



**Maidstone and
Tunbridge Wells**
NHS Trust

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6899

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

28 October 2021

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 Multiple Sclerosis.

You asked:

- 1. Are your patients coded for the different sub types of MS (multiple sclerosis), Relapse remitting, primary progressive and secondary?
Please answer Yes, No, coding planned, partial coding, all patients coded*
- 2. For secondary progressive MS are your patients coded?
Please answer No coding, coding planned, partial coding, all patients coded*
- 3. What proportion of your MS patients have a diagnosis of secondary progressive MS (within all MS diagnosed patients)?
Please answer Unknown, <10%, 10-20%, 21-30%, 31-40%, >50%*
- 4. For MS patients requiring an MRI, what is the average waiting time?
Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months*
- 5. For MS patients requiring an OCT, what is the average waiting time?
Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months*
- 6. For MS patients what is the average waiting time for IV MS treatment?
Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months*
- 7. When a patient has been diagnosed with MS, what is the average time from diagnosis of MS to initiate treatment?*
- 8. How many unscheduled admissions have there been for patients with a diagnosis of MS in any position between April – June 2021?
Please answer with the number of admissions*
- 9. How many MS patients are being treated in neurology rehab?
Please answer the number of patients*
- 10. Of the patients in Question 8, how many are being treated with an MS disease modifying drug?
Please answer with the number of patients*
- 11. How many MS patients are in the following EDSS (Expanded Disability Status Scale) groups?*

Please answer 1 – 3.5, 3.5 – 6.5, >7

12. How many of your physicians can initiate MS disease modifying drug treatment? If possible please supply the physicians name

Trust response:

1. Yes
2. Partially coded
3. > 50%
4. On an average 4-6 weeks once request is added to our system.
5. OCT 2-3 months
6. We not use IV steroids- oral steroids and initiated immediately – when patient have symptoms of a relapse. Treated quicker and no hospitalisation.
7. No longer than 2 months
8. We not have this information
9. We do not have Neurology rehab at the hospital. Please refer to the Community Neuro Rehab Team at Sevenoaks and Coxheath. We refer our patients to this service – seen in the community.
10. As above we do not hold this information.
11. We have many patients in all EDSS categories. 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.
12. Currently two physicians can initiate DMTs. Further information will not be released under Section 40 of the Act.