

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3851

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### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to non-tuberculosis mycobacterium (NTM).

*1. In the past 12 months how many patients have been diagnosed with non-tuberculosis mycobacterium (NTM) (A31.0/A31.9)?*

*1a. Of these how many have been treated with an antibiotic?*

*2. Do you routinely screen for non-tuberculosis mycobacterium (NTM) (A31.0/A31.9)?*

*2a. Do you run a NTM (Non-tuberculosis mycobacterium) clinic or service?*

*Please state any other trusts that share this service?*

*2b. If you do not have a NTM clinic, where do you refer suspected NTM patients?*

*2c. How many suspected NTM patients did the trust refer to other institutions in the last 12 months?*

*3. Which testing laboratory do you send your sputum samples for suspected NTM?*

*3a. Do you have a shared care protocol for treating NTM?*

*4. Do you run a specific clinic for bronchiectasis patients?*

*4a. How many patients with bronchiectasis (J47/Q33.4) have you treated in the last 12 months?*

*4b. How many of these patients have also been diagnosed with non-tuberculosis mycobacterium (NTM) (A31.0/A31.9)*

*4c. How many of these NTM diagnosed patients are treated long term [more than 12 months] with an antibiotic?*

*4d. How many of these NTM diagnosed patients are treated long term [more than 12 months] with inhaled or IV amikacin?*

*5. Do you run a specific clinic for chronic COPD patients?*

*5a. How many patients with chronic COPD (J44.0, J44.1, J44.8, J44.9) have you treated in the last 12 months?*

5b. How many of these patients have also been diagnosed with non-tuberculosis mycobacterium (NTM) (A31.0/A31.9)

5c. How many of these NTM diagnosed patients do you then treat with an antibiotic?

5d. How many of these NTM diagnosed patients do you then treat with inhaled or IV amikacin?

1. Using this code only 1 patient was identified in the 12 month period Jan-Dec 2016

1a. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has therefore decided that such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

2. We screen for Non tubercular mycobacterium in clinical relevant/required patients and treat these patients only when appropriate. We work closely with Consultant Microbiologists before we embark on treating these patients. Even though we do not keep an audit of these patients, it is noticed that there is an increase in the incidence of these infections.

2a. There are no dedicated clinics for NTM

2b. Patients are generally seen in TB clinics and / or in General Respiratory clinics.

2c. We are following BTS guidelines and looking forward for the new 2017 BTS guidelines which is still in the process of consultations and draft.

3. The microbiology laboratory at Maidstone Hospital tests sputum samples for suspected NTM. If further investigations are required e.g. susceptibility tests positive cultures are referred to the reference laboratory at Public Health England, Colindale.

3a. We adhere BTS guidelines

4. Yes. Monthly clinics Supported by a chest physiotherapist with supervision from Chest consultant at Pembury

4a.

2016	Count
Jan	79
Feb	69
Mar	77
Apr	65
May	61
Jun	89
Jul	101
Aug	74
Sep	99
Oct	86
Nov	89
Dec	118
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1007</b>

4b. None of the above patients had a diagnosis of A31.0-A31.9, but since there was only 1 patient identified with this code in the first question, this is the only patient with the possibility of being identified, but was not in this cohort as did not have the code J47 or Q33.4

4c. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has therefore decided that such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

4d. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has therefore decided that such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

5. In addition see these patients in Respiratory clinic; we have a dedicated integrated COPD service with Specialist COPD clinics.

5a.

<b>2016</b>	<b>Count</b>
Jan	459
Feb	451
Mar	500
Apr	480
May	455
Jun	400
Jul	441
Aug	445
Sep	439
Oct	414
Nov	455
Dec	508
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5447</b>

5b.

<b>2016</b>	<b>Count</b>
Jan	1

The 1 patient identified in the first question with a diagnosis of A31.0 is also identified in the above cohort as the primary diagnosis was J47X, and the secondary was A31.0 which is why they appear here.

5c. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has therefore decided that such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

5d. Due to the very small number of cases and in order to protect patient confidentiality the Trust has therefore decided that such requests will normally be refused using the limitations available under Section 10 and Section 11 of the Data Protection Act 1998.