

The ROYAL MARSDEN
NHS Foundation Trust



NHS

GP referral guide

Choosing The Royal Marsden

If you think that any of your patients need to see a cancer specialist, you and your patient can choose any hospital in the country. This means that regardless of where the patient lives, they have the right to be referred to one of The Royal Marsden's world-class cancer experts.

The Royal Marsden accepts NHS and private referrals from both GPs and other hospitals for the diagnosis and treatment of common and rare cancers. We also accept referrals for second opinions on cases where either diagnosis or treatment is difficult or when patients feel that a second opinion would be helpful.

Patients can choose to be seen at either our Sutton or Chelsea sites, or at our Medical Daycare Unit at Kingston Hospital.

Diagnostic services at The Royal Marsden

Improving access to better and more rapid cancer diagnosis for patients is a priority at The Royal Marsden. We provide consultant-led diagnostic services for patients with a range of suspected cancers, both common and rare across both hospital sites.

Patients referred for diagnostic services have immediate access to a multi-disciplinary team of experts including a consultant surgeon, consultant radiologist, consultant pathologist and clinical nurse specialist. Several of our clinics are one-stop, meaning all investigations can be conducted during just one visit – a tremendous benefit to patients.

About our diagnostic clinics

Breast

The one-stop breast diagnostic clinic features the gold-standard triple assessment process which involves three diagnostic measures – clinical examination, imaging and biopsy. Most patients receive their diagnosis on the same day as their assessments.

Urology

The urology rapid diagnostic clinic provides a dedicated space for urinary tract imaging with ultrasound, x-ray and flexible cystoscopy to be carried out in one visit, often giving patients their results the same day.

Skin

The skin diagnostic clinic provides a one-stop service, meaning that patients will generally be seen, photographed and have their lesion removed (if appropriate) on the same day. Referrals for suspected melanomas, squamous cell carcinomas and basal cell carcinomas are all seen, as are patients with multiple naevi who may need long-term monitoring.

Colorectal

The colorectal diagnostic service aims for all referrals to be screened by a clinical nurse specialist to help determine whether they should be examined in our consultant-led outpatient clinic or, if suitable, sent directly for endoscopy. This allows for rapid direct access to specialist investigations.

Lymphoma

The lymph node diagnostic service ensures that all patients with concerning lymphadenopathy can immediately undergo diagnostic tests including blood tests and same-day ultrasound ± FNA, as well as rapid

investigation with excision biopsy, CT, PET or bone marrow biopsy if indicated.

Head and neck

This clinic ensures the rapid investigation of unexplained cervical lymphadenopathy, abnormal red or white patches in the mouth, persistent oral ulceration or swelling, voice change and dysphagia. Patients can immediately undergo diagnostic tests including biopsy under local anaesthesia, upper aero-digestive tract endoscopy, blood tests, ultrasound and needle aspiration cytology.

What referrals can be made

Referrals can also be made into our Cancer Genetics Unit and to our late effects service which offers support for patients experiencing various side-effects of treatment.

For information about how to refer to these services please visit www.royalmarsden.nhs.uk/referrals

Cancer genetics

The Cancer Genetics Unit offers services to individuals and families concerned about a risk of inherited cancer. We advise patients who have been diagnosed with cancer, helping with treatment decisions, and also those who have not been affected but who are at high risk due to strong family history, promoting cancer prevention and early detection.

Late effects service

We offer a specialist clinic for the management of GI side effects and nutritional issues that arise following cancer treatment including the side effects of pelvic radiotherapy and GI dysfunction following surgery and chemotherapy. We also offer a new service for the management of chronic sexual and urinary problems after cancer therapies.

Diagnosis, tests and investigations available

Type of cancer	Primary assessment and diagnosis	Diagnosis and review	Treatment
Bladder cancer	✓	✓	✓
Brain tumour	*	✓	✓
Breast cancer	✓	✓	✓
Children's cancers	*	✓	✓
Gynaecological cancer	*	✓	✓
Head and neck cancer	✓	✓	✓
Kidney (renal) cancer	✓	✓	✓
Leukaemia	*	✓	✓
Lower gastrointestinal cancer	✓	✓	✓
Lung cancer	*	✓	✓
Lymphoma (Hodgkin and non-Hodgkin)	✓	✓	✓
Myeloma	*	✓	✓
Prostate cancer	✓	✓	✓
Skin cancer	✓	✓	✓
Soft-tissue sarcoma	✓	✓	✓
Testicular cancer	✓	✓	✓
Thyroid cancer	✓	✓	✓
Upper gastrointestinal cancer	*	✓	✓

* Where primary assessment and diagnosis is not provided by The Royal Marsden hospital, clinicians support diagnosis and review through multi-disciplinary team working with other providers.

How to make a referral

Referring patients with suspected cancer for diagnosis using Choose and Book

- Priority menu – select ‘2WW’
- Specialty menu – select ‘2WW’
- Clinic Type menu – select ‘2WW xxxx’ as appropriate for suspected tumour site

Referring patients for treatment, a second opinion or continuation of follow-up using Choose and Book

- Priority menu - select either ‘Urgent’ or ‘Routine’ (as we treat all referrals as urgent)
- Speciality menu - select as appropriate for tumour site
- Clinic Type menu - select as appropriate (often this will be ‘oncology – established diagnosis’)

To be certain that The Royal Marsden appears as an option for referral please click on ‘Search All’ and not ‘Search Primary Care’.

If you are unable to refer using Choose and Book please contact our Central Referral Office, Tel: 0800 180 81 82, Fax: 020 8661 3149

For more information about referrals visit:

www.royalmarsden.nhs.uk/referrals

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