Fast-Tracking Your Patient’s Treatment Plan

We use a team approach to provide personalized care for your patient. The physician experts, supported by clinical staff, work in partnership to pinpoint diagnosis for your patient’s lung ailment.

Our team includes a pulmonologist, medical oncologist, radiation oncologist, cardio thoracic surgeon, radiologist, pathologist, clinical trials nurse and a lung clinic nurse navigator.

The team comes together on a weekly basis to discuss all diagnostic material, considering the unique perspective of each specialist, prior to meeting the patient. Together, they develop a comprehensive treatment plan for your patient. Solutions to financial, social, psychological, and transportation issues among other barriers to treatment are also considered.

The appropriate physician specialist then discusses the treatment options and other needs with the patient and their family and will communicate that plan back to you, their primary care physician.

The Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic is held every Tuesday from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the St. Joseph Cancer Center, an affiliate of Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute.

Meet Donna Engle, CPFT, LPN, Lung Nurse Navigator

Donna, our Lung Nurse Navigator, will serve as the point of contact to guide your patient through treatment as well as communicate with you on your patient’s treatment plan.

Starting with your first referral phone call, Donna ensures your patient is supported and cared for. Initially, she will compile your patients’ medical records, set up all tests, and schedule the Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic appointment. She also assists with barriers to treatment, such as financial, social, psychological, and transportation issues.

Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic

Every Tuesday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Medical Office Building – Suite G04
2494 Bernville Road, Reading, PA 19605

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Lung Nurse Navigator

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Why a Multidisciplinary Approach?

The traditional approach is to send patients to individual specialists at various locations which results in extended time intervals between appointments and delayed treatment plans. Communication between physicians is by phone or mail and rarely a face-to-face discussion.

We at St. Joseph have found that the most effective and efficient treatment for patients with an abnormal lung finding is through a multidisciplinary approach. From the flow of insight and exchange of information from the various physician specialists to the support and guidance of the Lung Nurse Navigator, patients are given the attention and expertise needed for a successful treatment plan.

Algorithm for our Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic

1. Your patient has abnormal Chest X-Ray or CT
2. You make referral to Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic by calling Lung Nurse Navigator
3. Lung Nurse Navigator communicates with Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic team
4. Additional diagnostics may be ordered per NCCN guidelines (PFT’s, PET, CT, MRI, etc)
5. Lung Nurse Navigator schedules soonest appointment for patient to be seen in the Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic
6. Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic team meets every Tuesday in which all diagnostic material is reviewed before meeting the patient
7. Appropriate physician specialist is available to evaluate patient
8. Treatment plan is created by Multidisciplinary Lung Clinic team and communicated to patient/family during Clinic day
9. Lung Nurse Navigator will communicate patient treatment plan to primary care physician following Clinic day
10. Primary care physician will receive consultation notes following Clinic day

ALL INQUIRIES ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT NEW RESOURCE FOR YOUR PATIENTS ARE WELCOME.

See back panel to meet Donna Engle, Lung Nurse Navigator.