



University
Hospitals Sussex
NHS Foundation Trust

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.**
CANCER SUPPORT

The Macmillan Skin Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

Dermatology Department

Patient information

Who are we?

We are a team of Macmillan Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) who are registered nurses and a Cancer Support Worker, specialising in skin cancer.

The CNS is here to provide supportive care and advice about your particular type of cancer. This remains throughout the pathway of your care from diagnosis, treatment and on-going surveillance over a period of up to five years or until you are discharged back to your GP.

We can offer guidance and support from diagnosis and throughout the course of your treatment and on-going aftercare, and symptom control.

When will I see a CNS?

The diagnosis and subsequent treatment of Skin Cancer can have an emotional effect on people. Please contact us if you need to discuss these feelings. We can refer you to our counselling services.

We have a helpline for you to contact at any time via telephone or email. We are also available to your family and carers.

We can answer your questions and provide expert advice on Skin cancer and treatments. **However if you are on treatment such as immunotherapy or radiotherapy you must contact the chemotherapy nurses about treatment plans or queries and side effects.**

We can ensure you are in touch with the right people and access the right services for you. For example, dietician, psychologist, Citizens Advice Bureau or community support.

Unfortunately we cannot visit people at home.

What is a Macmillan cancer support worker and how can they help?

The cancer support worker works alongside the CNS and is able to also provide non-medical advice and support.

They are able to look into appointments, such as dates and times of investigations.

They can liaise with other health and social care professionals on your behalf, and can redirect your queries to the appropriate team member.

They can carry out holistic needs assessment (HNA) which will be in the information pack we have given you. This helps you with your concerns and discusses possible solutions. This takes about 20 minutes to complete and will help with developing a care plan for yourself and your individual needs.

This helps to prioritise and highlight your needs or concerns you may have and want to talk about. These may be physical, emotional, practical, financial or spiritual.

Who else is involved in my care and treatment?

We are part of the multi-disciplinary team (MDT) and will be able to liaise with other professionals in the team on your behalf. We meet on a weekly basis (generally Tuesday mornings).

The MDT are:

- Dermatologist
- Oncologists
- Nurses
- Radiologists
- Pathologists
- Cancer co-ordinator
- Surgeons and plastic surgeons.

We work closely together to plan and deliver the most effective treatment and care for each individual patient. We discuss your case and what the next step is within your pathway. This maybe further diagnostic testing, further scans, further surgery, treatment options.

Decisions from the meeting are then discussed with you by doctors or the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS).

Who can I contact for further information and advice?

Macmillan skin clinical nurse specialist team

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust.

We are usually available from Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm, except bank holidays.

When leaving a message on our answer phone or emailing in please leave the following details: **your name, contact number and hospital NHS or ID number.**

Phone [01273 665028](tel:01273665028)

Email uhsussex.skincancer.macmillan.nurses@nhs.net

Useful information sites

The Macmillan Horizon Centre

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/cancer-information-and-support/get-help/centres/macmillan-horizon-centre>

Phone **01273 468770**

Email horizoncentre@macmillan.org.uk

Opening hours **Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 4:30 pm**

Macmillan Cancer support

<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/>

Phone **0808 808 0000**

Also see the following websites:

Melanoma

<https://melanomafocus.org/>

British Association of Dermatology

<https://www.bad.org.uk/>

Cancer Research

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/>

Useful contact details

Hospital numbers

Royal Sussex County Hospital

01273 696955

Brighton General Hospital

01273 665140

Princess Royal Hospital

01444 441881

Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead

01342 414000

Eastbourne District General

0300 131 4500

Treatment contact details

Sussex Cancer centre

01273 696955 Ext. 64324

Chemotherapy Nurses

01273 696955 Ext. 64799

Radiotherapy Nurses

01273 696955 Ext. 64901

Radiology departments

Royal Sussex County Hospital

01273 696955 Ext. 64118

Pet Scan University Sussex

01273 876720 Ext. 523040

Princess Royal Hospital

01444 441881 Ext. 68330

Worthing Hospital

01903 205111 Ext. 85548

St Richards Hospital

01243 877122 Ext. 33475

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