

**Information Governance**

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Ref: FOI2017/3928  
Date Received: 25<sup>th</sup> Apr 2017  
Response Due: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017

31<sup>st</sup> May 2017

Dear

**INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the FOI Act.

You asked:

1. *Please confirm the total number of referrals to the Trust's lipid clinic during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*

<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>
210	278	178	220	196

2. *Please confirm the total number of referrals to the Trust's lipid clinics from (a) general practice and (b) secondary care during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*

	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>
GP	197	262	167	204	188
Secondary Care	13	16	11	16	8

3. *Please confirm the average waiting time between patient referral and appointment to the Trust's lipid clinic during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*

	<u>2011/12</u>	<u>2012/13</u>	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2014/15</u>	<u>2015/16</u>
Avg Wait Time	3.9	4.8	4.3	3.5	3.7

4. *Please confirm the proportion of patients accessing the Trust's lipid clinic that are meeting their lipid targets during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*
  
5. *Please confirm the proportion of high risk cardiovascular disease patients\* accessing the Trust's lipid clinic that are routinely offered a structured annual review during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*

**Question 4 and 5. Refusal Notice.** The information that you have requested is exempt under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act because it will take more than 18 hours to retrieve and extract the relevant information.

12. — (1) Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit.

Regulation 4(3) of the Fees Regulations states that a public authority can only take into account the costs it reasonably expects to incur in carrying out the following permitted activities in complying with the request:

- determining whether the information is held;
- locating the information, or a document containing it;
- retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- extracting the information from a document containing it.

All public authorities should calculate the time spent on the permitted activities at the flat rate of £25 per person, per hour.

This means that the appropriate limit will be exceeded if it would require more than 18 hours work for all public authorities.

- We cannot provide absolute clinic figures for the years requested as our present systems do not routinely gather this data in a format that can answer the questions posed. However we do have this information on an individual patient basis. Assessing and collating this information on a patient –by-patient basis which is the only means available to us at the present time will exceed the maximum time limit allowable to respond to this request due to the amount of work involved.
  
- The Trust Lipid clinics aim to treat **all** Lipid clinic patients to target as closely as possible using a combination of lipid pharmacotherapy and lifestyle adjuncts including control of relevant co-morbidities with other specialities to achieve this.
  
- Figures are available for Lipid Clinic patients commenced on PCSK9 inhibition in combination with usual lipid medication and usual lifestyle adjuncts since October 2016 and 100% of patients seen at Lipid Clinic review to date on PCSK9 inhibition are at target.
  
- **All** High risk patients are reviewed at regular intervals as indicated by their on-going lipid management up to and including a structured annual review.”

6. *Please confirm or deny whether the Trust has in place an integrated care pathway or clinical management strategy for the management of high risk cardiovascular disease patients. If confirmed, please provide details.*

Please see attached.

7. *Please state the budget allocated by the Trust to its lipid clinic during the financial years: 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16.*

Unfortunately we are unable to answer this as the Lipid Clinic is not funded separately to other clinics within the division.

*\*High risk of cardiovascular disease is defined as a history of any of the following: acute coronary syndrome (such as myocardial infarction or unstable angina requiring hospitalisation), coronary or other arterial revascularisation procedures, chronic heart disease, ischaemic stroke, peripheral arterial disease.<sup>[1]</sup>*

I trust that this information is helpful to you, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 488271. If we do not hear from you within 28 days we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Rob Forster  
Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Finance & Informatics

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Wrightington HOSPITAL, Hall Lane, AppleyBridge, Wigan, WN6 9EP

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF