

5th August 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Pain Clinic referral waiting Times.

The Trust can provide the following information:

(i) what was the average waiting time during 2014 for patients referred to specialist pain services for their initial appointment? If it is not possible to provide a response for '2014' please provide a response for the most recent appropriate time period which is available.

4.1 Weeks

(ii) what is the longest time a patient has waited for their first appointment with specialist pain services during 2014? Again, if it is not possible to provide this information for '2014' please provide a response for the most recent appropriate time period which is available.

21 Weeks – Patient had multiple cancellations and did not rebook for three months, referral was never discharged back to referrer.

(iii) what is the shortest time a patient has waited for their first appointment with specialist pain services during 2014? Again, if it is not possible to provide this information for '2014' please provide a response for the most recent appropriate time period which is available.

1 Day

(iv) how many patients referred to specialist pain services breached the 18-week referral-to-treatment target during 2014/15 (read: April 2014 to March 2015 inclusive)? If it is not possible to provide this information for the designated time period, please provide the most recent figure which is available.

None

(v) how many patients are currently on the waiting list for a specialist pain service appointment?

393 the service has expanded since last year

(vi) how many patients were on the waiting list for a specialist pain service appointment at the same point last year (ie July 2014). If not possible to provide this information specific to July 2014, please provide another comparable figure which is available and clarify the date this figure refers to.

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If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at foi@homerton.nhs.uk , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

Mike Dunne
Information Governance Manager/Deputy Calidcott Guardian