Haemato-oncology and stem cell transplant unit for private patients
The Christie Clinic is a joint partnership between the world famous Christie NHS Foundation Trust and leading healthcare provider HCA International. Together they have created one of the world’s most advanced cancer clinics for private patients.

Approximately 28,500 people are diagnosed with haematological cancers (leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma) each year in the UK. For many of these diseases there has been considerable progress made in both treatment and supportive care leading to improved survival. It is vital patients are diagnosed early, seen by the right specialist and offered the most effective treatment programme.

At The Christie Clinic we offer the highest standards of care and most up to date treatments, delivered by leading experts in a clean and comfortable environment.

Welcome to The Christie Clinic

Contents

- A world class facility for haematological cancers 3
- Our consultant team - leaders in the field 4-7
- Our haematology nursing team 8
- Our haematology unit 11
- Our leukaemia and myeloma service 12
- Our lymphoma service 14
- Our stem cell transplant service 16
- Our diagnostic and laboratory service 19
- Supportive and complementary care 20
- Making a referral 21

Photography by David Oates
A world class facility for treatment of haematological cancers

A new purpose built haematology and transplant unit has been established at The Christie Clinic and provides the only dedicated private bone marrow (stem cell) transplant facility in the UK outside London. We offer treatment for the full range of malignant haematological disorders and provide a fully comprehensive service including bone marrow (stem cell) transplantation to patients over 16 years old.

The inpatient facility utilises state of the art infection control technologies and adheres to the strictest standards of cleanliness and hygiene. All rooms are HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filtered and specifically designed to accommodate the needs of patients undergoing intensive chemotherapy.

World class haematologists and oncologists choose to treat their patients at The Christie Clinic. These consultants are supported by a highly accomplished multidisciplinary team of clinical nurse specialists, transplant co-ordinators and nurse clinicians. These specialists make up a team dedicated to our patients’ needs. They are available to treat, advise and guide patients throughout their diagnosis and treatment programme, and to ensure patients are in a position to make informed decisions about their care.

“Having my treatment here has changed my life.”

Caroline Whitfield
Our consultant team – leaders in the field

Our consultant team has a strong national and international profile in the management of haematological malignancies and leads an active research programme.

The haematology and transplant unit is delivering a wide portfolio of clinical trials covering the range of haematological malignancies.

Dr Adrian Bloor
Consultant Haematologist
MA MB BCHir PhD FRCP FRCPath

Dr Adrian Bloor is Lead Clinician in lymphoid malignancies at The Christie hospital, Director of The Christie Stem Cell Transplant Programme and Clinical Director of The Christie Clinical Trials Co-ordination Unit. He is a member of the National Cancer Research Network (NCRN) chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) trials group, secretary to the executive committee of the UK CLL Forum and a member of the medical advisory panel to the Lymphoma Association. Dr Bloor is a member of the clinical trials committee of the British Society of Bone Marrow Transplantation (BSBMT) and European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation.

Dr Mike Dennis
Consultant Haematologist
MB ChB MD MRCP FRCPath

Dr Mike Dennis was appointed as Consultant Haematologist at The Christie in 2004, and is Clinical Director of the haematology and transplant unit. He is a member of the British Society for Haematology, the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Pathologists and the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT). Dr Dennis is also a national committee member of the acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) NCRN working group, which is responsible for the development of clinical trials and governance for international multicentre trials in AML. In addition, he is a national committee member of the NCRN myelodysplasia (MDS) forum and clinical trials subgroup, responsible for UK clinical trial development.
Dr Samar Kulkarni  
Consultant Haematologist  
MB BS MD MRCP FRCPath

Dr Samar Kulkarni has worked at The Christie since 2010 and has worked in the field of haemato-oncology and transplantation since 1992. He is a member of the American Society of Hematology, American Society of Bone Marrow Transplantation and European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. Dr Kulkarni has published extensively in the field of leukaemia, myeloma and transplantation. His other areas of interest include treatment of young adult patients with haematological disorders.

Dr Ed Smith  
Consultant Clinical Oncologist  
MA BM BCh MRCP FRCR

Dr Ed Smith treats lymphoma and other haematological malignancies with chemotherapy and radiotherapy. He has special interest in treating younger patients as well as research interests in advanced radiotherapy, patient support, monitoring and information giving in relation to the late effects of cancer treatment. Dr Smith is also The Christie survivorship lead for young people and a member of the Children’s Cancer and Leukaemia Group (CCLG) bone marrow transplant committee as well as a member of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) specialist training committee.

Professor Tim Illidge  
Consultant Clinical Oncologist  
BSc MB BS PhD DRCOG MRCP FRCR FRCPath

Professor Tim Illidge is a member of the NCRN lymphoma clinical studies group and a member of the medical advisory panel to the Lymphoma Association. He is a member of the International Working Group on Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and has represented the UK on numerous international steering groups, having published and lectured extensively in the field of lymphoma.
Our haematology nursing team

Our nursing team has many years of experience in haematology and stem cell transplantation. They are highly skilled in caring for patients undergoing intensive chemotherapy and are committed to providing the highest standards of treatment and support to their patients in a caring and friendly manner.

Specialist nursing staff
The haematology unit is supported by a team of specialist nursing staff.

Isobel Kearney leads the ward nursing team and is the senior sister on the unit. She has an outstanding record of ensuring that staff are trained and work to the highest standards to provide a friendly and caring environment for both staff and patients.

Ruth Clout was appointed as Clinical Practice Educator in 2011 to develop the educational and training programme for the nursing staff, ensuring that we achieve the highest standards of care.

Ann Davis is a nurse clinician who assists in the care of our patients both on the ward and in the clinic. In addition to her extensive experience in haematology nursing, she has undertaken further training as an advanced practitioner.
Our haematology unit

The haematology unit at The Christie Clinic is centred upon patients’ needs. We know that whilst some stays may be short others, particularly for our transplant patients, are likely to be longer. For this reason, every room is spacious and equipped to the highest standard.

Stem cell collection facility
Stem cell collection is undertaken in a purpose built daycase facility run by a dedicated team of experienced nurses utilising the latest technology (CaridianBCT Optia).

Inpatient facility
Infection control is of the highest priority and each room is HEPA filtered to ensure the cleanest air and optimal recovery. All staff follow strict infection control policies to create a clean and safe environment for our patients.

Each room has a personal entertainment system which is built into the wall to maintain infection control standards. This can be operated from the patient’s bed and has a wide range of digital and satellite TV channels, movies, radio and wi-fi internet access.

Support during their stay
Through our partnership with The Christie NHS Foundation Trust, our patients have direct access to advanced intensive and critical care units and sophisticated operating theatres, as well as the extensive infrastructure one would expect from such a large and innovative NHS hospital. This provides our patients and their families with the reassurance that should these facilities be required they are all available on one site.

Research and training
Our team of highly skilled consultants, medical and nursing staff is actively engaged in research and are able to provide a wide range of clinical trials as well as offer the latest and most advanced haematological treatment. These consultants are supported by a team of highly experienced nurses who all specialise in the haematology field. We are continually investing in the training of our nursing team to enhance their expertise as new treatments become available.

“The haematology unit at The Christie Clinic offers world class treatment for patients with haematological cancers in a state of the art facility.”

Dr Adrian Bloor, Consultant Haematologist and Director of Stem Cell Transplantation
Acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) and myelodysplasia

We are able to treat patients in either an inpatient or day care environment depending on the level of treatment required. We can provide simple treatment such as oral chemotherapy or more complex treatment such as allogeneic stem cell transplants. Treatment is determined by diagnosis, and by the stage of disease, under the direction of our consultant haematologists.

Chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) and myeloproliferative disorders

Dependent on the stage of disease, we offer a wide range of services. For those patients in early stages of these diseases we offer treatments such as oral chemotherapy and targeted therapy. For patients who have been diagnosed at a later stage or have an advanced form of disease, allogeneic transplants are available.

Myeloma

At The Christie Clinic we offer a wide range of treatments for patients with myeloma including chemotherapy, biological therapies, high dose chemotherapy with stem cell support, maintenance therapy and radiotherapy. The type of treatment required will be determined by the stage of illness and other contributing medical factors.

Consultants treating leukaemia and myeloma at The Christie Clinic:

Dr Adrian Bloor
Consultant Haematologist

Dr Mike Dennis
Consultant Haematologist

Dr Samar Kulkarni
Consultant Haematologist

Acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL)

For patients with ALL, chemotherapy may be used as a stand-alone treatment or as part of a combined treatment with radiotherapy. At The Christie Clinic we are able to offer both of these services through our chemotherapy unit and radiotherapy centre, both of which are on site. These treatments are given as part of an inpatient programme or as day care/outpatient treatment.

Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL)

At The Christie Clinic we offer treatment to help patients reach a stage of remission. We are able to deliver chemotherapy through our inpatient, out patient and day care facilities. We also provide a fully comprehensive stem cell transplant service for patients where necessary. A full range of supportive and complementary treatments are available to help alleviate symptoms arising from the disease and its treatment.

Selected publications


Our lymphoma service

Consultants treating lymphoma at The Christie Clinic:

**Dr Ed Smith**
Consultant Clinical Oncologist

**Prof Tim Illidge**
Consultant Clinical Oncologist

**Dr Adrian Bloor**
Consultant Haematologist

The lymphoma service at The Christie Clinic is led and delivered by a team of highly skilled and experienced consultants who have national roles advising on lymphoma management. Patient care is determined through weekly lymphoma multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings. Therapeutic decisions are made after a careful review of all diagnostic material and scans, and treatment programmes are regularly reviewed and refined by the team to ensure patients receive the best possible treatment options.

**Diagnosis**
The lymphoma service at The Christie Clinic is led and delivered by a team of highly skilled and experienced consultants who have national roles advising on lymphoma management. Patients at The Christie Clinic also benefit from access to the regional lymphoma diagnostic service based at The Christie NHS Foundation Trust for accurate diagnosis of lymphomas and associated diseases.

**Planning**
Patient care is optimised via a review of all cases at weekly lymphoma multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings attended by consultant oncologists, haematologists, radiologists and pathologists. Therapeutic decisions are made after a careful review of all diagnostic material and scans, and treatment programmes are regularly reviewed and refined by the team to ensure patients receive the best possible treatment options.

**Treatment**
The lymphoma team offers comprehensive expertise across all aspects of lymphoma and treatment approaches. These include specialist modes such as radio-immunotherapy (where we have access to the widest experience in the UK), specialist adolescent care and all forms of stem cell transplantation. In addition, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust hosts the supraregional cutaneous lymphoma service, giving our patients access to total skin electron therapy and extracorporeal photopheresis (ECP). Through our rapid access lump clinic, developed in collaboration with surgery, radiology and pathology, we offer a streamlined service to patients with a possible lymphoma diagnosis. Our rapid results service, combined with review by the MDT, allows for prompt classification of lymphoma type so optimised treatment can be initiated without delay.

**Selected publications**

- Radioimmunotherapy of lymphoma - a treatment approach ahead of its time or past its sell by date? Tim Illidge, J Clin Oncol 2010;28:2944
Our stem cell transplant service

The transplant team:

Dr Adrian Bloor
Consultant Haematologist & Director of Stem Cell Transplantation

Dr Mike Dennis
Consultant Haematologist

Dr Samar Kulkarni
Consultant Haematologist

Ann Davis
Senior Sister

Isobel Kearney
Nurse Clinician

Nurse Clinician

Senior Sister

Our stem cell transplant service offers a comprehensive bone marrow transplant service with all aspects of care delivered on one site. The Christie Stem Cell Transplant Programme was established in 1982 and over 1,500 transplants have been performed to date, establishing the programme as one of the UK’s major transplant centres and the largest in the North West. The Christie Clinic is the first to offer a private haematology transplant unit within the North West.

We have invested in the latest infection control technologies and our world class consultants ensure patients are given the best possible treatment options.

Transplants are offered for both haematological malignancies (leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma) and bone marrow failure syndromes (myelodysplasia and aplastic anaemia). The programme is committed to developing and delivering the highest quality of patient care in stem cell transplantation. We aim to develop and maintain exceptional standards of care and education according to internationally set standards.

Over the last five years The Christie Stem Cell Transplant Programme has undertaken 80–120 transplants (autologous and allogeneic) every year, with a sustained increase in activity. In 2009 it was awarded full JACIE (Joint Accreditation Committee for ISCT and EBM) accreditation. It is also fully licensed by the Human Tissue Authority (HTA) and was commended for continued practice at the highest level at the last inspection.

Patient care is directly supervised by one of our highly accomplished consultants and patients have direct access to the fully trained transplant team through our collaboration with The Christie.

Pre transplant

A team of specialist nursing staff (two transplant co-ordinators and two apheresis nurses) is responsible for donor identification and stem cell collection. They also act as a point of contact to provide information regarding the progress of the transplant and details about the admission.

In addition to the consultants, we have a team of three nurse clinicians who assist with the care of patients undergoing intensive chemotherapy and stem cell transplantation.

Post transplant and late effects

We have established links with consultants from other medical specialties to assist with any of the complications arising from transplantation. We are able to offer extracorporeal photopheresis (ECP) onsite for the treatment of graft versus host disease (GVHD) in collaboration with the National Blood Service.


Selected publications
Our diagnostic and laboratory service

Through our partnership with The Christie we have access to a comprehensive haematology and blood transfusion department which is CPA accredited (Clinical Pathology Accreditation) and recognised by the Royal College of Pathology and the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine (CPSM). External quality assessments ensure all aspects of the service are delivered comprehensively. The department comprises 14 biomedical scientists and three medical laboratory assistants.

Haematology and blood transfusion
The haematology and blood transfusion department provides diagnostic and laboratory services including:
- Routine investigation laboratory
- Diagnostic immunophenotyping and morphology
- Blood transfusion

Stem cell laboratory
The stem cell laboratory, which is based on site, has full JACIE, HTA and MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) accreditation. The laboratory team is highly experienced and in 2009/2010 processed and transplanted 210 units of haematopoietic progenitor cells.

Histopathology
The haematopathology service is led by Dr Andrew Norton, who is the lead consultant pathologist for the GMCHMDS, and joint lead for the Primary Cutaneous Lymphoma Supra-regional Network. He is on the national pathology panel for the UKCCG childhood lymphoma group and the writing committee for the Royal College of Pathologists’ minimum dataset for lymphoma. Dr Norton has a national and international reputation with over 20 years’ experience as a consultant in haematopathology. He has served as a pathology representative to the UK Lymphoma Group, expert pathologist to the British National Lymphoma Investigation and Imperial Cancer Research Fund, as well as on a variety of national and international studies/working parties.

Cytogenetics
Oncology cytogenetics at The Christie is a specialist regional service which provides genetic testing to aid diagnosis of leukaemia and other tumours, mainly to hospitals in Greater Manchester and the North West of England. Handling approximately 5,000 referrals per year, it is one of the largest specialist cancer genetics units in the UK. The department is the nominated service for leukaemia cytogenetic testing for two local cancer networks and for the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Haematological Malignancy Diagnostic Service (GMCHMDS). The department is CPA accredited and is a founder member of the Cancer Cytogenetics Group (UKCCG).

The comprehensive cytogenetics service is provided by a highly skilled team of dedicated scientists and technologists who offer a timely, efficient and cost-effective analytical and genetic advisory service to clinicians to aid the diagnosis and monitoring of leukaemia. Haematolymphoid malignancies are often classified by their genetic abnormalities and certain cytogenetic tests are essential for the optimal diagnosis and treatment stratification of these tumours. Increasingly, cancer drugs are being developed that target specific genetic lesions, which therefore require a predictive molecular test. The laboratory is ideally placed to support The Christie Clinic’s multidisciplinary team meetings and to provide specialised testing for clinical trials.
Supportive and complementary care

The Christie Clinic provides all patients with access to the complementary therapists who visit The Clinic weekly. They provide a range of holistic therapies including massage and reflexology.

We have a dedicated dietician and physiotherapist available to patients onsite as and when required. Both the dietician and the physiotherapist take part in the active management of our patients and help in achieving a speedy and organised discharge.

All patients and their families have access to a psychology counsellor if required and this service can be accessed through a member of the nursing team or the consultant leading their care.

The first six sessions are free of charge and can be used at any time during the patient’s illness. If further sessions are needed we are happy to liaise with insurers as required.

Making a referral

If you would like to refer a patient to one of our consultants please contact us through our referral helpline or fax a referral letter.

If you have a general enquiry about our haematology unit at The Christie Clinic please do not hesitate to contact us at The Christie Clinic, Wilmslow Road Manchester, M20 4BX.

Helpline: 0161 918 7296
Fax: 0161 446 8027
info.christieclinic@hcahealthcare.co.uk.
www.thechristieclinic.co.uk