



Ref: FOIA Reference 2021/22-328

Date: 22nd September 2021

Email foi@uhnm.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email dated 17th September 2021 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Prostate Cancer UK: PET-CT Access.

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 This Freedom of Information Act (FOI) Request of all Trusts, Health Boards and Health and Social Care Trusts aims to give us an overview of access to PET-CT for prostate cancer across the UK. We will use this information to guide activity aimed at service improvements and reduced variation in access. We hope to understand and share best practice to allow all men with biochemical recurrence to gain access to the most accurate diagnostic technology. Please be reassured that, if published, the results will remain anonymous and respondents unidentifiable. We will not criticise any individual respondent.

Your responses are greatly appreciated. Please pass these questions to your radiology and/or urology departments for them to complete. If this is not possible, please provide as much information as you can.

In any multiple-choice questions, we ask that you please indicate your answer by marking with an “X” next to any answers that apply or by deleting all answers that do not apply. Please avoid answering by italics, underlining or bold, as these do not show up when we process your response.

1. Does your Trust/ HB have access to PET-CT for the investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence in prostate cancer patients?

- a. Yes**
- b. Not on site, but we refer patients elsewhere (please state the Trust/HB patients are referred to, if possible)**
- c. No**

A1 b. Not on site, but we refer patients elsewhere (please state the Trust/HB patients are referred to, if possible)

- Q2** If you answered “No” to question 1. Would you use PET-CT for the investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence in prostate cancer patients if it were available?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. N/A - We already have access to PET-CT.
- A2 a. Yes
- Q3** In 2020-21, how many patients do you estimate were investigated for suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer at your Trust/ HB?
- A3 Not recorded
- Q4** What percentage of patients with suspected biochemical recurrence do you estimate are referred for PET-CT at your Trust/ HB?
- A4 Not recorded
- Q5** Of patients with suspected biochemical recurrence referred for PET-CT, what % of scans do you estimate use a PSMA tracer (either Ga-PSMA or F-PSMA)?
- A5 All
- Q6** Are there any exclusion criteria for referral for PET-CT for suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer? If so, what are they? E.g. Upper and lower PSA limits, age, life expectancy, ECOG score.
- A6 PSA greater than 0.5 only
- Q7** What do you estimate is the average waiting time for the PET-CT scans for investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer?
- A7 4 weeks (Liverpool)
- Q8** What do you estimate is the average time it takes to report PET-CT scans for investigation of suspected biochemical recurrence of prostate cancer?
- A8 Less than 1 week (Liverpool)

*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.

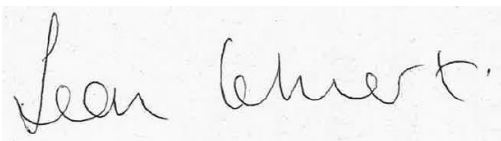
Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and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



Jean Lehnert
Data, Security & Protection Manager