



Ref: FOIA Reference 2023/24-197

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Data, Security and Protection
Newcastle Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 6QG

Date: 25th September 2023

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 28th June 2023 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Endometriosis pathway

On 29th June 2023 we contacted you via email as we require clarification on the following:

Q2b - How many women were treated for endometriosis in your Trust? – Please can we clarify with the requester what you mean by “treated for endometriosis” – is this surgically treated?

Q4 - How many women diagnosed with endometriosis have attended A&E? – Unsure what you mean here as this is similar to Q3 just worded slightly differently – can we clarify with you what you mean here?

On the same day you replied via email with:

Q2b - How many women were treated for endometriosis in your Trust? – Please can we clarify with the requester what you mean by “treated for endometriosis” – is this surgically treated?

Please provide data in relation to the above in respect of the number of women who have received any clinical procedure, surgery, intervention or any other clinical care procedure for endometriosis.

Q4 - How many women diagnosed with endometriosis have attended A&E? – Unsure what you mean here as this is similar to Q3 just worded slightly differently – can we clarify with you what you mean here?

To clarify: How many women with a pre-existing diagnosis of endometriosis have attended A&E as a result of flare, exacerbation or new symptom onset?

On 10th August we contacted you again for further clarifications:

Q2,b - Need clarity, is this for severe endometriosis or all endometriosis cases?

Q3- Need clarity, do you want all patients diagnosed with pelvic pain on discharge?

Q4 – Need clarity, is the A&E attendance for pelvic pain?

You replied 10th August via email with:

I'm concerned that your request for clarification comes 12 working days after the statutory deadline expired for providing a response, and after initial clarification provided in June. Please advise the cause for this delay.

In answer

Q2,b - Need clarity, is this for severe endometriosis or all endometriosis cases?

This was answered in last response – and was to be taken as all endometriosis

Q3- Need clarity, do you want all patients diagnosed with pelvic pain on discharge?

Pelvic pain hasn't been mentioned in the Fol. The information required relates to women who attended A&E and were diagnosed during that emergency consultation as having endometriosis, or on admission subsequent to that attendance.

Q4 – Need clarity, is the A&E attendance for pelvic pain? And at that time

Pelvic pain is not cited in the Fol – The information required relates to women who have attended A&E and at that time have an existing diagnosis of endometriosis. I recognise that such a diagnosis might not be recorded but please provide information in all cases where it was recorded.

I trust that you will now provide the information quickly.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Is there a pathway in place for endometriosis?

1a. If so, please provide the date of inception for the guideline(s) and the date of any subsequent update?

1b. The name, title and other role designation(s) of the clinical lead for the guideline(s), and any URL to where the guideline(s) can be viewed on your website?

A1 1. Yes

1a. BSGE guidelines as per any endometriosis centre. Inception was in 2013 when the department became a provisional endometriosis centre then a full centre in 2014.

1b. All names roles are on the BSGE website - <https://www.bsge.org.uk/centre/>

Q2 Does your Trust treat endometriosis patients or refer them to a specialist centre?

2a. If the Trust does refer, how many women were referred to a specialist centre?

2b. How many women were treated for endometriosis in your Trust?

A2 2. Yes we treat endometriosis patients

2a. N/A

2b. 2018/2019 180

2019/2020 199

2020/2021 124

2021/2022 102

2022/2023 154

Q3 How many women that attended A&E were subsequently diagnosed with endometriosis?

3b. How many of these women were admitted overnight?

A3 Not applicable

Q4 How many women diagnosed with endometriosis have attended A&E?

A4 Information not held digitally; all patient notes would need to be checked manually therefore:

I can neither confirm nor deny whether the information you have requested is held by the Trust in its entirety. This is because the information requested in this question is not held centrally, but may be recorded in health records. In order to confirm whether this information is held we would therefore have to individually access all health records within the Trust and extract the information where it is present. We therefore estimate that complying with your request is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act: *cost of compliance is excessive*. The section 12 exemption applies when it is estimated a request will take in excess of 18 hours to complete. We estimate that accessing and reviewing all health records and then extracting relevant information would take longer than the 18 hours allowed for. In addition to the section 12 exemption the Trust is also applying section 14 (1) exemption: *oppressive burden on the authority*

Q5 How many women that were diagnosed were given a prescription for dienogest?

A5 Dienogest has only been used in this Trust since January 2023. From January 23 – date 1876 patients have been given a prescription for Dienogest.

Q6 How many women are waiting for endometriosis surgery and what is the average waiting time?

In regard to questions 2a. through to 5. (inclusive), please provide the above information for the five financial years ending 2022/23. Please provide the information in the form of an electronic letter

A6 284 patients waiting for surgery and the current wait time is 40 - 50 weeks.

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 671612.

Yours,



Rachel Montinaro
Data Security and Protection Manager - Records