

# NEW SERVICE TO MANAGE THE GASTROINTESTINAL CONSEQUENCES OF CANCER

The number of people surviving cancer has tripled in the last 30 years, but not all of these people are living well.

Most cancer survivors will not have any long-term lower GI consequences of their cancer or its treatment. However, some will develop problems including chronic diarrhoea, faecal incontinence, urgency, pain, bleeding and excessive flatulence, particularly following pelvic radiotherapy and surgery. Quality of life can be adversely affected.

## THE SERVICE

- We offer a specialist multidisciplinary service to help patients with GI problems after pelvic radiation, surgery and chemotherapy.
- We offer a range of treatment options for patients with GI symptoms such as diarrhoea, incontinence, severe pain and rectal bleeding following treatment for urological, gynaecological or bowel cancers.
- We follow a detailed algorithm-based management approach, developed by Dr Jervoise Andreyev, considering each symptom in a systematic way to identify the cause and prescribe specific treatments.

## THE TEAM

The service is led by:



**Dr Ana Wilson**, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Trust lead for GI Consequences of Cancer Treatment



**Dr Siwan Thomas-Gibson**, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Endoscopy Lead Wolfson Unit for Endoscopy



**Dr Claire Taylor**, Macmillan Nurse Consultant in Colorectal Cancer

*We believe that patients need not suffer debilitating gastrointestinal consequences as a result of cancer treatment, especially when small interventions can make a large difference.*

## REFERRAL GUIDELINES

We welcome referrals from GPs and hospital consultants regarding patients experiencing problems with bowel function, e.g. urgency, loose stool, flatulence, constipation, steatorrhoea, faecal incontinence and rectal bleeding

We are currently not on the Choose and Book system so a letter must be posted or faxed to:

**Dr Ana Wilson – Consultant Gastroenterologist and Specialist Endoscopist**

or

**Dr Siwan Thomas-Gibson - Consultant Gastroenterologist and Endoscopy Lead**

**Tel: 0208 235 4225**  
**Fax: 0208 423 3588**

**The Wolfson Unit for Endoscopy**  
Level 2  
St Mark's Hospital  
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Guidance for professionals on managing GI consequences of cancer is available at:  
[macmillan.org.uk/cot](http://macmillan.org.uk/cot)