

IN STRICTEST PROFESSIONAL CONFIDENCE, NOT TO BE DISCLOSED WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT OF THE SIGNATORY.

Consultants:

Dr T Friedman
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DEPARTMENT OF LIAISON PSYCHIATRY

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Our Ref: AM / mcg

Re: Leicester Cancer Service and Psycho-oncology Expert Patient Initiative

I am writing following your recent visit to the Psycho-Oncology Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

We are launching a new service for individuals referred to us which hopes to give them the benefit of other people's experience who have been through a treatment programme. Think of this as a compilation of short personal accounts which other people can read at leisure.

If you are interested, I wonder whether you would mind describing your experience with your illness using the enclosed form. If you do not wish to be involved simply return the slip below.

Many thanks for your help, and I am sure this will be of great assistance to those newly diagnosed with cancer.

Kind Regards,

Dr Alex Mitchell
Consultant Liaison Psychiatrist

Ps. If you want an electronic copy of this form please email alex.mitchell@leicspart.nhs.uk

Your Name: _____ **Type of Illness You Suffered** _____

Area of Residence (eg. Wigston) _____

Medical Treatment Received? Radiotherapy Chemotherapy Surgery Other

Instructions Please tell us about your experience in some detail. Please include your personal feelings (good and bad); the reaction of others and your evaluation of the medical profession. Don't worry about being frank remember this is designed to help other people in a similar situation.

1 Tell Us About How You First Became Ill, Before the Diagnosis of Cancer was Made

(eg were the symptoms, what did you think at the time, who did you tell?)

2 Tell Us About How the Diagnosis of Cancer was Made?

(eg Was there a delay; was it handled sensitively? What was your reaction?)

3 Tell Us About the Treatment You Had

(eg What was offered, how long did it take, what were the side effects, how did you get through it?)

4 Tell Us About the Emotional Effects of Cancer on Yourself and Others

(eg what did you expect and not expect; how did friends and family respond?)

5 Tell Us What Has Helped and Not Helped You Cope?

6 Tell Us About Your Outlook Now?

7 If you were coming for a diagnosis or treatment for the first time, what do you wish someone had told you?

8 Is there anything else you want to say or discuss?

Thank you for completing this form.

Please return to (addressograph)

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