

Malignancy of unknown origin (MUO)

Other formats

If you need this information in another format such as audio CD, Braille, large print, high contrast, British Sign Language or translated into another language, please contact the PALS desk on 01271 314090 or at ndht.pals@nhs.net.

What is malignancy of unknown origin? (MUO)

When we find a cancer, it is not always clear what type of cancer it is. You will have tests and investigations to find out whether it is:

- A primary cancer
- A secondary cancer – the primary cancer might be identified after the secondary cancer
- A cancer of unknown primary (CUP) – a secondary cancer but the primary cancer cannot be identified

When you've had only a few tests, we may know that the cancer is secondary cancer, but they may not be sure where the primary is. At this stage, it is called a malignancy of unknown origin (MUO)

Further investigations for possible cancer

During your time in hospital, some of your investigations have raised the possibility that there may be a type of cancer causing some of these changes. At this stage, we are still trying to gather more information to work out exactly what is going on.

We know this can be a very difficult time for patients. We will be in contact as soon as we have the results and we will let you know which medical team will be taking over your care.

Questions?

Please contact the Acute Oncology Service on 01271 311579 if you have any questions about these investigations or future hospital appointments. Please note that the service is available 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday and 8am to 12pm, weekends and bank holidays.

The information and plan I was given today:

Patient details:

Information we know:

The next step is:

References

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust – Patient information leaflet.

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PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email ndht.pals@nhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Have your say

Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

'Care Opinion' comments forms are on all wards or online at www.careopinion.org.uk.

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