

NCCP patient pathway for admission to an haematology/oncology ward during the COVID-19 pandemic

General emergency admissions

If COVID-19 infection is suspected, the COVID-19 pathway should be followed.

If the clinical scenario determines that a patient requires a direct admission to a haematology or oncology ward the patient should have a COVID-19 RT-PCR test and should be managed with appropriate COVID-19 precautions.

2 weeks prior to admission to an oncology ward

- Patients should be asked to cocoon for two weeks prior to admission to an oncology ward if possible¹.
- The extent of cocooning should take into account the potential benefits and harms of COVID-19 infection and delaying treatment.
- Patients should be informed to pay special attention to hand hygiene and social distancing advice.
- Patients should be asked to note any COVID-19 signs or symptoms in a diary.



48 hours prior to admission to an oncology ward

Hospital to contact patients to confirm:

- Has the patient been diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Does the patient have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19?
- Has the patient been in contact with anyone who is suffering from the signs or symptoms of COVID-19?

If the patient has been diagnosed with COVID-19, please follow NCCP guidance¹

If the patient has been in contact with someone with signs or symptoms of COVID-19 consider deferring treatment until 14 days has passed unless it is deemed necessary that the treatment should proceed by the treating Consultant, considering the risk:benefit ratio of treatment.



All patients should have a COVID-19 RT-PCR test.

Any patient who has had a RT-PCR test can not proceed with treatment until the test results have been reviewed and the team have made a decision regarding commencing their treatment.

¹ Please refer to 'NCCP advice for Medical Professionals on the management of patients undergoing Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (chemotherapy) in response to the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic' for further information