

Skull Base Team at University Hospital Birmingham

Information for new and existing patients

The aim of this leaflet is to provide you with an overview of the things you might need to know about the skull base services team.

Who are we?

At University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, we conduct patient assessments and treatment of skull base tumours. We have a dedicated team who deal with all aspects of assessment, surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and follow-on care.

We do not operate a drop-in service. Please contact us first if you are experiencing problems. If you are experiencing urgent problems please contact your GP for advice or in an emergency, please use your local A&E.

Where is the department based?

Appointments could take place at various sites, depending upon a number of factors. Most appointments take place in Outpatient Areas 1 and 2, located on the ground floor at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham (QEHB). You may also be seen within the oncology clinic at the Cancer Centre in the Heritage Building. Some clinics are also held at the Centre for Rare Diseases, also located in the Heritage Building.

QEHB has good public transport links. The nearest train station is University station, which is approximately three minutes walking distance from QEHB.

What happens in clinic?

Our consultants will see you to discuss your symptoms and conduct a clinical examination. Our team of multidisciplinary staff will discuss your case in our MDT meeting and every effort will be made for you to be seen by the most relevant consultant, alongside other members of the team.

Our team reviews cancer and non-cancer patients whose pathology is affecting the skull base. We understand that having cancer can be very difficult for you and your family. There may be many issues you would like to discuss and our team will always do their best to answer your questions.

Clinical nurse specialist (CNS) team

Our CNS team routinely see patients at every stage of their illness. Their role is to provide help, information and support to you and your family. The Skull Base CNS will be your main point of contact and act as your 'Key Worker' at the hospital. The CNS role includes:

- Providing information about your diagnosis and treatment
- Communicating with your GP and community nursing services (as appropriate)
- Providing you with information about other professionals for advice or support such as: benefits advice, emotional support, dietician, and Occupational Health

We may see you in the Outpatient department or on the wards. If you are attending a hospital appointment and wish to see a member of the CNS team, please contact us beforehand and we will do our best to attend the clinic appointment with you.

We can also speak with you on the telephone or by email. With your permission we can also speak with your family/ next of kin. Please note there will be times that we will leave it to you to contact us if you have any concerns. This can help you get back to normal life without being reminded of your condition all the time. At times we are busy in clinics so will not be able to get back to you on the same day, but we will aim to return your call or reply to your email within one working day.

Please be aware that this is not an emergency service. If you have need for urgent help, please call your GP or the emergency services. You can also contact your consultant's medical secretary via switchboard on **0121 371 2000**.

The Skull base multi-disciplinary team:

Otorhinolaryngologists (Ear, nose and throat surgeons)

Mr Peter Monksfield	Consultant ENT and lateral Skull Base Surgeon (Chair of Skull Base MDT)
Mr Shahz Ahmed	Consultant ENT and Anterior Skull Base Surgeon
Mr Richard Irving	Consultant ENT and Lateral Skull Base Surgeon
Mr Karan Jolly	Consultant ENT Surgeon and Anterior Skull Base Surgeon
Mr Charlie Huins	Consultant ENT and Lateral Skull Base Surgeon

Neurosurgeons

Mr Alessandro Paluzzi	Consultant Neurosurgeon
Mr George Tsermoulas	Consultant Neurosurgeon
Mr Andrew Kay	Consultant Neurosurgeon

Oncologists

Dr Paul Sanghera	Consultant Oncologist
Dr Sara Meade	Consultant Oncologist
Dr Andrew Hartley	Consultant Oncologist

Maxillofacial Surgeon

Mr Prav Praveen	Consultant Maxillofacial Surgeon
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Radiologists

Dr Jonathan Shadwell	Consultant Neuroradiology
Dr Huma Haseeb	Consultant Neuroradiology
Dr Devan Sinha	Consultant Neuroradiology

Neuro-ophthalmologists

Miss Ruchi Batra	Consultant Neuro-ophthalmology
Miss Lidia Alvarez	Consultant Neuro-ophthalmology
Miss Reena Kumari	Consultant Oculoplastics

Clinical Nurse Specialists

Sophie McAnenny	Skull Base CNS (ENT)
Najma Chowdhury	Skull Base CNS (ENT)

Other Multi-disciplinary team members include:

- Clinical fellows
- Physician associates
- Audiologists and therapists
- Plastic and reconstructive consultant surgeons
- Research team
- MDT co-ordinator
- Allied Health Professionals: e.g. physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech & language therapist (SALT), dieticians. (Access to other professionals will be available as and when it is required)

Who do I contact?

On visiting the clinic you will be given the name of the appropriate person to contact. This is a list of all the contact numbers, but only some will be applicable to your care.

Secretary to Mr Ahmed 0121 371 4699	Laura Brookes-Reid
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Secretary to Mr Monksfield 0121 371 4518	Malika Butt
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Secretary to Mr Irving 0121 371 4511	Tracey Plant
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Secretary to Mr Huins 0121 371 4512	Lucie Wright
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Secretary to Mr Jolly 0121 371 4515	Jemma Bragg
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Secretary to Mr Kay 0121 371 6853	Liz Jones
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Secretary to Mr Paluzzi 0121 371 6880	Sarika Pradhan
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Secretary to Mr Tsermoulas 0121 371 6854	Emily Bailey
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Additional information:

Cancer Centre & Support Services The Patrick Room
0121 371 3537 / 3539

Macmillan Cancer Support
www.macmillan.org.uk

NHS Choices
www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/your-choices-in-the-nhs

Skull Base Society
<https://skullbase.co.uk/public/>

Meningioma UK
<https://meningioma.uk/>

British Acoustic Neuroma Association
www.bana-uk.com

The Acoustic Neuroma & Meningioma Network
www.amnet-charity.org.uk

The Pituitary Foundation
www.pituitary.org.uk

Secretary to Mr Praveen 0121 371 5028	Julie Rowlands
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Secretary to Dr Hartley 0121 371 3598	Elizabeth Neil
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Secretary to Dr Sanghera 0121 371 3599	Sheena Collins
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Secretary to Dr Meade 0121 371 3589	Keely Walton
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Sophie McAnenny 0121 371 5390	Skull Base Clinical Nurse Specialist (ENT) Email: Skullbasecns@uhb.nhs.uk
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Najma Chowdhury 0121 371 5390	Skull Base Clinical Nurse Specialist (ENT) Email: Skullbasecns@uhb.nhs.uk
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If you are not sure who to contact, please contact one of the secretaries or the CNS and they will be able to direct your query.

Your consultant is:

Your key worker is:

Accessibility

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How did we do? 😊 😐 😞

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