

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan primary and community care fact sheet

Macmillan primary care community

Macmillan doctors may directly support people living with cancer and their families. They diagnose and treat cancer, relieve pain and symptoms, and offer emotional support. Alternatively, they may work closely with health and social care professionals to improve standards in cancer care.

Macmillan has been working with general practitioners (GPs) since 1992. The aim of the Macmillan primary care community is to produce a recognisable improvement in the quality of cancer and palliative care provided by primary health care teams within the local health economy in line with both national and Macmillan priorities.

Since 1992 Macmillan has funded over 300 GPs. The Macmillan GPs provide an important link between local primary care communities, Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), Cancer Networks, service users and Macmillan Cancer Support.

The community is involved with the Macmillan Palliative and Cancer Care Research Collaborative (MacPaCC) a group of academic researchers and practitioners including primary care nurses & GPs. The group has over 70 peer reviewed publications and a funded research programme with a particular focus on cancer as a chronic illness and advanced and metastatic cancer .

GP Advisers

There are currently seventeen GP Advisers (GPAs) across the United Kingdom. The GPAs work closely with Macmillan to enhance care for people affected by cancer in the primary care area.

The GPAs provide strategic leadership for primary care to Macmillan, as well as support to the broader Macmillan primary care community. They also work closely with local and national Macmillan service teams to support the development of the primary care workforce and delivery of Macmillan strategies. GPAs work to influence health care policy to improve care for people affected by cancer.

GPAs work closely with GP Facilitators (GPFs) to support and mentor.

Macmillan GPs

Macmillan GPs formerly know as GP Facilitators (GPFs) are funded by Macmillan to influence and improve the standards of Cancer and Palliative Care for patients in their locality, and to conduct projects and research in their local areas. They work closely with the PCTs and local services to enhance care for people affected by cancer, from early diagnosis to survivorship.

Macmillan GPs liaise with the GPAs to support the development of the primary care workforce and delivery of Macmillan strategies.

Primary Cancer Care Leads (PCCL)

Macmillan Cancer Support actively supports clinical leadership in primary care. As part of this Macmillan offers a formal adoption programme for PCCLs. The aim of the programme is to strengthen the relationship between Macmillan and the PCCL community and enable the two groups to work better together to support implementation of national strategies and policy frameworks for cancer and palliative care to improve the experiences of people living with cancer.

Formal membership of the Macmillan primary care community will enable PCCLs:

- Opportunities for networking and knowledge sharing with primary care colleagues across the UK
- Access to Macmillan's learning and development programmes
- Eligibility to apply for financial education support and equipment grants
- Eligibility to attend the Primary Care Conference

Primary Care Conferences

A national Primary Care Conference is held annually. The conference is an opportunity for all members of the Macmillan primary care community to meet, network, share good practice and feedback on local and national developments. Regional conferences are also held biannually.

How to contact Macmillan GP community

The primary and community care team sits within the Healthcare Team in Improving Cancer Services Division. The role of the team is to work closely with the Macmillan GP community to enhance care for people affected by cancer in the primary care area.

A newsletter is sent out to the Macmillan GPs quarterly to ensure they remain updated about developments and projects in the primary care sector. The newsletter is sent to over 300 people and serves as a useful update about Macmillan projects, campaigns and other relevant information.

The Macmillan website has a Macmillan Primary Care section which contains information about projects being conducted by the Macmillan primary care community. It also features information about the GPA/Macmillan GP roles and how to apply for adoption by Macmillan.

Key information from the Primary Care Conference and other major events is placed on Learnzone. In addition the Macmillan GPs have set up a partnership with British Medical Journal to provide online education modules in the area of out of hours care. These will be featured on Learnzone from 2011.

Key contacts

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Key facts

The first GP was funded by Macmillan in 1992.

Macmillan has hosted Primary Care Conferences since 2003.