Community Palliative Care Team

What is the Community Palliative Care Team (CPCT)?
The CPCT is a team of clinical nurse specialists (sometimes referred to as Macmillan nurses), supported by a medical team. We offer support to patients with advanced, progressive and life-shortening illnesses, both cancer and other diseases, at any stage of their illness.

Our aim is to maximise quality of life and relieve suffering for the affected person, their families and those identified as important to them.

How am I referred to the CPCT?
Any healthcare professional involved in your care, in the community or hospital, can make a referral e.g. your GP, district/community nurse or hospital consultant.

They will do this if:
- They think you or your family have needs that cannot be dealt with by your usual healthcare provider (this is usually your General Practice team).
- You agree to the referral being made.
- You are registered with a GP in the region or in Southern Derbyshire (there are similar services covering other regions).

How can the CPCT help?
The CPCT is an additional resource to the General Practice team (GP, district/community nurse) and works jointly with them.

The CPCT visit patients at home, in a care home or while an in-patient in their local community hospital (Ilkeston, Babington, Ripley and St Oswald’s).

The CPCT provide:
- Advice on managing symptoms.
- Support for emotional and psychological issues.
- Help to understand the progression of illness and treatment options.
- Information about other forms of support e.g. complementary therapies, day care, voluntary organisations and local support groups.
- Advice on social and financial concerns.
CPCT involvement will vary with need and may include:

- Advice to the healthcare professionals involved in your care without meeting you directly.
- Telephone contact with you and/or (with your permission) those important to you.
- Face to face assessment at home or another mutually agreed location.
- Follow-up assessments (at home and/or telephone contact) until problems resolve, progress is reviewed regularly.
- Discharge from the service when problems have been managed; your General Practice team will continue providing your healthcare.
- Ability to reconnect with the service when required.

The Specialist Palliative Care Service
The CPCT are part of the wider Specialist Palliative Care Service which is based at the Royal Derby Hospital. The CPCT may access and refer to other elements of the Specialist Palliative Care Service.

CPCT contact details
While the CPCT endeavour to respond quickly, they do not provide an emergency service.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>CPCT secretary</td>
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<td>The secretary will connect you with the appropriate staff member</td>
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<td>Your main contact</td>
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<td>The CPCT contact patients and visit at home, Monday to Friday, 9 - 5pm.</td>
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The Nightingale Macmillan Unit out of hours symptom advice line
Telephone: 01332 786040
Monday to Friday, 4pm to 9am, 24 hours at weekends and bank holidays
The aim of the advice line is to support a person to manage their condition away from hospital by advising about symptoms and medication. As the phone is staffed by nurses at work, they may not be able to immediately answer your call. You may need to leave a message and they will call back.

Macmillan Information Centre
For information on any aspect of cancer or palliative care:
Level 1, Entrance 24, Royal Derby Hospital
Telephone 01332 786008 (answer phone available)
Email: dhft.cancerinformation@nhs.net