

Ref. No: 1362
Date: 20/11/24
Subject: Medical retina services

REQUEST

- 1. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received for wet AMD, diabetic macular oedema and retinal vein occlusion (Anti VEGf services) or perhaps referred to as medical retina?**
- 2. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you rejected as unsuitable or undeliverable by your Trust?**
- 3. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received, triaged, booked and completed first assessment and treatment within the 2 week RTT advised by NICE and the college of ophthalmologists? We are looking for your Trust performance data against the 14 day standard as a % by month for the periods - 2023/24 and 2024/25**
- 4. How many patients are currently on a waiting list for an appointment for first assessment and or treatment ? How many have breached the 2 week RTT?**
- 5. How many patients are currently on a waiting list for a follow up appointment and treatment? How many of these have waited longer than the requested call back date stated as an outcome of their last assessment? (Ie overdue?) How many are overdue by more than one month? (We exclude from this any patients who have cancelled / DNA'd or are unable to attend an appointment that has been offered)**
- 6. Which drugs are your preferred for a new patient? Which drugs do you still use for follow-up patients?**
- 7. Does your trust follow a see and treat "one stop" clinic format?**

8. Does your trust follow treat and extend protocols where clinically appropriate?
9. How many patients have you certificated as sight impaired or severely sight impaired in the FYs 2022/23, 2023/24 and year to date due to Wet AMD?

RESPONSE

1. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received for wet AMD, diabetic macular oedema and retinal vein occlusion (Anti VEGf services) or perhaps referred to as medical retina?

Section 12 exemption see below.

2. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you rejected as unsuitable or undeliverable by your Trust?

Section 12 exemption see below.

3. For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received, triaged, booked and completed first assessment and treatment within the 2 week RTT advised by NICE and the college of ophthalmologists? We are looking for your Trust performance data against the 14 day standard as a % by month for the periods - 2023/24 and 2024/25

Section 12 exemption see below.

4. How many patients are currently on a waiting list for an appointment for first assessment and or treatment ? How many have breached the 2 week RTT?

Zero patients waiting outside the 2 week referral to appointment.

5. How many patients are currently on a waiting list for a follow up appointment and treatment? How many of these have waited longer than the requested call back date stated as an outcome of their last assessment? (ie overdue?) How many are overdue by more than one month? (We exclude from this any patients who have cancelled / DNA'd or are unable to attend an appointment that has been offered)

As of 03.12.24 we have 142 patients on a waiting list for treatment.

January 113
February 25
March 2
April 2

6. Which drugs are your preferred for a new patient? Which drugs do you still use for follow-up patients?

We use Ongavia and Vabysmo as first line drugs.

7. Does your trust follow a see and treat "one stop" clinic format?

yes

8. Does your trust follow treat and extend protocols where clinically appropriate?

Yes the trust does have a Treat and extend treatment pathway

9. How many patients have you certificated as sight impaired or severely sight impaired in the FYs 2022/23, 2023/24 and year to date due to Wet AMD?

Section 12 exemption see below

Response Q1,2,3, and 9

Section 12 of the FOIA allows a public authority to refuse a request where it estimates that it would exceed the appropriate limit to comply with the request. The relevant section states:

12. (1) - Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

where the appropriate limit is equal to 18 hours of staff time as set by the *Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004*

In determining the time limit, the Trust can only take into account

- determining whether the information is held;
- locating the information, or a document containing it;
- retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- extracting the information from a document containing it.

In order to determine whether the information is held in respect of your request, the Trust would need to **review** 2218 records and it is estimated this

will take 15 minutes to locate and review the paper records. A simple report cannot be produced as there is not a specific code relating to this request.

Calculation - Across the Trust there were 2218 patients and records to be reviewed during the request period. It is estimated that it will take 15 minutes to locate and review the individual records the total time for determining whether the information is held and retrieving this information would equal 554.5 hours¹

Advice and Assistance

Under section 16 of the FOIA, advice and assistance should be provided to allow the request to come under the appropriate limit by scaling or modifying the request. The trust could provide part of the information for one year but this would also exceed the time allowed under the FOI so the trust cannot help further with this request.

¹ 2218 attendances * 15 minute to review each event = 33270 minutes
33270 minutes = 554 hours, 30 minutes