

28<sup>h</sup> September 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your recent follow-up Freedom of Information request regarding Trust's NHS wig provision policy for dermatology patients, including those with alopecia and other dermatology conditions which cause hair loss.

The Trust can provide the following information:

**Please provide details of your Trust's NHS wig provision policy for dermatology patients, including those with alopecia and other dermatology conditions which cause hair loss. I would assume that a wig policy would include such information as:**

**The Trust does not have a wig provision policy.**

**Details of the number of wigs that dermatology patients can obtain via a NHS wig prescription including details of the type of wig allowed, whether a monetary value is placed on allowance, any limitations/timescales.**

**Patient can obtain 2 wigs within a 12 month period. The Trust only supplies synthetic wigs unless known to be allergic.**

**Can people with all types of alopecia obtain a wig via a prescription? i.e can androgenetic and scarring alopecia patients obtain a prescription or is one offered just to those with alopecia areata?**

**Yes, this is a clinical decision, if prescribed it will be provided.**

**If wig prescriptions are only offered to those with a certain severity of hair loss, what extent of the head needs to be affected for a prescription to be offered?**

**See above**

**Are prescriptions for human hair wigs ever offered?**

**For patients who are allergic to synthetic wigs, if prescribed, they will be provided.**

**What is the annual Trust budget for wigs?**

**There is no annual Trust budget for wigs.**

**Does the annual Trust budget for wigs include wigs for oncology patients as well as dermatology patients?**

**There is no annual Trust budget for wigs, we do not provide cancer chemotherapy.**

**Or are there separate budgets? If so, please provide details of both.**

**N/A**

**Do patients have a choice as to a supplier to take their wig prescription?**

**Yes patients have the choice to choose.**

**If a choice of supplier is provided, please confirm the number of choices patients receives and the names and addresses of the NHS approved suppliers.**

**The approved suppliers provided to the patients are:**

**John Lester Hair Systems, 32 Globe Road, London E1 4DU**

**Joseph's Wigs. 24 Rosehill Court. Bishopsford Rd, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6JS**

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at [foi@homerton.nhs.uk](mailto: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](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk) to take them further.

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Yours sincerely

Mike Dunne

Information Governance Manager/Deputy Calidcott Guardian