

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2025/10856

Date Received: 23rd June 2025

Response Due: 21st July 2025

Date: 21st July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 23rd June 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

We would like to know the following information if available:

1. Does your hospital have a guideline for silver trauma patients (>65 years old) attending ED?

Yes, the Trust does have a guideline/policy for the attendance of frail injured patients/silver trauma patients presenting to the Emergency Department (ED).

2. What are the ED's indications for initiating a silver trauma call and requesting a trauma CT for elderly patients at your hospital?

These are the same indications as per the Greater Manchester Major Trauma Network (GMMTN) document, please see the silver trauma v1 document attached.

Contact details have been redacted from the Silver Trauma v1 document as the Trust does not routinely give out email addresses and direct telephone numbers of staff members, as large numbers of unsolicited emails/telephone calls, could cause disruption by blocking email accounts/telephone lines thus preventing true work-related emails/calls from being delivered. However, any of the above staff can be contacted via main switchboard on 01942 244000.

3. Which specialties are called for silver trauma in ED? Does it include General surgery, Orthopaedics, Anaesthetics and Medicine of the elderly?

As per the GMMTN identified silver trauma are to be seen by senior ED clinicians (ST3+) within 30 minutes of identification, unless they are triggering for Major trauma. In which case a full Major Trauma Team activation is undertaken. This includes the Emergency medicine, ED nurses, radiology, general

surgery, orthopaedic surgery and ICM and anaesthetics. Care of the elderly are not members of the Trauma team but are part of the Trust Trauma Board which meets quarterly.

4. Does your hospital have a guideline for assessing delirium in silver trauma patients (>65 years old)?

Delirium/confusion is included in the recognition of silver trauma tool and the GMMTN "Meet Harry" poster attached.

5. Do all the silver trauma patients get reviewed by medicine of the elderly on the ward if admitted?

Some patients are seen by the CAU which includes the care of elderly. Patients admitted under the orthopaedic team are reviewed by the ortho-geriatricians. Those admitted under ED would be assessed daily by EM physicians and OT and physios if however, they are deemed unfit, they will be referred and admitted under our acute medical colleagues.

Those admitted under orthopaedics outlying on medical or surgical wards, get reviewed by the orthogeriatric team but not if they are under acute medicine who manages these.

6. Do you have a guideline for assessment of the silver trauma patients on the ward by medicine of the elderly?

No specific guidelines for silver trauma for inpatients on the care of elderly ward.

7. Can you please attach your hospital's guidelines for silver trauma patients in your reply?

The Trust has a Silver Trauma Tool that can be used across the hospital if needed. This is currently being updated however the current guidelines are attached.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Joanne Bark
Divisional Director of Operations & Performance

PLEASE NOTE:

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, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline number: 0303 123 111