

## **Case Study/Timeline of a Sarcoma Tumour Patient's Experience**

**Patient :- Mr Frank Edward Boden (Date of Birth 01/11/1939)**

**2012**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January – A small lump on my back was noticed, it wasn't painful.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Called Doctors Surgery about the lump and made an appointment to see Dr Shaw (GP) on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2:10pm saw Dr Shaw (GP) who examined the lump and stated the lump was a Lipoma (a soft fatty lump that is a non-cancerous (benign) growth made up from fat cells that clump together). It was agreed that another GP in the practice, Dr Brinkley, would perform a small operation to remove the lump and that they would contact me as soon as possible to arrange the date.

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February Doctors Surgery called to confirm that Dr Brinkley (GP) would complete a small operation but needed to see the lump first, this appointment was made for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February attended appointment with Dr Brinkley(GP) with Dr Shaw (GP) present. Both GP's reconfirmed they believed it was a Lipoma and appointment made for minor operation in an alternative branch of the practice on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 10am Dr Brinkley (GP) gave an injection to freeze the area around the lump and he proceeded to begin the operation to remove the lump. When the incision was made there was profuse bleeding and Dr Brinkley (GP) stated he could not carry on as the lump was not what he thought it was and it wasn't a Lipoma. He took samples of tissue and after 20 minutes 7 stitches were applied in the wound and I felt dizzy. The samples were sent to Dr Duffy (Consultant) at Princess Royal Hospital for analysis.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March Dr Brinkley (GP) sent a letter of referral to Dr Duffy (Consultant) at Princess Royal Hospital.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March attended Doctors Surgery for removal of the stitches and the lump had increased in size.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March I called my Doctors Surgery to chase the results and was informed that it could take 3 weeks for results from Dr Duffy (Consultant) at Princess Royal Hospital.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March went to see Dr Brinkley (GP) to get the results and to discuss the procedure for the removal of the lump. I was informed that the lump was a tumour but not 100% sure what form of tumour. It was stated that Dr Duffy (Consultant) would send a letter to me within the next 2 weeks with information explaining what tumour was and process for the removal.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April still no results/letter came. Lump continuing to get larger so I called to Doctors Surgery and was informed that Dr Duffy (Consultant) from Princess Royal Hospital did not in fact carry out this type of operation.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April Secretary from Doctors Surgery called to inform me that Dr Shaw (GP) was in surgery and that she would give details for the lump removal. Dr Shaw (GP) stated that the operation to remove the tumour would be at either Birmingham or Oswestry and I expressed a preference for Oswestry. I was still not informed what the tumour actually was.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April Secretary from Doctors Surgery called to inform me that Dr Shaw (GP) had sent a request for referral to Oswestry.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April I was so worried/unsure about what was happening and the lump was continuing to grow so my Son contacted Oswestry Hospital direct. He was informed that my appointment and scans would potentially be on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April. Later that day I was contacted by the Outpatient Clinic of Miss Cribb (Consultant) to confirm that I would be having a CT and MRI Scan and an appointment with Consultant on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 11.20am.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April my Son took me and my wife to Oswestry Hospital for appointment at Tumour Clinic as we were so worried and stressed. I saw Miss Cribb (Consultant) who sent me for 2 MRI Scans and a CT Scan. Photographs were also taken with a digital SLR camera of the lump. I then met with the Consultant again who told me the lump was a cancerous tumour called a Sarcoma. I was told they would operate to remove it as soon as possible and that follow up treatment (Radiotherapy) would be at Christies Hospital in Manchester.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April the Tumour Clinic from Oswestry called to confirm appointment made to see Miss Cribb (Consultant) on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 11.55am I saw Miss Cribb (Consultant) who fully explained the procedure and stated confident of success. Blood samples were taken.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April I had a major operation at Oswestry Hospital to remove the Sarcoma Tumour and a margin of healthy surrounding tissue. I was admitted at 10am and taken to surgery at midday. Miss Cribb (Consultant) completed the operation in 4.5 hours.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April until Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May I remained in Oswestry Hospital under the care of Miss Cribb (Consultant). I initially felt unwell following the operation but was able to eat 3 meals a day and slowly improved and was discharged on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May I met with Miss Cribb (Consultant) within the Tumour Clinic at Oswestry Hospital and received medication. On the same day I received a letter from Dr Choudrey (Consultant) at Christies Hospital Manchester confirming appointment there on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May I met with Dr Choudrey (Consultant) at Christies Hospital who examined me and stated would arrange a start date for 6 weeks of Radiotherapy.

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May I attended Christies Hospital and had a CT Scan and was measured up for Radiotherapy set up. I met with Dr Carmell to sign all the consent forms for the treatment and all the side effects relating to Radiotherapy were fully explained.

From Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June until Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July I underwent 6 weeks of Radiotherapy at Christies Hospital.

After this treatment I had 3 monthly check ups at Oswestry Hospital Tumour Clinic with Miss Cribb (Consultant) for 2 years and I am now on 6 monthly check ups at the Tumour Clinic and I am still under Miss Cribb's care.