**Improving the Cancer Journey**

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| **NHS Lothian   2019** | |
| **Cancer incidence numbers** | |
| East Lothian | 581 |
| **Edinburgh** | **2,458** |
| Midlothian | 556 |
| West Lothian | 951 |
|  | **4,546** |
| **% Edinburgh within NHS Lothian** | **54%** |

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[Improving the Cancer Journey (nhslothian.scot)](https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/Oncology/improving-the-cancer-journey)

**The Lothian Improving the Cancer Journey (ICJ) Service** is a Macmillan-funded, Link Worker service.  ICJ aims to support people with a cancer diagnosis and their family or carers, focusing on non-clinical issues.

 Here are some of the things we can offer support with;

* Money or housing issues
* Work
* Caring responsibilities
* Physical concerns
* Emotional concerns

Before meeting with a link worker, the person will be asked to complete a Holistic Needs Assessment (HNA) to identify their main concerns.  This can also be done with a Link Worker's help.  Link workers will then have a supportive conversation with the person about 'what matters most to them' and areas where they would like extra support or advice. Link workers will be able to sign-post or refer to appropriate local services and supports. The Link Worker and the person will co-create a care plan based on their conversation. This will be owned by the person and can be shared with GPs and other health professionals with consent.

And here are the NHS Lothian Referral Guidelines as well:

If you are a professional referring somebody please provide; Name, CHI and contact telephone number/email for the person.

A professional can refer somebody to this service or patients can contact us themselves.

Our team will be in touch with the person within 3 days and an appointment will be offered within 5-10 days.

The service is available to anyone 16 years of age and over that is affected by cancer (including family members and carers).

* [Referral Guidelines](https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/Oncology/improving-the-cancer-journey#tabs-1)
* [Primary Care Management](https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/Oncology/improving-the-cancer-journey#tabs-2)
* [Resources and Links](https://apps.nhslothian.scot/refhelp/Oncology/improving-the-cancer-journey#tabs-3)

How to refer:

* **Contact us to refer or give these details to your patient:**

**Tel no: 07977 307286 / 07929 784315**

**Email:**[**loth.icj@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk**](mailto:loth.icj@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)

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