

Sarcoma South UK Support Group

Minutes of support group meeting held at The Grove Hotel, 2 Grove Road Bournemouth on Wednesday 9th January 2013 at 2pm

Present:10

1. Apologies: 3

Apologies were received and the group gave a brief introduction of themselves. Imogen Batty was welcomed to the group. Imogen is a Nurse Practitioner with the Sarcoma team at Bournemouth Hospital. The team led by Mr Skene, Consultant Surgeon, Dr Hickish and Dr Geldart (Oncologist). The group were informed by Imogen that the team follows the same principal as Southampton, in that they seek guidance and if necessary a referral to the Royal Marsden for any patient with a soft tissue Sarcoma. The Sarcoma team at Bournemouth has been there for many years and some members of the group were disappointed to find that treatments could have been carried out at a local hospital rather than the journey to Southampton. Any patient who is currently under the care of Southampton, can, if they wish, have their cases transferred to Bournemouth.

There was also some discussion regarding the continual use of Southampton, in order for it to be recognised as a centre of excellence. However, it was felt that patients should be given a choice.

The issue of local GP's not knowing the correct pathways for referrals was discussed, and Imogen agreed to follow this up.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

Support group Leaflets had been distributed to many centres including: Royal Marsden, University College Hospital, Bournemouth Hospital, Gynae CNS, PGH, Dr. Hickish, Sarcoma CNS Helen at Southampton, Dr Flubacher (PGH). Imogen took a supply of leaflets with her for distribution.

4. Patient Survey Results

T showed a power point presentation of the results of the 2011/12 patient survey, a copy of which can be obtained from T. A copy was also given to Imogen.

5. British Sarcoma Group Conference 2013

This is due to take place at the end of February, and our group is being funded to attend the conference. It is important that anyone wishing to go to this conference contact T **urgently** as forms have to be sent back, and be received by Sarcoma UK by the 31st January 2013.

6. Treasurers Report

Time did not allow for discussion of this report, but a copy had been circulated to all members of the group with the minutes of the last meeting.

7. Any Other Business

Imogen agreed that she could also attend meetings at Southampton, as long as they did not interfere with her shifts. The meeting closed at 4.30pm

The next meeting will be at Sunrise of Bassett, 111 Burgess Road, Southampton, SO16 7AG (02380 799449) on Wednesday 13th March 2013, 2pm – 4pm.