

敗血症和癌症

癌症和一些癌症治療可能會增加您患上敗血症的風險。該手冊解釋：

- 什麼是敗血症
- 什麼時候需要聯絡您的醫療團隊
- 您可以如何保護自己。

任何下劃線的詞語都在末尾的詞語清單中作出解釋。詞語清單還包括詞語的英語發音。

若您對此資訊有任何疑問，請詢問您正在接受治療的醫院的醫生或護士。

您也可於每日上午 8 時至晚上 8 時，致電麥克米倫癌症援助機構（Macmillan Cancer Support）免費熱線：**0808 808 00 00**。我們有傳譯員，所以您可以使用您自己的母語與我們溝通。當您致電我們時，請以英文告訴我們您所需要的語言。

如果您想以其他語言進一步瞭解癌症，請瀏覽 [macmillan.org.uk/translations](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/translations)

本資訊主要介紹：

- 什麼是敗血症？
- 為什麼我會患有敗血症？
- 什麼時候可能發生敗血症？
- 我患敗血症的風險有多高？
- 我可以預防敗血症嗎？
- 我該如何幫助自己？
- 癌症治療前照顧好自己
- 癌症治療期間照顧好自己
- 可能導致敗血症的感染症狀
- 敗血症的後期症狀 – 撥打 999
- 當我打電話給我的醫療團隊時會發生什麼？
- 幫助您獲得合適的護理和援助
- Macmillan 能夠如何幫助您
- 詞語清單
- 更多繁體中文版資訊
- 參考文獻與致謝

什麼是敗血症？

敗血症有時被稱為血液中毒。當您的身體對感染做出反應並攻擊自己的器官和組織時，就會發生這種情況。

敗血症需要在醫院迅速治療。如果不及早治療，敗血症可能會致人死亡。

當敗血症得到迅速治療時，大多數人都會完全康復

為什麼我會患有敗血症？

癌症和一些癌症治療方法可能會使您的身體無法抵抗感染。

我們的身體是由稱為細胞的微小構件組成的。我們的血液由細胞組成，包括紅血球和白血球。

某一種白血球幫助我們的身體抵抗感染。這些細胞被稱為中性白血球。有些癌症治療會減少我們體內這些白血球的數量。這在化療中最常見，但其他癌症治療也可能導致這種情況。

如果這些中性白血球數量較少，輕微的感染都可能會變得非常嚴重。並且可能會在幾個小時內導致死亡。

什麼時候可能發生敗血症？

感染或敗血症隨時可能發生。當您血液中的中性白血球數量較低時，您的風險通常最高。確切時間可能會有所不同，請諮詢您的醫療團隊，瞭解您在什麼時候的風險最高。

我患敗血症的風險有多高？

您的感染和患有敗血症的風險取決於您使用的抗癌藥物的類型。它還取決於：

- 您患有的癌症類型
- 癌症的階段
- 您的年齡
- 您的整體健康狀況。

我可以預防敗血症嗎？

您無法阻止白血球數量減少。這意味著您無法預防敗血症。

您所能做的最重要的事情是，如果您有任何疑慮，請立即撥打您醫療團隊的 24 小時求助熱線。

這可以降低您因感染而出現嚴重問題的風險，並可以挽救您的生命。

我該如何幫助自己？

您應該隨時隨身攜帶醫療團隊的 24 小時求助熱線電話號碼。將號碼保存在您的手機中。您也可以要求家人和朋友記下該號碼。您的醫療團隊將是癌症團隊或血液學團隊，具體取決於您患有的癌症類型。

不要拖延時間，請盡早打電話給醫院。如果治療開始得早，敗血症是很容易治療的。

這些也是您可以幫助自己的其他方法：

- 告訴您的家人、朋友和同事您患敗血症的風險。
- 計劃您如何快速到達醫院，例如誰來照顧您的孩子或幫助您去醫院。
- 記錄您正在接受的治療以及上次接受治療的時間。
- 檢查感染的早期症狀。我們在此手冊中描述了這些資訊。
- 檢查敗血症的症狀。我們在此手冊中描述了這些資訊。
- 如果您有任何感染症狀，請立即致電您的癌症團隊。

明確您的症狀是感染還是治療副作用，可能是一件難事。請立即聯絡您的醫療團隊，不要拖延。您或您的醫生都無法判斷哪些感染可能導致敗血症。人們在癌症治療期間的所有感染都需要緊急治療。

感染不會自行好轉。早期感染用抗生素就可以很容易治好。但是拖延治療感染非常危險。

癌症治療前照顧好自己

您可以透過以下方式在治療前照顧好自己：

- 與您的醫生或護士討論接種流感（流行性感冒）疫苗和新冠病毒疫苗。與您同住的成年人也應該接種這些疫苗。
- 購買溫度計，這樣您就可以在家裡量體溫了。
- 在開始癌症治療之前進行牙科檢查。

癌症治療期間照顧好自己

不要害怕過正常的生活。您無需避開家人和朋友，除非他們身體不適。化療期間的感染通常是由您自己體內天然存在的細菌引起的。

在治療期間，您可以透過以下方式幫助自己：

- 避免身體不適的人，例如患有新冠病毒、水痘、帶狀皰疹、腹瀉或發燒的人。
- 如果您接觸過感染者，請致電您醫療團隊的幫助熱線。
- 聽從關於您飲食的任何建議。並非所有患者都需要改變他們的飲食習慣。如果您需要改變飲食，您會在治療開始時被告知這一點。
- 飯前飯後洗手，如廁後洗手。
- 接觸或清除動物糞便後立即洗手。
- 在園藝和其他可能割傷自己的活動中使用乾淨的手套。
- 立即清潔任何割傷或擦傷，並用膠布覆蓋傷口。
- 每天刷牙至少兩次。
- 在正確的溫度下烹飪食物並在正確的溫度下儲存食物。

可能導致敗血症的感染症狀

如果您出現以下任何感染症狀，請立即聯絡您的醫療團隊：

- 您的自我感覺欠佳。
- 您的體溫超過 37.5°C (99.5°F)。
- 您的體溫低於 36°C (96.8°F)。
- 您會感到發抖、寒冷且無法取暖，就像您得了流感（流行性感冒）時一樣。
- 您有腹瀉。即是指排泄出比平時多的大便，或者排稀便。如果您有造口，腹瀉會比平時更活躍。

有些類型的感染會有其他症狀。如果您出現以下任何症狀，您應該立即聯絡您的醫療

團隊：

尿道感染的症狀

- 小便（排尿）時感到疼痛或不適
- 頻密排尿
- 小便後感覺膀胱沒有排乾淨
- 迫不及待要排空膀胱
- 漏尿（尿失禁）
- 上腹部疼痛
- 尿液混濁或有異味，或含有血液。

胸腔感染的症狀

- 呼吸急促
- 胸部酸痛
- 咳出綠色的痰。

皮膚感染的症狀。

- 泛紅、發熱、腫脹或疼痛（尤其是 PICC 導管、中心導管、切口或傷口周圍）。

牙齒感染的症狀

- 可能突然開始並緩慢惡化的牙齒或牙齦疼痛
- 疼痛感蔓延到您的耳朵、下巴和頸部，與疼痛的牙齒或牙齦位於同一側
- 面部泛紅或腫脹。

敗血症的後期症狀 – 撥打 999

如果您出現敗血症的後期症狀，您需要立即就醫。您需要醫療幫助來挽救生命並防止對您的身體造成嚴重損害。

如果您出現任何這些症狀，請撥打 999：

- 口齒不清或混亂
- 極度顫抖或肌肉疼痛
- 一天不排尿
- 嚴重的呼吸急促
- 皮膚出現斑點或變色
- 總感覺很不舒服，可能從未感覺如此難受。

當我打電話給我的醫療團隊時會發生什麼？

電話評估

您的醫療團隊會詢問您的症狀和體溫。他們可能會要求您立即去醫院，且可能不得不留在醫院。所以一定要盡快前往醫院，這樣您就可以及時接受診斷和治療。

醫院評估

醫療團隊會將您視為緊急情況。醫療團隊可能會：

- 為您進行檢查
- 抽取血液，包括以了解血液中白血球數量的樣本
- 根據您的身體症狀安排其他檢查
- 確定您的中性白血球數量是否過低以及您是否有感染或敗血症跡象。
- 在您抵達後 1 小時內透過注射或透過靜脈滴注（靜脈注射）給您抗生素。

治療方案

大多數敗血症患者將留在醫院接受抗生素的靜脈注射治療。

您的醫療團隊將與您討論您需要的抗生素治療以及持續的時間。他們還將與您討論您可能需要住院的時間。

如果您的感染不太可能出現任何問題，醫療團隊可能會給您一些抗生素藥片，讓您在家中服用。他們會告訴您，如果您有任何問題，盡快返回醫院是多麼重要。

幫助您獲得合適的護理和援助

如果您患有癌症並且不會說英語，您可能會擔心這會影響您的癌症治療和護理。但是您的醫療團隊應該為您提供滿足您需求的護理、援助和資訊。

我們知道，有時尋找合適的援助可能會面臨額外的挑戰。例如，如果您有工作或有家庭，可能很難抽出時間去醫院的預約。您可能還擔心金錢和交通費。所有這些都會讓人感到壓力和難以應對。

但我們可以提供幫助。我們的免費支持熱線 **0808 808 00 00** 可以用您的語言就您的情況提供建議。您可以與護士、經濟援助顧問、福利權益顧問和工作援助顧問交談。

我們還向癌症患者提供 **Macmillan** 資助金。這些是一次性的款項，可用於支付醫院停車費、交通費、託兒所費或暖氣費等費用。

Macmillan 如何給予協助

在麥克米倫，我們知道癌症確診後會如何影響一切，我們在這裡為您提供援助。

麥克米倫支援熱線 (Macmillan Support Line)

我們有口譯員，所以您可以使用您的語言與我們溝通。您只需用英語告訴我們您希望使用哪種語言即可。我們可以幫助您解決醫療問題，為您提供有關經濟援助的資訊，或者在您想要與人交談的時候聆聽您的意見。熱線服務時間為每日上午 8 時至晚上 8 時。致電 **0808 808 00 00** 聯絡我們。

網上對話

您可以向我們發送網上對話信息，說明您需要口譯員。您只需用英語告訴我們您希望使用哪種語言，我們將安排工作人員與您聯絡。點擊「與我們聊天」按鈕，該按鈕顯示在網站的各個頁面上。或者前往 macmillan.org.uk/talktous

Macmillan 網站

我們的網站有很多關於癌症的英文資訊。如果您想以其他語言進一步瞭解癌症，請瀏覽 macmillan.org.uk/translations

我們亦可以為您安排翻譯。請發電子郵件至：

cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk，告訴我們您需要的資訊。

資訊中心

我們的資訊和援助中心設在醫院、圖書館和流動中心。前往任何一個中心以獲取您需要的資訊並與工作人員面對面交談。瀏覽 macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres 查找離您最近的中心或致電 **0808 808 00 00** 聯絡我們。

本地支援團體

您可以在支援團體中與其他受癌症影響的人交流。瀏覽

macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups 查找離您最近的援助團體或致電 **0808 808 00 00** 聯絡我們。

Macmillan 網上社群

您亦可以前往 macmillan.org.uk/community 與其他受癌症影響的人士交流。不論是白天還是夜晚，您都可以隨時使用該服務。您可以分享您的經驗、提出問題，或者只是閱讀其他人的帖子。

詞語清單

詞語	英語	英語發音	意思
抗生素	Antibiotics	安剔拜歐提克斯	治療 <u>感染</u> 的藥物。
膀胱	Bladder	布拉德爾	去廁所排泄之前，貯藏小便的體內器官。
細胞	Cells	塞爾斯	構成我們身體器官及組織的微小組成部分。
中心導管	Central line	森抽·賴	插入到您胸部大靜脈中的細管。通常用於 <u>化療</u> 過程中。一端留在體外。
化療	Chemotherapy	克摩色拉皮	使用藥物殺死癌細胞的癌症治療方法。
水痘	Chicken pox	契肯·頗克斯	引起發燒、皮疹和皮膚瘙癢的 <u>感染</u> 。人們通常在小時候患上水痘。
新冠病毒疫苗	Covid vaccine	扣肺得·發克西恩	一種有助於保護您免受新冠病毒（新型冠狀病毒）侵害的疫苗。
腹瀉	Diarrhoea	戴爾瑞雅	24 小時內有 4 次或以上的稀便。

發燒	Fever	付依發	當您的身體在抵抗感染時，體溫變得比平時高。這也會使您出汗並感到虛弱和頭暈。
流感（流行性感 冒）	Flu (influenza)	服路（印付恩 撒）	肺部和呼吸道感染（我們在體內呼吸的通道）。這也可能導致您的身體發燒和疼痛。
流感疫苗	Flu vaccine	服路·發克西恩	一種可以保護您免於感染 <u>流感（流行性感 冒）</u> 的疫苗。
醫療團隊	Hospital team	獲斯嘑投·剔姆	由在醫院照顧您的醫生、護士和其他專業人員組成的團隊。
感染	Infection	印發克順	當細菌進入您的身體並引起疾病時。
中性白血球	Neutrophils	紐查爾否斯	一種抗感染的白血球。
PICC 導管	PICC line	PICC 賴	插入到您胳膊靜脈中的短細插管通常用於 <u>化療</u> 過程中。一端留在體外。
紅血球	Red blood cells	瑞得·布拉德· 塞爾斯	我們血液中為全身攜帶氧氣的 <u>細胞</u> 。
副作用	Side effects	塞德·依發克斯	癌症治療的不良影響，例如掉髮、感覺不適或疲倦。
疫苗	Vaccine	發克西恩	旨在保護您的身體免受（免疫）特定感染的治療。通常透過注射的方式給藥。
白血球	White blood cells	外特·布拉德· 塞爾斯	<u>我們血液中抵抗感染的細胞</u> 。

更多繁體中文版資訊

我們提供更多有關下列主題的繁體中文資訊：

癌症類型	與癌症共存
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 乳癌● 大腸癌● 肺癌● 前列腺癌 <p>治療</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 化療● 放射治療● 手術	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 癌症與新冠病毒● 如果您患有癌症，可申請的福利● 飲食問題與癌症● 生命的終點● 健康飲食● 患癌時獲得費用幫助● 若您被確診患有癌症 - 快速指南● 敗血症和癌症● 癌症治療的副作用●

若想查看該資訊，請瀏覽 macmillan.org.uk/translations

參考文獻與致謝

本資訊由麥克米倫癌症援助機構 (Macmillan Cancer Support) 癌症資訊開發團隊編寫和編輯。由翻譯公司提供繁體中文的翻譯版本。

本資訊以 Macmillan 宣傳冊《癌症治療和敗血症》為基礎編制而成。我們可以將副本發送給您，但完整手冊只有英語版本。

本資訊經有關專家審查，並獲得我們的首席醫療編輯蒂姆·艾弗森博士、醫學腫瘤學顧問及 Macmillan 首席醫療編輯的批准。

同時感謝審閱本資訊的癌症患者。

我們所有的資料都依據可獲得的最佳證據。關於我們所用資源的更多資訊，請透過 cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk 聯絡我們。

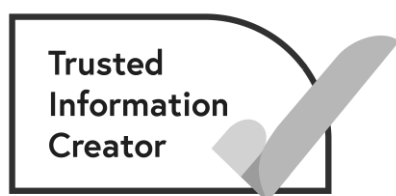
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Patient Information Forum



Sepsis and cancer

Cancer and some cancer treatments can increase your risk of sepsis. This leaflet explains:

- what sepsis is
- when you need to contact your hospital team
- what you can do to protect yourself.

Any words that are underlined are explained in the word list at the end. The word list also includes how to say the words in English.

If you have any questions about this information, ask your doctor or nurse at the hospital where you are having treatment.

You can also call Macmillan Cancer Support on freephone **0808 808 00 00**, 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm. We have interpreters, so you can speak to us in your own language. When you call us, please tell us in English which language you need.

There is more cancer information in other languages at **[macmillan.org.uk/translations](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/translations)**

This information is about:

- What is sepsis?
- Why might I get sepsis?
- When might sepsis happen?
- What is my risk of getting sepsis?
- Can I prevent sepsis?
- How can I help myself?
- Looking after yourself before cancer treatment
- Looking after yourself during cancer treatment
- Symptoms of an infection that may lead to sepsis
- Later symptoms of sepsis – call 999
- What will happen when I call my hospital team?
- Getting the right care and support for you
- How Macmillan can help you
- Word list
- More information in your language
- References and thanks

What is sepsis?

Sepsis is sometimes called blood poisoning. It happens when your body reacts to an infection and attacks its own organs and tissues..

Sepsis needs to be treated in hospital quickly. People can die from sepsis if it is not treated early.

When sepsis is treated quickly, most people make a full recovery

Why might I get sepsis?

Cancer and some cancer treatments can make your body unable to fight infections.

Our bodies are made up of tiny building blocks called cells. Our blood is made of cells, including red blood cells and white blood cells.

A type of white blood cell helps our bodies to fight infection. These cells are called neutrophils. Some cancer treatments reduce the number of these white blood cells in our bodies. This is most common if you have chemotherapy, but it can happen with other cancer treatments too.

If you have a low number of these neutrophils, a minor infection can become very serious. It could cause death within a few hours.

When might sepsis happen?

An infection or sepsis can happen at any time. Your risk is usually highest when the number of neutrophils in your blood is low. The exact time can vary, so ask your hospital team when you are most at risk.

What is my risk of getting sepsis?

Your risk of infection and sepsis depends on the type of cancer drugs you are having. It also depends on:

- the type of cancer you have
- the stage of the cancer
- your age
- your general health.

Can I prevent sepsis?

You cannot stop the number of white blood cells from getting lower. This means you cannot prevent sepsis.

The most important thing you can do is call your hospital team's 24-hour helpline straight away if you are worried.

This reduces your risk of developing a serious problem from an infection and can save your life.

How can I help myself?

You should keep your hospital team's 24-hour helpline number with you at all times. Save the number in your mobile phone. You can also ask family and friends to keep a note of the number. Your hospital team will be either a cancer team or a haematology team, depending on the type of cancer you have.

Do not delay – always call the hospital sooner rather than later. Sepsis is easy to treat if the treatment starts early.

These are also other ways you can help yourself:

- Tell your family, friends and work colleagues about your risk of sepsis.
- Plan how you would get to hospital quickly, for example who would look after your children or help you to get to hospital.
- Keep a record of the treatment you are having and when you last had it.
- Check for early symptoms of an infection. We describe these in this information.
- Check for the symptoms of sepsis. We describe these in this information.
- Call your cancer team urgently if you have any symptoms of infection.

It can be difficult to know if the symptoms you have are an infection or a treatment side effect. Do not delay contacting your hospital team. Neither you or your doctor can tell which infections might lead to sepsis. All infections people get during cancer treatment are treated urgently.

Infections do not get better on their own. Early infections can be treated easily with antibiotics. But delaying treatment for an infection can be dangerous.

Looking after yourself before cancer treatment

You can look after yourself before treatment by doing the following:

- Talk to your doctor or nurse about getting the flu (influenza) vaccine and covid vaccine. Adults you live with should also get these vaccines.
- Buy a thermometer, so you can check your temperature at home.
- Have a dental check before you start cancer treatment.

Looking after yourself during cancer treatment

Do not be afraid to live your life as normal. You do not need to avoid family and friends, unless they are unwell. Infections during chemotherapy are usually caused by bacteria that are naturally present in your own body.

You can help yourself during treatment by doing the following:

- Avoid people who are unwell, for example people with coronavirus, chicken pox, shingles, diarrhoea or a fever.
- Call your hospital team's helpline if you have been exposed to people with an infection.
- Follow any advice you are given about your diet. Not all patients need to make changes to their diet. If you need to change your diet, you will be told about this at the start of your treatment.
- Wash your hands before and after you eat and wash your hands after using the toilet.
- Wash your hands straight away after touching or removing animal waste.
- Use clean gloves for gardening and any other activities where you might cut yourself.
- Clean any cuts or grazes straight away and cover them with a plaster.
- Clean your teeth at least twice a day.
- Cook food at the correct temperature and store food at the correct temperature.

Symptoms of an infection that may lead to sepsis

Contact your hospital team urgently if you have any of the following symptoms of infection:

- You feel less well than normal.
- Your temperature goes over 37.5°C (99.5°F).
- Your temperature goes below 36°C (96.8°F).
- You feel shivery, freezing cold and unable to get warm, like when you have 'flu (influenza).
- You have diarrhoea. This means passing more stools (poo) than is usual for you or having watery or loose stools. If you have a stoma, it will be more active than usual.

There are some types of infection that have other symptoms. You should contact your hospital team urgently if you have any of these symptoms:

Symptoms of a urine infection

- pain or discomfort when you pee (pass urine)
- peeing more often than usual
- feeling that your bladder is not empty after peeing
- being unable to wait to empty your bladder
- leaking urine (incontinence)
- pain low down in your tummy area (abdomen)
- urine that is cloudy or foul smelling, or that contains blood.

Symptoms of a chest infection

- feeling short of breath
- having a sore chest
- coughing up green phlegm.

Symptoms of a skin infection.

- redness, heat, swelling or pain (especially around a PICC line, central line, cut or wound).

Symptoms of a tooth infection

- throbbing pain in your tooth or gum that may start suddenly and slowly gets worse
- pain that spreads to your ear, jaw and neck on the same side as the painful tooth or gum
- redness or swelling in your face.

Later symptoms of sepsis – call 999

If you have the later symptoms of sepsis, you need medical help straightaway. You need medical help to save your life and prevent serious damage to your body.

If you have any of these symptoms, call 999:

- slurred speech or confusion
- extreme shivering or muscle pain
- passing no urine in a day
- severe shortness of breath
- skin that is mottled or discoloured
- feeling generally very unwell – it may be the worst you have ever felt.

What will happen when I call my hospital team?

Telephone assessment

Your hospital team will ask about your symptoms and your temperature. They might ask you to go to hospital urgently and you might have to stay in. It is important to go to the hospital as soon as possible, so you can be seen and given treatment if needed.

Hospital assessment

The hospital team will treat you as an emergency. The hospital team are likely to:

- examine you
- take some blood, including a sample to find out the number of white blood cells in your blood
- arrange other tests, depending on the signs and symptoms you have
- decide whether you have too low a number of neutrophils and whether you have an infection or signs of sepsis.
- give you antibiotics by injection or through a drip into your bloodstream (intravenously) within 1 hour of your arrival

Treatment options

Most people with sepsis will stay in hospital for antibiotic treatment into their bloodstream.

Your hospital team will talk to you about what antibiotic treatment you need and for how long. They will also talk to you about how long you might need to stay in hospital for.

If you are unlikely to have any problems from your infection, the hospital team might give you antibiotic tablets to take at home instead. They will tell you how important it is to go back to hospital quickly if you have any problems.

Getting the right care and support for you

If you have cancer and do not speak English, you may be worried that this will affect your cancer treatment and care. But your healthcare team should offer you care, support and information that meets your needs.

We know that sometimes people may face extra challenges in getting the right support. For example, if you work or have a family it can be hard to find time to go to hospital appointments. You might also have worries about money and transport costs. All of this can be stressful and hard to cope with.

But help is available. Our free support line **0808 808 00 00** can offer advice, in your language, about your situation. You can speak to nurses, financial guides, welfare rights advisers and work support advisers.

We also offer Macmillan Grants to people with cancer. These are one-off payments that can be used for things like hospital parking, travel costs, childcare or heating bills.

How Macmillan can help you

At Macmillan, we know how a cancer diagnosis can affect everything, and we are here to support you.

Macmillan Support Line

We have interpreters, so you can speak to us in your language. Just tell us, in English, the language you want to use. We can help with medical questions, give you information about financial support, or be there to listen if you need someone to talk to. The free, confidential phone line is open 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm. Call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Web chat

You can send us a web chat message saying you would like an interpreter. Tell us, in English, the language you need, and we will arrange for someone to contact you. Click on the 'Chat to us' button, which appears on pages across the website. Or go to **macmillan.org.uk/talktous**

Macmillan website

Our website has lots of information in English about cancer. There is also more information in other languages at **macmillan.org.uk/translations**

We can also arrange translations just for you. Email us at **cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk** to tell us what you need.

Information centres

Our information and support centres are based in hospitals, libraries and mobile centres. Visit one to get the information you need and speak with someone face to face. Find your nearest centre at **macmillan.org.uk/informationcentres** or call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Local support groups

At a support group, you can talk to other people affected by cancer. Find out about support groups in your area at **macmillan.org.uk/supportgroups** or call us on **0808 808 00 00**.

Macmillan Online Community

You can also talk to other people affected by cancer online at **macmillan.org.uk/community** You can access it at any time of day or night. You can share your experiences, ask questions, or just read through people's posts.

Word list

Word	Meaning
Antibiotics	Medicine that treats an <u>infection</u> .
Bladder	The organ in your body that stores urine until you go to the toilet.
Cells	The tiny building blocks that make up the organs and tissues of our bodies.
Central line	A thin tube that goes into a vein in your chest. It is used to give <u>chemotherapy</u> . One end stays outside the body.
Chemotherapy	A cancer treatment that uses drugs to kill cancer cells.
Chicken pox	An <u>infection</u> that causes a <u>fever</u> , skin rash and itchy skin. People usually get this when they are a child.
Covid vaccine	A vaccine that helps protect you from covid (coronavirus).
Diarrhoea	Having 4 or more loose, watery bowel movements in 24 hours.
Fever	When your body temperature gets hotter than usual to fight an <u>infection</u> . This can also make you sweat and feel weak and dizzy.
Flu (influenza)	An infection of the lungs and airways (the passages we breathe through in our bodies). This can also cause <u>fever</u> and aches in your body.
Flu vaccine	A <u>vaccine</u> that protects you from getting the <u>flu (influenza)</u> .
Hospital team	The team of doctors, nurses and other professionals who will look after you in hospital.
Infection	When bacteria gets into your body and causes an illness.
Neutrophils	A type of white blood cell that fights infection.
PICC line	A thin tube that goes into a vein in your arm. It is used to give <u>chemotherapy</u> . One end stays outside the body.
Red blood cells	<u>Cells</u> in our blood that carry oxygen around the body.
Side effects	Unwanted effects of cancer treatment, for example hair loss, feeling sick or tiredness.
Vaccine	A treatment that aims to give your body protection (immunity) from a particular <u>infection</u> . It is often given by injection.
White blood cells	<u>Cells</u> in our blood that fight <u>infection</u> .

More information in your language

We have information in your language about these topics:

<p>Types of cancer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breast cancer• Large bowel cancer• Lung cancer• Prostate cancer <p>Treatments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chemotherapy• Radiotherapy• Surgery	<p>Living with cancer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer and coronavirus• Claiming benefits when you have cancer• Eating problems and cancer• End of life• Healthy eating• Help with costs when you have cancer• If you're diagnosed with cancer – A quick guide• Sepsis and cancer• Side effects of cancer treatment•
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To see this information, go to [macmillan.org.uk/translations](https://www.macmillan.org.uk/translations)

References and thanks

This information has been written and edited by Macmillan Cancer Support's Cancer Information Development team. It has been translated by a translation company.

The information included is based on the Macmillan booklet **Cancer treatments and sepsis**. We can send you a copy, but the full booklet is only available in English.

The information in this booklet has been reviewed by relevant experts and approved by our Chief Medical Editor, Professor Tim Iveson, Consultant Medical Oncologist and Macmillan Chief Medical Editor.

Thanks also to the people affected by cancer who reviewed this information.

All our information is based on the best evidence available. For more information about the sources we use, please contact us at **cancerinformationteam@macmillan.org.uk**

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