



## I've been told that my lung cancer can't be cured – how will I cope?

Unfortunately, for many different medical reasons, you may never be cured of lung cancer. This will be an exceptionally difficult time for you and your family. Many people become preoccupied with thoughts about treatments and why there is no curative treatment suitable for them. It is common to experience blame and anger. Remember, even though your cancer can't be cured you may be able to live with your disease, enjoying a good quality of life. **Lung cancer treatments are available to help you to live longer with as good a quality of life as possible.** If you have questions about your treatment, do not hesitate to discuss them with your doctor or lung cancer nurse specialist. There are many professionals who will be able to help you and your carers through this difficult time.

## My doctor has referred me to the palliative care team. What does this mean?

The palliative care team is usually made up of medical and nursing staff with special skills in pain control and symptom management. They work in a variety of settings including hospitals, the community, and in specialist units such as hospices. The main purpose of the palliative care team is to make sure that you are comfortable and ensure the best possible quality of life for both you and your family. The palliative care nurse works closely with your GP and district nurse to ensure that you get the best possible care and support in your own home. This will mean that you have easier access to a greater number of specialist services that may include day care, in-patient care and pain or breathlessness clinics. These services are to complement, not replace, the support given to you at home. If you have not been offered this service and would like a palliative care nurse to visit you, speak to your GP, hospital doctor or lung cancer nurse specialist.

## GIVING HELP AND HOPE

The charity has two aims:

**Supporting people living with lung cancer** - Working closely with lung cancer nurses, we provide information, run lung cancer support groups and offer telephone and online support. Our patient grants offer some financial help to people affected by lung cancer.

**Saving lives** - We fund lung cancer research, campaign for better treatment and care for people who have lung cancer, and raise awareness of the importance of early diagnosis. Our lung cancer prevention work helps people to quit smoking and encourages young people not to start smoking.

**Call us on 0333 323 7200 (option 2)**

This information has been taken from the following sources:

Lung cancer—answering your questions: Living with lung cancer 2014

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