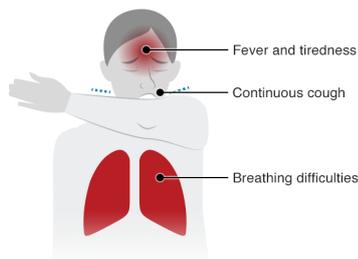


As the issues associated with COVID-19 continue, our number one priority at the Rutherford is the health and safety of our patients, colleagues and partners. We are committed to following all Department of Health guidance and ensuring the strict code of hygiene and other appropriate measures are in place in all Rutherford Cancer Centres across the UK.

What are the key symptoms of coronavirus?

The key symptoms of coronavirus are shown in the below picture. Other symptoms may include muscle pain and a headache, as well as loss of taste and smell.



Source: NHS/BBC

Advice for stopping virus spread

Public health experts have advised the below measures to help stop the spread of the virus. For further advice please refer to the NHS website.



Source: BBC

What are we doing?

- Enhancing the frequency of our deep cleaning and hand washing and ensuring that all our team members are following all appropriate protocols to protect the health of our team members and patients.
- Adding more hand cleaning points in centres that we ask patients to use when they visit.
- To support reduced footfall and potential exposure, relatives are asked to wait in their cars unless it is identified that they need to accompany the patient into the centre for their appointment.
- Regulating numbers of staff in centres to minimise risk – we would encourage patients to minimise numbers that they bring with them to centres.

The Rutherford Cancer Centres have introduced a new Healthcare Patient Co-ordinator (HPC) role to screen patients and staff before they enter the reception area. The screening process is carried out in the foyer areas of the Centres, prior to entering into reception and forms part of our COVID-19 risk assessments. We will continue to ensure we navigate these challenging circumstances with everyone's health and well-being in mind and we are taking the following steps to stop the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

What can we do?

- Assist with provision of transport in and out of the centre to help patients avoid public transport.
- Arrange accommodation if required.
- Continue to provide patient support services as required.

Guidelines

We will be following updated guidance on a daily basis and will continue to develop our working practices as appropriate and would like to encourage all Rutherford patients and families to visit the NHS England or NHS Wales websites for the most recent advice regarding COVID-19.

- Monitoring cleaning practices in centres – patients will be asked to ensure they follow the guidance and instruction in the centres.
- Monitoring the situation daily and updating plans to ensure we can complete treatments for each patient. This may mean that we might have to move patients to other centres if the occasion requires.
- Continuing to work with local partners to ensure services and emergency support is maintained in the centres.
- Keeping patients informed of the situation in the centres and regarding treatments as the situation develops.
- Managing appointment/treatment times to minimise risk and contact between patients. This may mean that individual appointments could be changed to quiet times in the evening.
- Maintaining operational capacity in the centres, and helping local NHS as the situation develops.

- Move patients between centres to ensure treatments are maintained.
- Provide treatments at home if possible and preferred.
- If patients are concerned, elderly or have contraindications which mean they would prefer not to sit in the main waiting area please make us aware and we will make appropriate arrangements.

If you require any further information about the coronavirus in relation to your treatment, please call your relevant centre and speak to a member of our team: **South Wales - Newport: 01633 740 005, Thames Valley - Reading: 01182 075 610, North East - Northumberland: 01670 339 650, North West- Liverpool: 01514 590 323.**