

3/12/2014

Member report with regards to IMRT treatment/pals service & NHS choices

The member was diagnosed with prostate cancer that had breached the capsule, but had not reached the lymph nodes etc. consequently the member made inquiries with regards to IMRT treatment (Image modulation beam radiotherapy treatment). initially the member was advised that the treatment was available at the Q A (Queen Alexandria, Portsmouth) but that they had insufficient staff or funding to operate the equipment at the time.

Since April 2012 under the NHS choices programme patients can ask that there treatment is transferred to a hospital that can provide the appropriate treatment for there condition. With assistance of the Q A and St Mary's hospitals the member was accepted at the Royal Marsden to be seen by Prof Dearnaley

With all the above in mind the member wishes to pass on the following useful information to our Website readers.

Regarding IMRT, at the moment very few patients are being offered this, however in the last two months a pot of funds has become available which should be used to send patients for this treatment (30% being the target)

The member also brought to our attention the PALS (Patient advisory liaison service) at St Mary's hospital whom apparently deal with any problems patients may encounter e.g. lost or misplaced files ,records, dealing with complaints etc. The member found the dept was very helpful.

Link to main pals site <http://www.pals.nhs.uk/>
<mailto:PALS@IOW.NHS.UK>
<http://www.cancerpartnersuk.org/radiotherapy/image-guided-radiotherapy>

Please note that the above information was kindly provided by a member of (IWUCSG) and has not been verified by the group.