

## **Your Health Care Team – Autologous Transplant**

**Your Blood and Marrow Transplant Team includes the following professionals:**

### **Doctors**

While undergoing your transplant, medical care is provided by a transplant doctor. They see you on a daily basis to answer questions you may have and keep you informed of your progress. Responsibilities of the transplant doctors change every 2 weeks. This means that you will have the opportunity to receive care from a few doctors during your hospital stay and recovery period. Weekly meetings between the doctors and other team members keep everyone up-to-date on the status of every patient.

### **Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants:**

These providers have advanced training in transplant patient care and have day-to-day responsibility for your care while you are in the hospital or in the clinic. They work in close collaboration with the doctors in both the inpatient and outpatient setting.

### **Pre-Transplant Nurse Coordinators**

Your pre-transplant nurse coordinator tracks your treatment before your transplant admission and plans the necessary testing and treatment you will need to get ready for transplant. The BMT nurse coordinator is your primary contact as you work your way toward transplant.

### **Inpatient Nurses**

These nurses are experienced in the care and specific needs of transplant patients. Your inpatient staff nurses organize your care from the time you are admitted until you are discharged from the hospital. Once admitted, your nurse will discuss the transplant process and what will be expected of you during your hospital stay. They also will be available to help you and your family with

physical or emotional problems as they arise. Throughout your hospital stay, they will provide ongoing education about the transplant process in preparation for discharge.

### **Care Management**

Your case manager is a nurse that will partner with you, your family, and your healthcare team to coordinate a safe discharge. The team will begin working on your transition for a safe discharge as soon as you are admitted to the hospital. They help coordinate home care needs, which could include a visiting nurse coming to your residence as well as home care supplies.

### **BMT Clinic Nurses**

Once you are discharged, the outpatient clinic nurses will help develop your plan of care in the outpatient setting. These nurses are also experienced in the care and specific needs of transplant patients. Your clinic nurse will assist you and your caregiver through the recovery process.

### **Social Workers**

Part of your required pre-transplant preparation is an initial psychosocial assessment with a social worker that will give you the opportunity to discuss non-medical needs and other concerns you may have. Social work is available to provide as needed mental health support services, including counseling, therapy and support groups to help patients, families and caregivers adjust to the transplant process. Social workers are available to providing assistance for coping with the stress of hospitalization or post-transplant complications. They are available to address practical matters as well, including education regarding Social Security Disability, caregiver planning, community and Michigan Medicine resources, financial stress, and referrals to insurance specialists.

**Dietitians**

The transplant dietician will meet with you while you are inpatient to explain any diet considerations during your hospital stay and when you go home. They also work with you to set nutritional goals to prevent weight loss, follow your nutrition intake and offer suggestions on how to achieve your nutrition requirements. The dietician is available to you after you are discharged and during your recovery as your appetite returns to normal.

**Clinical Pharmacists**

A clinical pharmacist participates in the planning of your chemotherapy and other medications you receive while outpatient or inpatient. They are available to answer questions you may have about the medications you receive.

**Cell Therapy Technologists**

This team is involved in apheresis procedures and processes the stem cell products after harvesting. A cell therapy tech will bring your cells to the bedside on the day of transplant.

**Physical/Occupational Therapists**

A physical and occupational therapist may see and assist you while you are in the hospital, to help you maintain your strength and endurance during and after transplant. A physical therapy tech will also be available to encourage you to be active throughout your stay.

**Inpatient Spiritual Care**

A spiritual care counselor is a supportive care resource for coping with the stress of transplant. They are available to provide you with spiritual and religious resources.

**Medical Assistants and Patient Care Techs**

Medical Assistants in the clinic will check you in and obtain your vital signs before seeing the doctor. On the inpatient unit, they will assist you with daily activities including hygiene and mouth care, assess your vital signs, draw blood, and check blood sugars.

**Clerical Staff**

Clerical Staff will check you in at clinic appointments and when you are admitted to the inpatient unit. They coordinate communication between other departments or units in the hospital.

**Research Coordinators**

Research Coordinators ensure that protocol requirements such as diagnostic tests and lab samples are completed. They also ensure that study medications are dispensed and tracked for any clinical trials you may be enrolled in.