

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 5496

**Please reply to:**  
FOI Administrator  
Trust Management  
Maidstone Hospital  
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ME16 9QQ  
Email: mtw-tr.foiadmin@nhs.net

11 October 2019

## **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 Glaucoma.

*You asked:*

*1) Can you please confirm the number of patients that you saw in 2016/2017, 2017/2018, and 2018/2019 for each of the following:*

- a. Total Ophthalmology monitoring/follow-up appointments*
- b. New glaucoma diagnosis appointments*
- c. Routine glaucoma monitoring/follow-up appointments*
- d. Urgent glaucoma monitoring/follow-up appointments*

*2) Please confirm how many patients are currently under the care of the hospital trust for the monitoring of their glaucoma*

*3) Please confirm how many of the glaucoma patients under your care are classified as:*

- a. Routine/Stable*
- b. Urgent/non-stable*

*4) Of the patients seen for glaucoma within the last 12 months, can you please confirm how many patients:*

- a. Were seen on or within 2 weeks of their review date.*
- b. Were seen within 2-4 weeks of their review date.*
- c. Were seen within 1-3 months of their review date.*
- d. Were seen within 3-6 months of their review date.*
- e. Were seen within 6-12 months of their review date.*
- f. Were seen, but over 12 months of their review date.*
- g. Were not seen, and were over 12 months from their review date.*
- h. Were not seen, as they were not due their review appointment yet.*

*5) Please confirm how many glaucoma patients are currently outstanding their review appointment on the following basis:*

- a. Currently between 0-1 month past their scheduled review date.*
- b. Currently between 1-3 months past their scheduled review date.*

- c. *Current between 3-6 months past their scheduled review date.*
- d. *Currently between 6-12 months past their scheduled review date.*
- e. *Currently over 12 months past their scheduled review date.*
- f. *Are currently past their review date, but you are not certain of how far past their review date the patient is.*
- 6) *Please confirm where you are paid by your CCG(s) on a block contract, on a tariff payment per episode basis, or on an alternative payment method for glaucoma services. If you are paid on an alternative method, please provide details.*
- 7) *Please confirm the patient pathway in your trust for Glaucoma Diagnosis and Glaucoma Monitoring within your service?*
- 8) *Please confirm whether this service the patient pathway in your trust for Glaucoma Diagnosis and Glaucoma Monitoring is delivered wholly by staff employed by your hospital trust, or whether this is partially or wholly delivered by another provider. If this is delivered by another provider, please also confirm:*
  - a. *What proportion is delivered by other providers?*
  - b. *Who is the provider delivering this service on your behalf?*
  - c. *Where is this service delivered?*
  - d. *What elements of the service do they deliver? Is this the diagnostics only, consultant oversight, treatment or all elements?*
- 9) *Please confirm the address of all locations that the service the patient pathway in your trust for Glaucoma Diagnosis and Glaucoma Monitoring is delivered from.*

Trust response:

1, 2, 3, 4, & 5.

Our current systems do not capture the diagnosis of patients waiting for appointments so without validating each individual record (of which there are 1000s) we cannot provide the detail by subspecialty. The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider this part of your request. The appropriate limit is specified in regulations and represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the Trust is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.

6. With West Kent CCG we have an "Aligned Incentives" contract; for Medway, DGS and Swale CCGs we are PBR.

7, 8 & 9.

Glaucoma patients are diagnosed and monitored in the HES unless they are considered "stable" (with a follow up interval of 6 months or more). Stable Glaucoma patients are discharged to community teams for monitoring. The community teams are commissioned by the respective CCGs. The CCGs themselves should be contacted if further detail is required on the community service.