



Cancer of Unknown Primary (CUP) Clinical Oncology Service





Operational Structure

All cancer of unknown primary (CUP) patients are discussed at local acute trusts CUP MDT's within the Greater Manchester and Cheshire region where these have been established as per peer review recommendations. The region serves a catchment area of approximately 3.2 million people. Where local acute trusts CUP MDT's are not available patients are discussed within the relevant disease specific MDT (according to clinical presentation). Patients who are confirmed as having a diagnosis of Cancer of Unknown Primary following MDT review are then referred to the CUP service at the Christie NHS Trust led by Dr Claire Mitchell where appropriate.

Personnel

Consultants	Dr Claire Mitchell (Medical Oncologist) Dr Catherine Coyle (Clinical Oncologist)
Specialty Doctor	Dr Aida Abidin
Clinical Nurse Specialist	Vicki Owen-Holt Andrew Spencer-Shaw
Research team	Service supported by the Upper GI Research Team

Activity

56 new patients were referred over the last year with the following breakdown:

Palliative systemic treatment: 29 patients

Referral for radiotherapy: 6 patients

Referral to Surgical Specialities: 3 patients

Supportive care only: 16 patients

Onward referral to Site Specific Speciality: 15 patients

Service Development 2013/14

The CUP service at the Christie has been developed over the last 18 months. Patients who have been discussed at local trust MDT's and been deemed to have a provisional or confirmed diagnosis of CUP and are suitable for consideration of systemic treatment are referred to the service.

Patients are seen in a specific CUP clinic which is Consultant led with the support of a Speciality Doctor in Medical Oncology and two clinical nurse specialists (shared with UGI service) who act as key workers for the patients. This provides continuity of care, expert assessment, and appropriate support and advice for patients. As patients with CUP generally have advanced disease early referral to community palliative care services and use of the gold standards framework is promoted.



All patients who are referred to the Christie CUP service have a pathology review and radiology review of investigations to date if clinically indicated. A business case is in progress to formalise this process into a CUP multidisciplinary meeting to allow review of complex case with the presence of histopathologists, radiologists, oncologists (medial and clinical) and palliative care. This potentially could also provide a regional service for provisional CUP patients.

In order to ensure that quality standards are maintained monthly morbidity and mortality meetings review all deaths or serious events to examine potential relationship to treatment.

The CUP service at the Christie recruited patients into the NCRN CUP One trial which closed in December 2014 which will report in the near future.

The CUP service has also presented regional data relating to outcomes and prognostic factors at ESMO 2014 conference (European Society of Medical Oncology) and a paper in relation to this data is currently in draft.

The CUP service actively refers patients to the Early Trials Unit at the Christie Hospital where second line treatment is indicated and standard systemic therapy options are limited.

[Outcomes – Click Here](#)





Peer Reviewed Publications 2013/14

Carcinoma of Unknown Primary: features and outcomes of patients managed in a large UK centre.

R.Lees, S. Baxter, SJ Ayers, C.Mitchell, J. Hasan.

Abst: 1137PD. Annals Of Oncology 25(14); Supplement:4. Sept 2014.

Trials Currently Open and Clinical Audit activity.

NCRN: CUP-ONE. Closed December 2014

CUP outcomes and survival audit completed Aug 2014.

Educational, Teaching and Training Activity

Participation in the Annual Acute Oncology education event at the Christie Hospital

(clinical based scenarios teaching)

Core Medical Trainee (CMT) Education: CUP education within the CMT training programme every 6 months

Specialty Registrars: Presentation within the palliative care specialist trainee education programme.

Medical Oncology

Registrars: Active teaching and training for Specialty Registrars

Organised half day teaching programme within the trainees education day.

Acute Oncology Nurse forum: education session within the forum programme.