

1.1. Head and Neck malignancies

1.1.1. Presentation, initial diagnosis and referral pathway

- No special factors apply to TYA patients with head and neck malignancies in distinction to adult patients with these tumours. The provision for presentation and diagnosis of patients with head and neck cancer will be managed and developed by the Head and Neck Cancer NSGs
- Notification to the TYA PTC will be accepted as soon as the diagnosis has been made

Places of recommended treatment delivery

- Patients aged 16 – 18 with salivary gland or upper aerodigestive tract malignancies should be referred to the Central Manchester/ Christie Head and Neck SMDT (Thurs am) at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust. Any non-surgical oncology will be given at the PTC. For those with thyroid malignancies, referral is to the Christie NHS Foundation Trust thyroid MDT (alternate Thurs pm).
- Patients aged 19 – 24 may choose to receive their treatment through their local MDT assuming the services are provided in hospitals designated for TYA care

At the 2012 external peer review, comments were made regarding the TYA pathways.

Specifically

Pathways not compliant at TYA CNCG level as not specific re role (post and specialty, not person) who has responsibility of each potential modality involved with the definitive treatment of the cancer.

Contact numbers not included and pathways not compliant at TYA CNCG level as not specific re methods to be used for monitoring for disease recurrence and the late effects of treatment.

These issues were discussed at the June 2013 CSG meeting.

It is difficult to attribute overall responsibility for each potential modality involved with the definitive treatment of the cancer to one clinician since numbers of cases are small, treatments variable, include thyroid, head and neck mucosal malignancies, salivary gland tumours and there are also cases where our surgeons are asked to perform surgery (often sarcoma) based on decisions made outside of the head and neck MDTs.

Due to complexities, it was decided that the MDT lead clinicians (head and neck and thyroid) would take overall responsibility for ensuring delivery of treatment modalities and follow up. Follow up protocols are not expected to differ from those defined for adult head and neck and thyroid cancer patients.

Contact information for MDTs

MDT Type	Location	Co-ordinator	Contact	Lead Clinician
2 - UAT	Central Manchester / Christie	Andrea Harrison	Tel: 0161 446 3602 Fax: 0161 918 7273 E mail: Andrea.harrison@christie.nhs.uk	Mr Jarrod Homer
2 - UAT	Pennine Acute	Kath Nolan	Tel 0161 720 2799 (42799) Fax 0161 720 2251 (42251) Kath.Nolan@pat.nhs.uk	Mr Andrew Baldwin
2 - UAT	South Manchester / Christie	Roseanne Tunstall	0161 918 7272 Rosanne.Tunstall@christie.nhs.uk	Mr Andrew Birzgalis
3 - Thyroid	Christie	Angela Ashcroft	0161 446 3313 0161 918 7273 Angela.Ashcroft@christie.nhs.uk	Dr Beng Yap

Gillian Hall

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