

**Information Governance Department**

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Ref: FOI2015/2526  
Date Received: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015  
Response Due: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015

20 March 2015

Dear ,

## INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

We are now pleased to respond to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

You asked:

*How many patients with hypercholesterolemia have been treated in the last 12 months?*

Please see attached

*If you can split by diagnosis, how many are Familial hypercholesterolemia or Statin Resistant patients?*

We are not able to split by diagnosis

*If you can provide the treatment that these patients are on, please complete the following;*

Please see table below. Note: we do not hold indications so this is the total number of patients issued with the drugs in the last 12months

Total Patients	
Fibrates	56
Ezetimibe	141
Statins	2628
Colestyramine	42
Cholestagel	2
Apheresis	0

*If possible please could you supply the following addition information?*

1. *Does the trust have a policy or procedures in place (shared with CCGs or otherwise) for cascade testing of relatives of Familial Hypercholesterolemia patients?*

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There are no formal arrangements in place for FH genetic cascade screening which would require a dedicated funded service for DNA cascade screenings with dedicated nurse specialists to offer counselling to FH patients. In the interim, the relevant consultant offers counselling to FH patients who attend the Lipid clinic. There are also clinic communications to arrange lipid biochemical testing as an interim measure to first degree relatives who do not know their lipid status or have not had their lipids checked.

2. *Does the trust have plans to conduct an assessment of performance against the measures in the NICE quality standard on FH, and can they supply key findings from the assessment?*

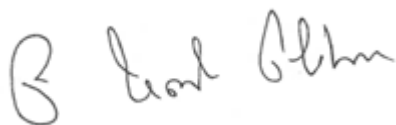
The National Audit of the Management of Familial Hypercholesterolemia was undertaken in 2009 and funded by the RCP funding from Heart UK, the BHF, and Cardiac Network Co-ordinating Group Wales. It assessed the implementation of the 2008 NICE clinical guideline Identification and Management of Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (CG71) in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. This Trust participated in this audit. A full national report is available in the public domain for all sites and a copy is attached. This Trust compared very favourably when benchmarked against other Trusts.

3. *What systems are in place for adults with FH to receive lipid-modifying drug treatment to reduce LDL-C concentration by more than 50% from baseline measurement?*

- Lipid clinic recommendations for prescribing of Lipid pharmacotherapy – PCT and Hospital formulary availability.
- GP will continue with medications recommended by repeat prescription to the patient until further review by the Lipid specialist.
- Regular review and biochemical monitoring are built into medication titrations and use of combination multiple drug regimes. (Lipid clinic or shared care with the GP).
- GMMC – has local guidance for non-specialists as regards lipid pharmacotherapy and has built in information with recommendations to seek the necessary specialist input to use less usual medication/ drug combinations such as with FH patients.

I hope you find this information useful, however if you are not entirely satisfied with this response please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department on 01257 256335. 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,



**Acting Deputy Chief Executive and Medical Director**

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# Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh

NHS Foundation Trust

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, WrightingtonHospital, 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

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