

Ref: FOI/CAD/ID 3268

**Please reply to:**  
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29 April 2016

### **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 diagnosis of heart failure in 2015.

1. *What was the size of the patient population covered by your Trust in 2015?*
2. *How many patients were diagnosed with heart failure by your Trust in 2015?*
3. *Does your Trust follow NICE guidelines to support the diagnosis of suspected heart failure? If not, what guidance does your Trust follow? Please provide a copy*
4. *Please provide the details – including the manufacturer and brand name – of those tests used to support the diagnosis of heart failure*
5. *Does your Trust follow NICE guidelines to support the management of chronic heart failure? If not, what guidance does your Trust follow? Please provide a copy*
6. *Please provide the details – including the manufacturer and brand name – of those tests used to support the management of chronic heart failure*
7. *Does your Trust use NTproBNP or BNP testing to support the diagnosis of heart failure in patients presenting through A&E?*
8. *How many NTproBNP tests were performed by your Trust in 2015? Please provide the manufacturer and brand name of the test used*
9. *Are there any restrictions for using NTproBNP or BNP tests? If yes, please explain*
10. *How many echocardiographs were performed at your Trust in 2015?*
11. *What was the average waiting time for an echocardiogram at your Trust in 2015?*

1. Approx. 560,000
2. Unable to answer as diagnosis of HF made by lots of different departments / clinicians, and no central record held. However, from the National Heart Failure Data base for 2015, 505 patients (233 at TWH and 272 at MGH) were admitted to hospital with a primary diagnosis of HF. This information is not

sensitive. It is in the public domain as published in the National HF audit annual report.

3. Yes, we follow NICE guidelines for diagnosis
4. All patients are echoed
5. Yes, we follow NICE guidelines for management
6. Heart failure specialist nurse, NICE advised medications etc.
7. MTW does not use BNP or ProBNP in A&E as we have rapid access to echo
8. MTW does not use BNP or proBNP.
9. Not applicable
10. 12,036
11. A large volume of the echo's we undertake are planned annual or biannual follow ups. We also do a large number of echo's for the oncology centre which are scheduled prior to chemotherapy sessions.

Of the diagnostic echo's, no patient waited more than 6 weeks. Inpatient echo's are done on the same day or within 48 hours.