

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 7987

Please reply to:
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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 DXA Facilities Audit.

You asked:

Infrastructure:

1) Do you outsource your DXA scans? If Yes- please state the organisation providing this service and forward this FOI to your provider for completion (please continue to complete for any of the elements of the DXA pathway that are provided by your Trust/board)

2) In January 2023 how many DXA scanning machines did you have at your trust/board for clinical use?

a. n. Operational

b. n. not in use

c. n. accessible outside of Trust

3) What is the average weekly capacity for clinical scans? (N. of scans per week)

4) What was your average DNA rate over the last 3 months? (n. DNA/total n. scans booked)

5) What age range do you include in your clinical scans? Please tick all that apply

a. <20 years

b. 20-40 years

c. 40-60 years

d. 60-75 years

e. 75-80 years

f. >80 years

6) What is the duration of your routine DXA appointment:

a. 15 minutes or less

b. 16-25 minutes

c. 26-30 minutes

d. >30 minutes

7) What was the average wait for clinical patients from referral to scan in January 2023?

a. <2 weeks (move to Q9)

b. 2-6 weeks (move to Q9)

c. 6-13 weeks

d. >13 weeks

8) What are your perceived barriers to delivering DXA scans within 6 weeks from referral? Please tick all that apply

a. Scanner capacity (DXA equipment)

b. Clinical capacity (operator)

c. Other- please state

9) What was the average time from the scan to the report being available to the referrer in January 2023?

a. <3 weeks (move to Q11)

b. 4-6 week

c. 6-13 weeks

d. >13 weeks

10) What are your perceived barriers to referrers receiving DXA scan reports within 3 weeks from scan? Please tick all that apply

a. Clerical- internal

b. Clinical- internal

c. Factors external to this service (please state)

d. Other (please state)

11) What hospital department is responsible for delivery of DXA scans:

a. Radiology

b. Medical physics

c. Nuclear medicine

d. Rheumatology

e. Other- please state

12) Which DXA examinations are included in routine protocols for the clinical service? Please tick all that apply

a. Lumbar spine

b. Proximal femur

c. Long femur (AFF assessment)

d. Total body

e. Vertebral fracture assessment (VFA)

f. Peripheral/forearm

13) What access facilities do you have available? Please tick all that apply

a. Overhead hoist

b. Portable hoist

c. Wheelchair transfers

d. Bed/trolley transfers

e. Changing room

f. Assistance for transfers

g. Other- please state

Workforce:

1)

i) What professional groups perform DXA scan measurements at your centre? (DXA operators)

- a. Radiographer
 - b. DXA technician
 - c. Assistant practitioner
 - d. Clinical scientist
 - e. Nurse
 - f. Medical Dr- please state specialism
 - g. Other- please state
 - h. Unknown]
- ii) Please indicate WTE for each group selected
- 2) What DXA-specific training (outside of professional training) have the DXA operators performing scans had?
- a. In house
 - b. Manufacturers applications training
 - c. Recognized/accredited national training programme (please state the name of the training programme/provider)
 - d. Other- please state
 - e. Unknown
- 3) What professional groups report your DXA scans at your centre? ()
- a. Radiographer - internal
 - b. Radiographer - external
 - c. DXA technician – internal
 - d. DXA technician - external
 - e. Assistant practitioner – internal
 - f. Assistant practitioner - external
 - g. Clinical scientist – internal
 - h. Clinical scientist - external
 - i. Nurse -internal
 - j. Nurse - external
 - k. Medical Dr – internal - please state specialism(s)
 - l. Medical Dr – external - please state specialism(s)
 - m. Other- please state
 - n. Reporting is outsourced
 - o. Unknown
- 4) What training (outside of professional training) have those reporting DXA scans had- specifically in DXA reporting?
- a. In house
 - b. Manufacturers applications training
 - c. Recognized/accredited national training programme (please state the name of the training programme/provider)
 - d. Other- please state
 - e. Unknown
- 5) What professional group provides clinical leadership for your service?
- a. Radiographer
 - b. DXA technician
 - c. Assistant practitioner
 - d. Clinical scientist
 - e. Nurse
 - f. Medical Dr- please state specialism(s)
 - g. Other- please state
 - h. Unknown

6) Please indicate how many (WTE) clinical vacancies in your DXA service do you have in January 2023? (Free text)

Quality:

1) Is your service accredited as part of a national programme?

- a. ISAS
- b. IOS
- c. Other- please state
- d. None
- e. Unknown

2) What clinical audits do you routinely undertake? Please tick all that apply

- a. DXA scan technique
- b. Reporting (double reporting)
- c. Reporting (clinical review)
- d. Scanner QA review
- e. Other- please state
- f. Unknown

3) What IR(ME)R audits do you routinely undertake? Please tick all that apply

- a. Patient pregnancy
- b. DXA dose audit
- c. Referrer entitlement
- d. Scan justification
- e. Other- please state
- f. Unknown

4) What clinical protocols do you have in place? Please tick all that apply

- a. Scan site
- b. Scan mode
- c. Reference data selection
- d. Patient positioning
- e. Scan analysis
- f. Interpretation- T&Z-scores
- g. Reporting
- h. Other- please state
- i. Unknown

5) Which of the following are routinely included in the DXA report issued to the PRIMARY CARE referrer? Please tick all that apply

A. Admin. details

- i. Date of assessment
- ii. Patient ID and demographics
- iii. Reason for referral
- iv. Reporter's ID

B. BMD results for each measurement site

- i. T score (after peak bone mass)
- ii. Z score
- iii. Rate of change for serial measurements

C. Comment on reliability of measurements

- i. BMD results
- ii. Documentation of excluded measurements eg. vertebrae
- iii. Statistical significance of rate of change
- iv. Clinical significance of rate of change

D. WHO diagnostic category (for adults after peak bone mass)

- E. Results of additional investigations performed at DXA appointment
 - i. VFA
 - ii. X-ray or other imaging
 - iii. Laboratory tests
- F. Summary of clinical risk factors for fracture
- G. Summary of fracture history
- H. Clinical interpretation to quantify absolute fracture risk
 - i. FRAX+BMD
 - ii. FRAX + TBS
 - iii. FRAX+BMD plus comment on additional adjustment
 - iv. Statement on level of risk based on clinical judgement (eg. low/moderate/high)
- I. Management advice
 - i. Reference to national guideline (NICE/NOGG/ROS)
 - ii. Reference to local management guideline
 - iii. Individualised advice
- J. Recommendations on:
 - i. Need for onward referral eg. falls assessment or additional investigation
 - ii. Timing of future scan
- 6) Which of the following are routinely included in the DXA report issued to the SECONDARY CARE referrer? Please tick all that apply
 - A. Admin. details
 - i. Date of assessment
 - ii. Patient ID and demographics
 - iii. Reason for referral
 - iv. Reporter's ID
 - B. BMD results for each measurement site
 - i. T score (after peak bone mass)
 - ii. Z score
 - iii. Rate of change for serial measurements
 - C. Comment on reliability of measurements
 - i. BMD results
 - ii. Documentation of excluded measurements eg. vertebrae
 - iii. Statistical significance of rate of change
 - iv. Clinical significance of rate of change
 - D. WHO diagnostic category (for adults after peak bone mass)
 - E. Results of additional investigations performed at DXA appointment
 - i. VFA
 - ii. X-ray or other imaging
 - iii. Laboratory tests
 - F. Summary of clinical risk factors for fracture
 - G. Summary of fracture history
 - H. Clinical interpretation to quantify absolute fracture risk
 - i. FRAX+BMD
 - ii. FRAX + TBS
 - iii. FRAX+BMD plus comment on additional adjustment
 - iv. Statement on level of risk based on clinical judgement (eg. low/moderate/high)
 - I. Management advice
 - i. Reference to national guideline

ii. Reference to local management guideline

iii. Individualised advice

J. Recommendations on:

i. Need for onward referral eg. falls assessment or additional investigation

ii. Timing of future scan

K. The secondary care report is the same as the primary care report

Trust response:

A copy of the full questionnaire is attached to this email.

1)

Medical Imaging Partnership

Darenth Valley Hospital

2)

a. 1

b. 0

c. 3

3)

In house 80

We outsource up to 125

4) 7%, including outsourced work

5)

a. <20 years

b. 20-40 years

c. 40-60 years

d. 60-75 years

e. 75-80 years

f. >80 years all the above

6)

b. 16-25 minutes

7)

c. 6-13 weeks

8)

a. Scanner capacity (DXA equipment)

b. Clinical capacity (operator)

9)

a. <3 weeks (move to Q11)

10) N/A

11)

a. Radiology

12)

a. Lumbar spine

b. Proximal femur

c. Long femur (AFF assessment)

d. Total body

f. Peripheral/forearm

13)

c. Wheelchair transfers yes, if patient can support own body weight

e. Changing room

f. Assistance for transfers- as above

Workforce:

1)

i)

- a. Radiographer 1x 1, 1 x 0.75
- c. Assistant practitioner- currently in training 3 x 0.6 WTE

2)

- a. In house
- b. Manufacturers applications training
- c. ROS online foundation course, ROS NTS

3)

- a. Radiographer – internal. yes- basic reports, since no training currently available
- k. Medical Dr – internal -radiologist

4)

- a. In house
- b. Manufacturers applications training
- c. Recognized/accredited national training programme ROS NTS

5)

- a. Radiographer
- f. Medical Dr- radiologist

6)

Quality: none

1)

- d. None

2)

- f. unknown

3)

- f. unknown

4)

- a. Scan site
- b. Scan mode
- c. Reference data selection
- d. Patient positioning
- e. Scan analysis

5)

a.

- i. Date of assessment
- ii. Patient ID and demographics
- iii. Reason for referral
- iv. Reporter's ID

b.

- i. T score (after peak bone mass)
- ii. Z score
- iii. Rate of change for serial measurements

c.

- i. BMD results
- ii. Documentation of excluded measurements eg. vertebrae
- d. WHO diagnostic category (for adults after peak bone mass)

e.

- i. VFA
- f. Summary of clinical risk factors for fracture
- h.
 - i. FRAX+BMD
 - iii. FRAX+BMD plus comment on additional adjustment
- 6)
 - a.
 - i. Date of assessment
 - ii. Patient ID and demographics
 - iii. Reason for referral
 - iv. Reporter's ID
 - b.
 - i. T score (after peak bone mass)
 - ii. Z score
 - iii. Rate of change for serial measurements
 - c.
 - i. BMD results
 - ii. Documentation of excluded measurements eg. vertebrae
 - d. WHO diagnostic category (for adults after peak bone mass)
- e.
 - i. VFA
 - f. Summary of clinical risk factors for fracture
 - h.
 - i. FRAX+BMD
 - iii. FRAX+BMD plus comment on additional adjustment
 - k. The secondary care report is the same as the primary care report