



Epworth Breast Service

Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Management

Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team

A large body of international research evidence supports the view that outcomes for breast cancer can be maximised through a specialist multidisciplinary team approach. Multidisciplinary care (MDC) is defined as "an integrated team approach to health care in which medical and allied health care professionals consider all relevant treatment options and develop collaboratively an individual treatment plan for each patient."

MDC is about all relevant health professionals discussing options and making joint decisions about treatment and supportive care plans, taking into account the personal preferences of the patient. MDC is a key mechanism for ensuring that all relevant disciplines contribute to decisions about the care of patients with cancer, and evidence indicates that a team approach to cancer care can reduce mortality and improve quality of life for the patient. International clinical guidelines for the management of breast cancer, including those of Cancer Australia, all recommend the promotion of multidisciplinary care, and this is an approach also strongly supported by breast cancer consumer groups including Breast Care Network Australia (BCNA).



Regular team meetings are an integral component of MDC and a central theme of these meetings should be prospective treatment planning. The Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Meetings, which have been in operation since the Epworth Breast Service was established in 2005, are held weekly, and all breast cancer patients, with their permission, are discussed both prior to and after their breast cancer surgery.

Clinicians involved in the Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team Meeting include:

Breast Surgeons: Jane O'Brien/Melanie Walker

Medical Oncologists: Rick de Boer/Rowan Doig/Ross Jennens

Radiation Oncologists: Ros Drummond/Bronwyn King/Andrew See

Pathologist: David Clouston

Breast Radiologists: Anthony Felber/Rohan White

MRI Radiologist: Richard O'Sullivan

Nuclear Medicine specialist: Zita Ballok

Allied health professionals: breast care nurses, oncology nurse coordinator, sonographers, radiographers and nuclear medicine technicians.

General practitioners are welcome to attend by prior arrangement.



Jane O'Brien



Melanie Walker



Rick de Boer



Rowan Doig



Ross Jennens



Ros Drummond



Bronwyn King



Andrew See

All Epworth Breast Service Multidisciplinary Team clinicians consult in the Epworth Centre and treat patients at Epworth Richmond enabling patients to undergo all their breast cancer treatment, from diagnosis, through surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy on site at Epworth Richmond

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