

cancelling appointments

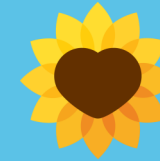
We understand that your condition may change and you may be unable to keep an appointment. Please let us know as soon as you can so the appointment can be allocated to someone else.

Referrals

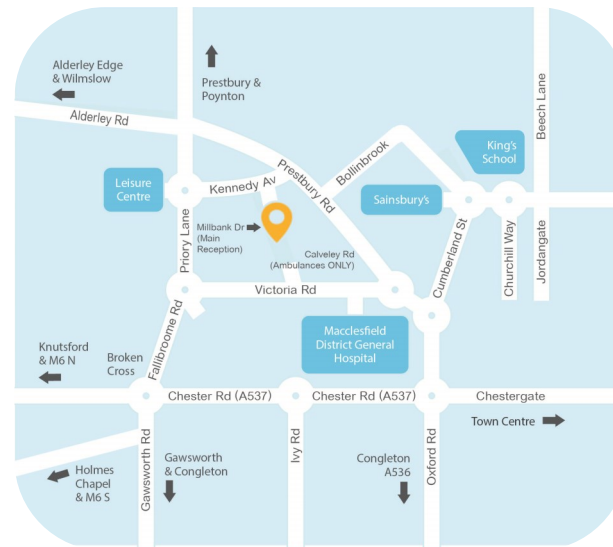
With your consent, referrals to the lymphoedema service can come from a variety of sources, such as your Consultant, GP, Macmillan team, District Nurse, Clinical Nurse Specialist, hospital-based physiotherapist, or any other Allied Health Professionals.



East Cheshire Hospice
Where people come to live



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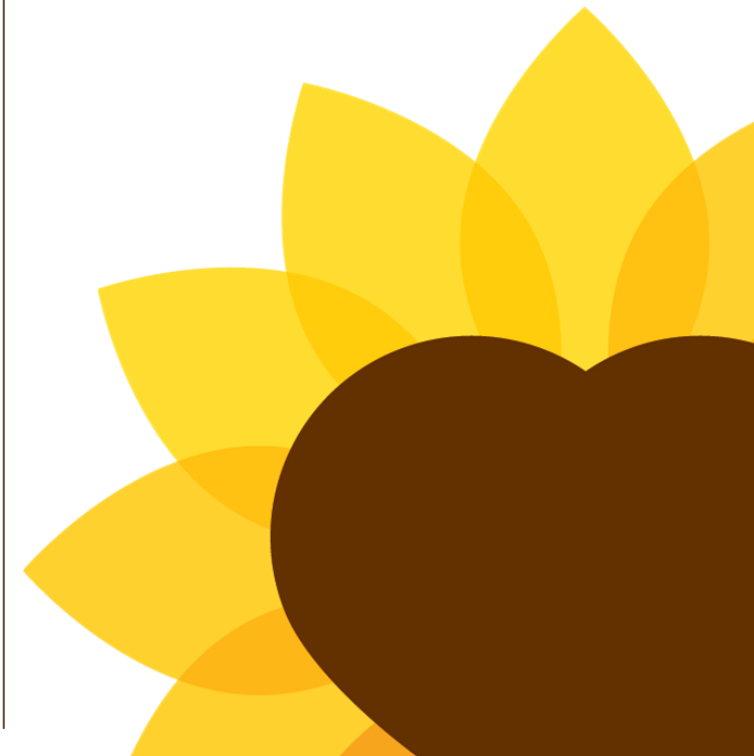
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Lymphoedema

Information for patients & carers



Lymphoedema

Lymphoedema is a condition in which there is a build up of fluid that causes swelling in an area of the body.

Lymph fluid is in all body tissues and drains away in channels called lymph vessels. If the lymph drainage channels or lymph nodes are blocked, removed or damaged, then lymph fluid can build up in that area and cause swelling.

Some people with cancer develop lymphoedema due to changes in the lymphatic system caused by the cancer or the cancer treatments.

Lymphoedema most commonly affects the arms or legs but it can develop in other body areas such as the chest, abdomen, genitals, head and neck, face, back, breast or armpit and the pelvic area. It is a long term (chronic) condition which can't be cured but can usually be well controlled.

Our service

We offer a specialist lymphoedema service for inpatients, day care patients and outpatients. New outpatient referrals are generally seen within two weeks of receiving the referral. In patients and day care patients are generally seen the same day or the next day depending on staff availability.

The aim of our service is to provide care, information & advice to relieve symptoms where possible and minimise the effects of your condition.

An assessment and treatment plan will be carried out by the Lymphoedema Nurse and tailored to your specific needs.

The duration of assessment and / or treatment will depend on your needs, and for inpatients and day care patients may be delivered by the nurses at the Hospice and not the Lymphoedema Nurse.

The types of lymphoedema treatments offered at the Hospice include:

- Skin care
- Exercises
- Compression garments
- Teaching of simple lymph drainage
- Manual lymphatic drainage
- Lymphoedema bandaging
- Kinesio taping

You may not be offered all of the above, just the treatments appropriate to you.

Your consent to treatment

We need your consent before we start any assessment and treatment.

If, at any time, you feel unable to continue you have the right to refuse.