

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6285

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

09 September 2020

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 2nd opinions.

You asked:

1. How many patients asked their GP or consultant to be referred to another professional for an existing course of treatment in the following time periods?

Number of patients who asked their GP

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

Number of patients who asked their Consultant

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

2. In how many cases was the request rejected in the following time periods?

Number of requests rejected by GPs

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

Number of requests rejected by Consultants

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

3. In how many cases did the treatment recommendation change because of the patient requesting a referral or second opinion in the following periods?

Number of GP referral requests which resulted in treatment change

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

Number of Consultant referral requests which resulted in treatment change

2020 (year to date)

2019

2018

Trust response:

The Trust is unable to respond to any questions relating to GP's these should be directed to GP Practices.

The only record of a request for a second opinion would be in the consultant letter to the other consultant a copy of which would be held in the patient records.

The Trust does not keep or is able to record that kind of information on the system and therefore would require the manual checking of every patient record.

The Trust has estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit to consider 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 your request and we will not be processing your request further.