
Multidisciplinary treatment planning



Cancer multidisciplinary teams and multidisciplinary treatment planning

In most hospitals or centres where cancer treatment and care is provided, groups of health care professionals work together. They provide the different clinical expertise, services and support that cancer patients may need. This group of health care professionals is often called a **cancer multidisciplinary team**.

The team involves different doctors, for example, *surgeons, medical oncologists, haematologists, pathologists, radiation oncologists and palliative care physicians*; specialist cancer care nurses; and allied health staff such as *psychologists, dietitians, social workers, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, physiotherapists, pastoral care workers* and others.

It is considered best practice care that these teams meet together on a regular basis to discuss, plan and decide on the best form of treatment for patients diagnosed with cancer. These meetings are called **cancer multidisciplinary meetings**.

Ask a member of your cancer health care team whether your treatment is being discussed and planned at a multidisciplinary meeting and, if so, the outcomes of that team discussion.

Guides to Best Cancer Care



Guides to Best Cancer Care are guides that can help you make sense of what should happen when diagnosed with cancer. They provide information on treatment and care for different cancer types.

The guides will help you with what questions to ask your health professionals, to make sure you receive the best care at every step.

Guides are available in different languages and for different cancer types.

The Guides can be obtained online at www.cancer.org.au/cancercareguides