

# Gynaecologic / Mātai āhuatanga wahine Cancer

This booklet is to give you information about having treatment for Gynaecologic (womb, cervix, ovaries, vagina, and vulva) Cancer (Gynae-Oncology).



## Your Details:

Name:

NHI:

## Your team:

Local Gynaecologist

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Local Cancer Nurse Co-ordinator/Nurse Specialist

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Gynaecologist /Gynae-Oncology Surgeon

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Auckland Gynae-Oncology Nurse Specialist:

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*Penny Bognuda 021 938 742*

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Radiation Oncologist (Radiotherapy)

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Medical Oncologist (Chemotherapy)

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Radiation and Medical Oncology Nurse Specialist:

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Your gynaecologist has asked for your health problem to be discussed at the Auckland Gynae-Oncology Multi-disciplinary team meeting (MDM). This meeting occurs every Wednesday morning. Your local team will discuss your health problem with a specialist cancer team (Oncology surgeons, radiation and chemotherapy doctors, radiologists, pathologists and nurse specialists.)

Advice about best care will be made. You will be contacted following this meeting and given this advice.

In New Zealand treatment for women with gynaecologic cancer may be done at your local hospital, but many women will be offered surgery in Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch (the three main centres). You may be asked to travel to Auckland for surgery, because of where you live in the North Island.

**THIS BOOKLET EXPLAINS WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU NEED TREATMENT in AUCKLAND and HOW WE WILL SUPPORT YOU.**

**Gynae-Oncology Surgeon appointment at**

*Greenlane Clinical Centre, level 6, Building 4 (see map 1)*

You will be given an appointment at the Auckland Greenlane Clinic on a Thursday morning where you will meet the surgeon who will explain the planned surgery. They may need to examine you. You will be offered a surgery date and told how long you are likely to stay in hospital. You may be asked to attend pre-admission clinic in the afternoon to assess you for anaesthetic.

**Pre-admission Clinic:** This may take up to 4 hours. It is also held at *Greenlane Clinical Centre.*

You will meet the doctors, an anaesthetist and the nurse specialist. You will have an ECG (tracing of your heart rhythm), a blood test and any other tests needed. Instructions will be given and consent for surgery signed by you.

Please note that your surgery will happen at *Auckland City Hospital (see map2).*

### **Surgery in Auckland Hospital**

You will come into Auckland City Hospital; ward 97 on the morning of your surgery (*see Map 2*)

### **Radiation and / or Chemotherapy**

This will be given at Regional Centres. The process for this will be explained by your local team.

### **Chemotherapy followed by possible surgery**

For some Gynaecological cancers Chemotherapy may be given as the first treatment in order to make the cancer more suitable for surgery. After approximately 3 cycles and a CT scan your case will be discussed at MDM again and a decision made to either continue with chemotherapy or proceed with surgery at Auckland hospital.

### **Travel and Accommodation.**

If you live away from Auckland you may be eligible for travel and accommodation assistance. Your local Nurse Specialist or Co-ordinator will be able to assist you with registration and application for this support. There are eligibility criteria to be met. <http://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/services-and-support/health-care-services/hospitals-and-specialist-services/travel-assistance/whos-eligible-travel-assistance>

### **Information and Support**

If you have any questions or problems please contact your local Nurse Specialist or Co-ordinator or feel free to contact the Auckland based Nurse Specialist, Penny Bognuda, on the number listed in the front of this book.

Social Work and Psychologist services are available also.

The Cancer Society on 0800 226237 also offers general support and guidance.



Notes:

# Map One



Greenlane Clinical Centre Site Map

## GREENLANE HOSPITAL Gynacologic-Oncology Outpatients

Building 6  
Level 4  
Reception W



## Map Two



## AUCKLAND CITY HOSPITAL

Building 32

Level 9

Ward 97



**AUCKLAND**  
DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD  
*Te Toka Tumai*