For further information, or if you would like to speak to one of us about your speech therapy treatment please contact:

Principal speech & language therapist
Helen Rust

Specialist speech & language therapists
Paul Brown
Julie Jones
Susi Loh
Grace Walsh
Gina Carey

Speech & language therapy assistant practitioner
Veronica Archer

Speech & language therapy support worker
Emma Andrews

Rehabilitation unit secretary
Maureen Doyle

For more information about The Christie and our services, please visit www.christie.nhs.uk or visit the cancer information centre at Withington, Oldham or Salford.

Contact The Christie Hotline for urgent support and specialist advice

The Christie Hotline:
0161 446 3658

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The Christie NHS Foundation Trust
Wilmslow Road
Withington
Manchester M20 4BX

Tel: 0161 446 3000
www.christie.nhs.uk

The Christie Patient Information Service
October 2016 - Review October 2019

CHR/497/12.10.02 Version 05
What is speech and language therapy?

As a result of illness you may find communicating or eating and drinking is more difficult than before.

- Speech and language therapy is the process of enabling people to communicate and/or swallow to the best of their ability.

- Speech and language therapists assess the nature of your communication or swallowing problem and can provide treatment, advice and support.

- You may be referred to speech and language therapy before, during or after your cancer treatment. This may be on the ward, within the radiotherapy department or as an outpatient or at home.

- The speech and language therapists also work closely with families, carers and members of other professions including doctors, nurses, dietitians and radiographers.

What we can do to help:

- see you before, during or after your cancer treatment to discuss any speech and swallow problems, and provide therapy as appropriate

- provide strategies and techniques to make swallowing food and drink safer

- give targeted exercises to improve muscle strength and communication

- advise on strategies to help make communication easier and more effective

- advise on ways of looking after and getting the best from your voice

- help you solve problems with your speech valve after laryngectomy

- provide communication aids when speech is difficult

How can I arrange to see a speech and language therapist?

If you would like to see a speech and language therapist while you are in hospital please ask your doctor or nurse to refer you. We accept outpatient and inpatient referrals.

We have good links with local speech and language therapy services and can pass your details on as necessary for care nearer to home.

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.