



We are seeking funding to continue the delivery of the Radiotherapy Car Scheme which provides free transport to patients from the Districts of Mansfield and Ashfield who are undergoing radiotherapy treatment at Nottingham City Hospital. All radiotherapy treatment for these areas is carried out at City Hospital, and whilst a good proportion of patients are able to rely on friends and family members to take them for their treatment; this is not possible for everyone. The service is aimed at patients with additional needs who are undergoing radiotherapy treatment who would struggle to use hospital transport.

The pilot of this project was originally developed and funded by a local cancer support group in 2013. NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG (the part of the NHS which plans and pays for services) then funded the project for the next three years and for the last 18 months the project has been funded by Boots Charitable Trust.



We are seeking funding to provide free transport for 15-20 patients attending up to 600 radiotherapy sessions and appointments with consultants over a twelve month period ideally from February 2018 onwards. **The cost of running this project for one year is £8,150.**

The Radiotherapy Car Scheme provides a free transport service to City Hospital for patients from Ashfield and Mansfield, attending radiotherapy treatment. Typically treatment is given daily for a period of 6 weeks with each radiotherapy session lasting from 10-18 minutes. The hospital is under a statutory obligation to provide transport for patients, but this service is far from ideal for radiotherapy patients. The service provided through the NHS typically means that people will be out of the house for 6-8 hours. Whilst this is reasonable on an occasional basis, it is very draining for those undergoing radiotherapy treatment, particularly as some types of radiotherapy can make the patient quite unwell. To get a taxi to the hospital costs £20 each way (£1,200 for 6 weeks of radiotherapy). There are local car schemes, but the cost of these still mean the patient would pay £600. The scheme originally was developed as patients were actually refusing life-saving radiotherapy.



We work closely with the Radiotherapy Department at Nottingham City Hospital who identify patients who are in particular need of the scheme. Typically the patients we support have additional needs and would otherwise find

attending their radiotherapy treatment very difficult. As an illustration, we supported a frail 94 year old patient who needed to be taken to sessions in a wheelchair, and the father of small child. The child was undergoing Radiotherapy and his father had a learning disability and needed support to with attending the sessions—particularly with weekly appointments with the Oncologist. The father attended with his small child whilst his wife stayed at home with their new-born. We have also supported a wide-range of patients with additional complex medical needs.



We expect to work with around 15-20 patients over a 12 month period. Whilst the cost of this project is relatively high per beneficiary, it can literally be life-saving. The majority of project costs relate to mileage expenses for our volunteer drivers. There is also a contribution towards the administrative costs relating of running the scheme – organising drivers, corresponding with patients, recruitment and retention of volunteers and publicity and promotion of the scheme. All drivers are DBS checked, references are taken and we also ask drivers to confirm that their vehicle is roadworthy and has the appropriate insurance. The majority of our small, but dedicated, team of volunteer drivers have had personal experience of cancer; often having a family member who has been in receipt of treatment. As a consequence, they are passionately committed to providing an excellent and highly valued service.

Radiotherapy Car Scheme Project Costs for One Year		
Item	Detail	Cost
Volunteer petrol expenses	Based on an estimated 600 sessions	£6,750
Administration of the Project	Contribution towards the administration of the scheme	£1,400
		£8,150



To discuss this project in more detail contact:

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