

# Cisplatin in combination with Radiotherapy

Patient Information



Your doctor has explained that you will have Cisplatin chemotherapy in combination with radiotherapy at the BWOSCC. The aim of this booklet is to give you a guide to the various clinics and departments which you may have to attend, and the different types of staff involved in your care.

Firstly, we will send you two lists of appointments: one for your Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) treatments in the Macmillan Day Case Unit (MDCU), and the other for your radiotherapy treatments (the longer list of the two). Included on the radiotherapy list will be an appointment to attend the simulator, where the initial planning for your radiotherapy will take place.

In addition, if you have to receive internal High Dose Radiotherapy (HDR), you will also receive a letter detailing appointments for this.

## **Radiotherapy**

The radiotherapy department is situated on level 0 of the BWOSCC, and has 11 treatment rooms. Each room is identified by a different letter of the alphabet from A to K. Your radiotherapy treatment room will be noted as a letter against the appointments on your list.

Normally, you will receive radiotherapy daily, during a standard working week, i.e. Monday-Friday (not at weekends). Treatment rooms have to be closed occasionally during the working week to carry out required maintenance to the units. If this happens while you are on treatment, your radiographers will advise you of these arrangements. Please note if you miss a treatment day for any reason, this will not affect the total number of treatments prescribed by your consultant.

Your radiotherapy will take approximately ten minutes to administer at each visit.

## **SACT**

Your chemotherapy will be given in the Macmillan Day Case Unit (MDCU), which is situated on level 1 of the BWOSCC. The SACT drug you have been prescribed is called Cisplatin. This treatment usually begins around about the same time as the start of your radiotherapy, and will be given once weekly for the duration of your course of radiotherapy treatment.

Because Cisplatin enhances the therapeutic affect of radiotherapy, on the days that you have to receive both SACT and radiotherapy, you must attend the MDCU for SACT first. Appointments for SACT are usually scheduled for 9am on Monday mornings. To ensure that your body cells have been sufficiently 'primed' with Cisplatin you must wait at least one hour after SACT has been completed, before receiving your dose of radiotherapy.

## **Radiotherapy Review and SACT Pre-assessment Clinic**

This clinic takes place every Friday morning, and is held in area 2 of the Outpatients Department, which is situated on level 1 of the BWOSCC. You will also need to have blood samples taken each week at your clinic appointment so that your treatment can be authorised. You will receive an appointment for this clinic, it is important that you attend each week for the duration of your SACT and radiotherapy.

At this clinic you will see:

- The gynaecology clinical nurse specialist who will review your progress, and provide advice and support regarding your radiotherapy
- A SACT nurse who will carry out your pre-SACT assessments

## Contacts

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| Radiotherapy reception                         | 0141 301 7600 / 301 7484 |
| Tom Weldon Building reception                  | 0141 301 3737            |
| Macmillan Day Case Unit reception              | 0141 301 7500            |
| Area 2, Macmillan Day Case Unit                | 0141 301 7257            |
| Ward B3 reception                              | 0141 301 7618            |
| Ward B3 staff base                             | 0141 301 7623            |
| Rosie McCahill<br>Gynaecology Nurse Specialist | 0141 301 7615            |

Reviewed by: L. Proudfoot April 2021  
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