship level. In some instances overcoming adversity may actually strengthen a relationship and feelings for each other, for others this is not the case. It may be helpful to remember that, though enjoyable, true physical sex is often less important than feeling wanted, accepted, loved and whole. Some people feel that they should not be concerned with deficiencies in their sex life, that they should merely be grateful for being alive. This

is not the case, and if you have any concerns then please feel free to discuss them with your specialist nurse. She is able to offer time and privacy if needed.

Additional help, advice and support

Ovacom: A nationwide Support group for all those concerned with ovarian cancer. Their aim is to share personal experiences, link those affected by ovarian cancer, raise awareness of the condition and provide information on treatments, screening and research.

Phone 0845 371 0554

www.ovacome.org.uk

Target Ovarian cancer

www.targetovariancancer.org.uk

0207 923 5470

30 Angel Gate, London EC1V 2PT

Ovarian Cancer Action

8-12 Camden High St
London
NW1 0JH

www.ovarian.org.uk

Macmillan Cancer Support

Tel: 0808 808 00 00

www.macmillan.org.uk

The Lodge Cancer Support Centre

Torbay Hospital Annexe

Tel: 01803 617521 (Weds –Fri. 9.00 – 4.00)

ROC (Research into Ovarian cancer)

Tel: 0208 789 1406

Penny Brohn Cancer Care

Tel: 0845 123 23 10

www.pennybrohncancercare.org

For further assistance or to receive this information in a different format, please contact the department which created this leaflet.