

Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Hackney College
Defoe Building, Room 10
50 Hoxton Street
N1 6LP

Date 14th November 2016

Email: foi@homerton.nhs.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

Ref: FOI 2852

Thank you for your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Helicobacter pylori infections.

The Trust can provide the following information:

1. Your policy for the identification and screening for Helicobacter Pylori infections

On UGI endoscopy, for patients with dyspepsia, a CLO/ urease test can be done or gastric bx can be sent for laboratory analysis for Hpylori. Urea Breath Test (UBT C13) is also available for patients with simple dyspepsia not needing endoscopy, for follow-up check of Hpylori eradication success in the past and for all patients 3/12 following Hpylori eradication for gastric and duodenal ulceration.

2. Your procedure for GP referral for patients presenting with gastritis. In particular:

2.1. The GPs required carrying out or requesting any screening procedures at Out Patient Departments in advance of a referral.

It is recommended as per British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) guidelines for dyspepsia, that in primary care, that GPs test and treat for Hpylori before referring for further assessment or endoscopic procedure. However this is not a pre-requisite prior to a gastro referral.

2.2. Does the GP give you a referral letter with implicit permissions to treat the patient without further reference to him/her?

GPs tend to refer patients for further assessment/ investigations at the discretion of the gastro clinician, whose responsibility is to do what is necessary for diagnostic/ treatment purposes and keep the GP informed of plan of action.

3. The total number of gastroscopic investigations carried out over the most recent 12 month period for which you have data

Total gastroscopies (diagnostic only) from Oct. 2015 to Sept. 2016 is 3367

4. The number Campylobacter-like organism (CLO) tests carried out during gastroscopy in the same period. These may also be referred to as Rapid Urease Tests (RUT)

Total Helicobacter CLO/ Urease test done from Oct. 2015 to Sept. 2016 is 1177 (confirmed from a record of 3367 diagnostic scopes of which records are available but not looked at)

5. The number of stool antigen tests requested by you for the diagnosis of Hp infection in the same period (if applicable)

0 – Hpylori stool antigen tests are mainly done in primary care via GPs.

6. The number of urea breath tests (C13 or C14) carried out by you in the same period (if applicable)

Number of Urea Breath Tests (UBT C13) done from Oct. 2015 to Sept. 2016 is 73 (22 positive, 51 negative)

7. The number of patients treated for H Pylori infections in the same period.

100% accuracy cannot be guaranteed as the records are not readily available. Treatment could have been given from clinic attendance or via GP. However based on CLO/ Urease tests from 1177 traceable endoscopy records of CLO/Urease test done, there are 831 positive and 346 negative results. Also with positive UBT C13 results, treatment/ re-treatment details are not known. Records via testing via biopsies (lab histology) are not included and not readily available.

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

Mohamed Uddin
FoI Administrator

Mike Dunne
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