

Ref. No: 0913
Date: 03/05/24
Subject: Cancer Treatment Funding Schemes

REQUEST

I am emailing under the Freedom of Information Act to request information regarding funding schemes for cancer-patients' treatments and monitoring.

1. Does your Trust provide funding for point-of-care home blood monitoring devices for people with cancer who are receiving systemic anticancer therapy? (Yes / No) *For added context, examples of such devices include Xprecia (by Universal Biosensors) & Liberty (by Entia), and they offer full white blood counts to assess side effects caused because of cancer treatment.*
 - a. If yes, how is it funded? *(please elaborate)*
2. If not, is it because the pharmaceutical company already funds it? (Yes / No) *(please elaborate)*
 - a. If yes, out of which budget does it come out from? *(please elaborate)*
3. Furthermore, if these funding schemes do not currently exist at your Trust and are not funded by pharmaceutical companies, are there plans to fund such initiatives in the future? (Yes / No)
 - a. If yes, please give some examples of some of the funding initiatives. *Examples of some of these funding pots include but are not limited to, the virtual wards fund, the digital fund, and the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)? (Please provide a detailed answer)*

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. Does your Trust provide funding for point-of-care home blood monitoring devices for people with cancer who are receiving systemic anticancer therapy?

No

2. If not, is it because the pharmaceutical company already funds it?

No

3. Furthermore, if these funding schemes do not currently exist at your Trust and are not funded by pharmaceutical companies, are there plans to fund such initiatives in the future?

No