

## **The Treatment Summary – Guidance for patients**

### **What is a Treatment Summary?**

A Treatment Summary is a document usually produced by the specialist team at the end of the initial treatment for cancer and shared with the patient and their GP. It is designed to provide the patient and their GP with information on diagnosis, treatment and side-effects and to help the GP to assess the patient's on-going health and care needs.

### **Why produce a Treatment Summary?**

The Treatment Summary document has been developed by the National Cancer Survivorship Initiative to improve communications between patients, secondary and primary care professionals.

National research has shown that patients value the Treatment Summary Document as an easy to use source of information which can be carried with them through any number of different healthcare settings. It means they do not feel obliged to try and remember lots of complex or technical information, or to repeat the same conversation with multiple healthcare professionals.

### **What does this mean for me?**

At the end of **all** your active treatment, whether this is a single type of treatment, for example surgery, or a number of different treatments, for example surgery and radiotherapy, you will be provided with a document which is a summary. The document will have details of your cancer diagnosis, the treatment you have had, possible side effects of treatment and what symptoms to look out for in the future that may require you to be referred back to the specialist team. The document will also provide you with information on who you should contact if you have any queries. You will have already been told the information that is written in the Treatment Summary, at different times during your cancer diagnosis and treatment but, to help you and your GP, it will be summarised into one document for you.

### What do I need to do?

Nothing – You only need to act if you **do not** wish to receive a Treatment Summary. Your Cancer Specialist Nurse (Key Worker) or your consultant will talk to you about a Treatment Summary at the appropriate time. Please let them know then if you **do not** wish to receive a Treatment Summary.

<b>Cancer Specialist Nurse for Gynae Oncology</b> You are able to speak to CNS in office hours, but we would suggest where at all possible to contact in between 9.15 am -10.15 am, Monday to Friday.	0191 445 3404  (bleep 2361)  0191 445 2077  (bleep 2344)
<b>Out of hours contact numbers</b>  Ward 21	  0191 445 5921  0191 445 2021

### Data Protection

Any personal information is kept confidential. There may be occasions where your information needs to be shared with other care professionals to ensure you receive the best care possible.

In order to assist us improve the services available your information may be used for clinical audit, research, teaching and anonymised for National NHS Reviews. Further information is available in the leaflet Disclosure of Confidential information IL137, via Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust website or the PALS service.

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) can provide help, advice and support to patients, relatives or carers who have any questions or concerns regarding their health care.

PALS are unable to give medical advice. You can contact PALS on free phone 0800 953 0667. Monday-Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm. An answer phone is available outside of these hours and calls will be returned the next working day.

Information Leaflet : NoIL505

Version :1

Title : The Treatment summary - Guidance for patients

First Published: October 2015

Review Date: October 2017

Author: Macmillan Gynae-Oncology Follow Up Project

**This leaflet can be made available in other languages and formats upon request**