



How Specialist Nurses Improve The Care Of MPN Patients



In the UK, the major treatment centres provide specialist nurses alongside specialist physicians. A Clinical Nurse Specialist is a highly-trained nursing professional, usually with several years of experience of a specific disease and its treatment.

MPN Voice strongly advocates making this service available to all MPN patients.

Key Worker

MPN treatment often involves interaction with several departments in one or more hospitals, which can be confusing and frustrating for patients.



A CNS is experienced and well connected and usually part of a Multi-Disciplinary Team at the patient's hospital.

An experienced CNS can help patients navigate their way through complex processes, make appointments, chase up results, etc.

A CNS will be able to anticipate and explain the different stages of a patient's journey

Specialist Clinician



A CNS is highly trained in MPNs and their treatment. A CNS will be qualified to perform patient assessment and diagnostic procedures

CNSs sometimes run nurse-led clinics that can improve the efficiency of the overall service provided by the hospital

CNSs and other highly qualified nurses are sometimes able to prescribe medication for MPN patients, optimising the time the patient can spend with their doctor

What is the Role of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)?

MPNs are chronic conditions, often causing serious life-limiting symptoms for patients. Patients have the additional psychological burden of the risk of transformation to more dangerous illnesses.

Our research has demonstrated the need that MPN patients have for psychosocial support. CNSs have experience of all the stages of a patient's journey and they can provide valuable counselling, advice and comfort.

CNSs can often spend more time listening to patients and are able to provide a more holistic assessment of their needs and offer the necessary help.



Because they have many years' experience of MPNs, CNSs can often represent the needs of the patient and bring an additional perspective to discussions between other professionals.

Specialist nurses may have longer to spend with patients to explain complicated aspects of their treatment and to answer questions that patients may not think of in a short consultation with their doctor.

Because the specialist nurses are often responsible for the hands-on delivery of treatment, they are the most able to understand the patients' practical concerns.



Counsellor

Advocate

Many thanks to the nursing team at Guys & St Thomas' Hospital, in particular, Claire Woodley and Yvonne Francis, for their help in preparing this poster. For Yvonne's talk on the subject, go to https://youtu.be/14nNoH7vv_U or scan this barcode

