

# The Leeds Specialist Liver, Biliary and Gallbladder Service

Information for patients

## What is a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT)?

An MDT is a group of health care professionals from different areas of patient care. They meet together every week to discuss the care of individual patients.

The main aim of the MDT is to discuss and plan each patient's future care and treatment. The MDT links to the wider care team, in particular the patient's GP. This makes sure that when treatment decisions are made, on-going support and care is carried on.

## Who makes up the Liver MDT?

The details of the staff listed below can be explained in more detail to you by your own team.

**MDT Co-ordinator** - arranges the meetings and makes sure all decisions made are documented.

**Liver Surgeons** - doctors who diagnose cancer and specialise in treating patients with surgery.

**Consultant Radiologist** - a doctor who, using scans from X-rays, Computerised Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonant Imaging (MRI) and Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scanners, finds the place where the cancer is and how far it has spread.

**Consultant Interventional radiologist** - a doctor who uses radiology guided procedures to diagnose and treat cancer. X-ray, ultrasound, MRI and CT are used to guide and direct a wide variety of interventional treatments throughout the body.

**Consultant Histopathologist** - a doctor who looks at tissue samples under a microscope to make a diagnosis.

**Consultant Hepatologist** - a doctor who specialises in the care and treatment of liver diseases and primary liver cancers.

**Consultant Medical Oncologist** - a doctor who specialises in treating patients with chemotherapy and other anti-cancer drugs and is often involved in research of new chemotherapy drugs.

**Consultant Clinical Oncologist** - a doctor who specialises in treating patients with radiotherapy, chemotherapy and other anti-cancer treatments and is often involved in research of new anti-cancer treatments.

**Clinical Nurse Specialist** - a registered nurse who has received extra training in liver cancers. They provide support with physical symptoms associated with cancer and treatment. They also provide psychological and emotional support along with lifestyle, relationship and practical support. **Tel: 0113 206 8601**

**Palliative Team Care member** - a registered nurse or doctor who specialises in symptom management and specialist counselling.