



Role of Macmillan Head and Neck Cancer Specialist Nurse

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May 12, 2010

Aims

- Macmillan Cancer Support
- CNS role
- Core Values
- Patient pathway
- What it means to patients

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**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

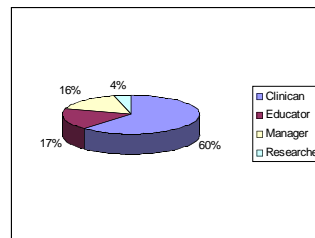


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Components of CNS Role (RCN 2004)



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Job remit

Cross-site:

- ENT/Head & Neck
- Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery
- Clinical and Medical Oncology
- Maxillofacial Surgery
- Palliative Care

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Referral criteria



- Newly diagnosed patients
- Patients with recurrent or metastatic disease
- Patients with complex psycho-social needs
- Patients demonstrating difficulties with coping/adaptation with regards to altered body image/facial disfigurement
- Patients needing further information, advice and psychological support with decision-making about treatment options.

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Improving Outcomes Guidance 2004

- To provide specialist nursing expertise
- Facilitate liaison between primary, secondary and tertiary health care teams
- To maintain and develop clinical competence
- Support patient and family throughout the 'cancer journey' – 'Keyworker'
- Refer to specialist services

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We are a source of support



- Emotional – talking things through
- Physical - dressings
- Psychological – assessment /referral
- Spiritual – understanding & including
- Practical – financial advice, smoking cessation

I get to know my patients and what is important to them and their families

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We help to save lives



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Patient Pathway



- Cancer Diagnosis-initiate appropriate PCT and interdisciplinary referrals
- Treatment Planning-provide information on treatment options and support decision
- Treatment-empower and support staff to care for patient
- Discharge-liaise with PCT and offer specialist support
- Follow-up-re-initiate links/contacts

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Research findings

Confirm significant disturbances in:

- Swallowing
- Diet and social eating
- Speech
- Anxiety/depression
- Social isolation/relationship difficulties
- Work impairment

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Working relationships




- Speech and language therapy
- Dietetics
- Psycho-oncology
- Palliative care (PCST and Community)
- Social worker
- Physiotherapy
- Restorative dentist

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What it means to patients

- My care has been very very good. The Macmillan nurses are wonderful – so kind and helpful – thank you.
- The Macmillan team have been fantastic in keeping me informed and supported.
- The Macmillan nurses have been wonderful!!!

(Comments taken from patient experience surveys)



Contact details

Thank you for listening.....

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