

Holistic Needs Assessment

Sometimes patients affected by cancer, or their family members, can become distressed, but often the symptoms are not recognised and patients may not be offered the appropriate professional support they need. To help with this, we use a screening form, such as the one you have been given.

We are currently using this screening form to assess patients' wellbeing when they have been diagnosed with cancer. We are trying to assess all patients following their diagnosis and then at regular intervals. The aim is to highlight people who may be feeling low emotionally, have physical symptoms and need extra support, as early as possible. Then help can be obtained or referral made, with your permission, to other agencies as required. This process will be confidential.

Enclosed with this information is the screening form. It would be appreciated if you could have it with you at your next appointment to give to your specialist nurse. The answers you have given will then enable us to make suggestions to you about support services you may wish to access.

If you feel that you need help urgently rather than waiting for the form to be returned, feel free to contact your GP, district nurse, Macmillan nurse, or specialist nurse.

Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS staff are available to offer advice or information on healthcare matters. The office is in the Main Foyer (Gate 4) of Doncaster Royal Infirmary. Contact can be made either in person, by telephone or email. PALS staff can also visit inpatients on all Trust sites.

The contact details are:

Telephone: 01302 553140 or 0800 028 8059

Minicom (Text talk): 01302 553140 Email: pals.dbh@dbh.nhs.uk

