

Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre (LJMC)
Complementary Therapy Network and Volunteering

The Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre for Cancer Support and Information at Mount Vernon Hospital provides information, support, counselling and complementary therapies for people affected by cancer, within the Regional Cancer Treatment Centre. The areas included are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedfordshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Middlesex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckinghamshire | <input type="checkbox"/> North-West London |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hertfordshire | |

As part of our complementary therapy service we currently offer aromatherapy, Indian head massage, reflexology, reiki (as a pilot study within the drop-in centre only), and relaxation classes.

Since we opened in 1993, we have established a wide network of professionally registered and experienced therapists who are interested in using their skills to work with people affected by cancer, and who have undertaken further training with us in cancer care.

Many patients being treated at Mount Vernon Hospital have benefited from the complementary therapy provided within the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, and on the wards. We are keen to encourage their therapy to continue once the sessions have come to an end. The Network, by providing a list of local therapists, helps to ensure that people can have complementary therapy support available within their own community.

Training is mandatory for those wishing to join the network and who wish to volunteer for working on the wards. The training consists of two one day workshops on 'Cancer and its Treatments' followed by 'Using Complementary Therapies with Cancer Patients'. We also have therapists meetings for support, information exchange and occasionally guest speakers. Once trained, therapists who would like to volunteer to work on the wards will be required to apply and attend for interview.

Please see overleaf for criteria. We are sure that you will understand, these criteria must be fulfilled by members joining the network, so that we can ensure high professional standards for patients associated with the hospital.

If you are interested in joining our network and taking part in the training please complete the enclosed application form and return to us at your earliest convenience. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any further information:

Cherry Mackie / Pam Thorpe (Complementary Therapy Co-ordinators)
tel: 01923 844694
email: cherry.mackie@mvh-ljmc.org / pam.thorpe@mvh-ljmc.org

Criteria for Membership of the Complementary Therapists Network & Complementary Therapy Volunteers

Members / Volunteers must fulfil the following criteria:

Essential:

1. Have complementary therapy qualifications that are recognised by their relevant governing body.
2. Be registered with the relevant professional body for their therapy and abide by its' rules, regulations and code of conduct.
3. Have up-to-date professional indemnity insurance, which they undertake a professional responsibility to maintain.
4. Must have practised their therapy for one year after qualification.*
5. Have an interest in cancer care, and sensitivity regarding the issues for cancer patients.
6. Must be willing to undertake training with the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre on cancer treatment, side-effects and psychological effects on people affected by cancer.
7. Keep up-to-date with their own professional development.

** For Volunteer therapists - as a guideline, you would need to have worked professionally and regularly with patients for two years post qualification.*