

Mac News

*The latest Weston General Hospital cancer news, views
and announcements*



Patient Voice Cancer Information & Support Teams

Are you interested in improving services provided by the Cancer Information and support teams ?

We are looking for patients who would like to be involved in shaping our services . This could be face to face , a phone call or video call . We want to ensure that any changes to our service are based on the voices of people affected by cancer.

If you are interested please let your cancer support worker know or drop into one of the Cancer Information & Support Centres

Fundraising on behalf of the Macmillan Support Centre

Vikkie's 5k a day

A North Somerset Council employee has raised over £1,000 for the Macmillan Centre by running 5k every day during January.

Following a close colleague's cancer diagnosis, Vikkie Page chose to fundraise for the centre in recognition of the invaluable wrap-around care provided for cancer patients. Vikkie laced up her trainers in all weathers to achieve her 5k a day goal and colleagues and friends were only too happy to donate in recognition of her efforts.

Vikkie raised a tremendous total of £1,136 for the centre. Thank you Vikkie.



**With Vikki are Lesley B Senior CSW , Nicola
and Claire CSW's**

Haematology Enhanced Practitioner Team



Last autumn, the Haematology Clinical Nurse Specialist team at Weston had a re brand. We are now called Enhanced Practitioners. This brings us into line with other teams within the Trust fulfilling a similar role. We still care for and support all Haematology patients under Weston Hospital, however we also have an extended and more autonomous role, reviewing and assessing patients when necessary, prescribing and treating to avoid unnecessary admissions. We have also had a change of uniform, and can now be seen in black scrubs rather than CNS purple.

Haematology patients can still contact us for advice or to answer queries. We provide the same service as before, but this change in designation is in recognition of the enhanced knowledge, skills and care we provide.



Matrons Musings : Amanda Bessant

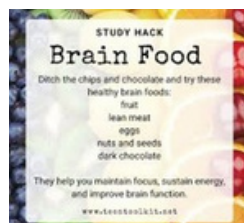
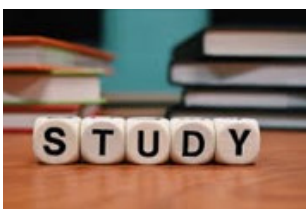
One of the many drivers within the NHS is to continually review services for innovative, development opportunities to not only improve the patient experience but also to support & develop the staff.

The aim of educational service improvement projects is to enable & empower staff to take on a wider range of clinical tasks, with the matron gaining support from the senior management team & if required, to source funding to support development initiatives.

To ensure service improvement is of an appropriate standard, those involved need to know how to assess the quality of the service, identify the need for change, outline the project then implement & evaluate change. This approach fits well with the 4 pillars of the Nursing Midwifery Council's code of conduct - prioritise people, practice effectively, preserve safety & promote professionalism & trust. One such recent service improvement project currently running at Weston, highlighted after a change to one of our services delivery pathways, is around acute haematology education within the cancer teams & the emergency department.

This will be achieved via microlearning session with the project lead breaking down learning requirements into chunks, achievable for learners as this will need to be undertaken alongside their busy schedules. To allow capacity for this haematology education project to go ahead, our lead haematology enhanced practitioner has been seconded for 2 months, 2 days a week to enable project design, with the project aim being to increase the nursing skills in haematological emergencies.

The project lead has scoped the requirements & will use evidence-based practice to tailor, develop, implement, evaluate & then maintain, this best practice, educational initiative.



4 Free Complementary Therapy Sessions for cancer patients.

Choose from :

Reiki

Indian head massage

Reflexology

Massage

**If you would like to book a place, please talk to a member of the Macmillan Centre Team
Tel 01934 881079**



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& WESTON
HOSPITALS
CHARITY**



50 years of bringing joy, comfort and hope



Personalised Care & support (PCS) team update: Lucy Osborne PCS Lead

I joined UHBW ten weeks ago as the Personalised Care, Information, and Support Manager, and it's been a privilege to become part of such a fantastic team. Before joining UHBW, I worked at Somerset Foundation Trust and Gloucestershire Royal Hospitals, where I gained invaluable experience in patient care and support. I have a deep passion for delivering excellent patient experiences, and I'm particularly committed to amplifying the patient voice and ensuring co-production in shaping services. I firmly believe that by working alongside patients, families, and staff, we can develop services that are more responsive, holistic, and tailored to individual needs.

Outside of work, I enjoy swimming and cycling, and I'm currently training for a triathlon later this year. Because life is about balance, I am also a huge fan of eating pizza in bed to unwind and relax. I'm kept busy by my two young children, who always remind me of the importance of a healthy work life balance and the need for flexibility. I live in Gloucestershire and haven't yet spent much time exploring Bristol and Weston, so please get in touch with any recommendations and places to check out!

Contact the Macmillan Support Centre on :
01934 881079
Ex 5079 or email :
WGHEMacmillansupport
centre@UHBW.nhs.uk

MQEM accreditation Macmillan Support Centre

The Macmillan Quality Environment Mark expects a place that:

- is welcoming and accessible to all;
- respects the privacy and dignity of all users;
- supports the comfort and well-being of all users;
- gives users choice and control; and
- listens to the users' voice.

Words used by users to describe the environment:

Welcoming, friendly, calm, very informative, perfect, cheery, helpful, easy to find, wonderful, clean and safe.

Report Results :

The Macmillan Information and Support Centre at Weston General Hospital exceeded the level required to retain the Macmillan Quality Environment Mark® and is to be congratulated on this achievement.



**For information,
support or just
someone to talk to,
call 0808 808 00 00
or visit
macmillan.org.uk
8am-8pm 7 days**



Suzie Moon Macmillan Professional Engagement and Improvement Lead : Update from Macmillan re grants

"On Friday 21st March 2025 6pm, our Macmillan Grants offer will close. We are profoundly aware of the financial burden of a cancer diagnosis. We know that the one-off grant of £200 helped people in the immediate term, but its impact was short lived, and we cannot afford to provide this support to everyone who needs it. In line with the direction of our new strategy, we will focus our resources instead on those services that have broader impact on more people with cancer, and those communities with the greatest need. In those communities, we will be focussing our efforts on long term, sustainable change to cancer care and support, including addressing issues of financial need, and we will work with partners to break down barriers to vital support at a much larger scale."

Edited by Emma Pugh
Macmillan Centre Manager

For further information or
future contributions
please email:
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