Other information sources
For information on any aspect of cancer or palliative care, you can also contact:

Macmillan Information Centre
Cancer and Specialist Services
Level 1
Main Hospital
Royal Derby Hospital
Telephone: 01332 786008
Email: dhft.cancerinformation@nhs.net
What is the Hospital Palliative Care Team (HPCT)?
The HPCT is a team of specialist nurses and doctors who work alongside ward teams in the Derby Hospitals. The HPCT offers advice and support for patients and families at any stage of their illness from the time of diagnosis onwards.

How can the HPCT help?
The HPCT may:
• Give advice on symptom management.
• Provide support for emotional and psychological issues.
• Help you and your carers in understanding the progress of your illness and treatment options.
• Provide further information as needed by you and your family.
• Liaise with other professionals.
• Be involved with the planning of your future care.

How am I referred to the HPCT?
The ward team, with the agreement of yourself and the consultant in charge of your care, invite us to assess your needs. This will have been discussed with you.

The HPCT then work with your ward team to address these needs. You will continue to be cared for on your ward under the charge of your consultant.

What happens when I leave hospital?
The HPCT are primarily involved during your stay in hospital. However, they do also play a part in planning your continued care.

It is important that your needs continue to be met after you leave hospital. Your ward team will plan this and, if necessary, make referrals to the District Nurse and Social Services. The following may also be arranged with your agreement:
• A Community Macmillan Nurse to visit you at home.
• A Palliative Medicine outpatient appointment.
• Further inpatient stay under the care of the Specialist Palliative Care team at the Nightingale Macmillan Unit

What is the Nightingale Macmillan Unit (NMU)?
The NMU is a Specialist Palliative Care Unit. You may be offered a stay in the NMU if you require more specialist care than can be provided in your current setting.

The reasons for this transfer will be discussed with you and your family. Your agreement will be sought before transfer is arranged. There are a limited number of beds and there is often a delay before transfer can be arranged.

If you were waiting for a bed at the NMU before your admission to hospital your needs will be reassessed with you in hospital.

Contact details
You can contact the team on:
01332 783074
Monday to Friday
Between 8.30am and 4.00pm

Your main contact person is: