

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

Suite 9
Buckingham Row
Brick Kiln Lane
Wigan
WN1 1XX

Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

Web: www.wwl.nhs.uk

Ref: FOI/2024/10015

Date Received: 26th July 2024

Response Due: 23rd August 2024

Date: 19th August 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 26th July 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

- 1. The estimated number of children currently living with heart defects and/or tube feeding issues (separated into three groups: children with only heart defect/children with only tube feeding issues/children with both).**

There are currently 85 children on caseload with feeding tubes. The service does not record heart defect as part of the referral process therefore this information is not centrally recorded. If recorded it would be held within individual case notes. As case notes are for the care and treatment of patients, we do not request staff to interrogate them in order to collate the information required to respond to Freedom of Information requests.

- 2. The number of children with these conditions who have received at-home support services in the last five years (broken down by total number per year for the last five years).**

The total number of children known to the Children's Complex Nursing Team for feeding tube:

2019/20 = 62

2020/21 = 60

2021/22 = 72

2022/23 = 77

2023/24 = 82

- 3. The number of children with these conditions currently awaiting at-home support services (broken down by total number per year for the last five years).**

0. All children referred to the service are seen within 24-48 hours of referral for assessment.

4. The number of children with these conditions who have requested at-home support services (broken down by total number per year for the last five years).

The total number of patients known to the Children's Community Nursing Team for support with feeding tube, and receiving both active input and care or equipment provision:

2019/20 = 63

2020/21 = 62

2021/22 = 73

2022/23 = 82

2023/24 = 85

5. The number of children with these conditions who are currently in receipt of at-home support services (broken down by total number per year for the last five years).

The current caseload size for tube feeding is 82.

These patients receive regular care/review as per the patient pathway to maintain the feeding tube.

Passed years number of children receiving care and support as per 2 points above. This number does not include those who are known to the service for equipment provision who would receive care for the feeding tube by alternative services or could be self-catering.

6. The estimated number of children with these conditions who are eligible for at-home support services (broken down by total number per year for the last five years).

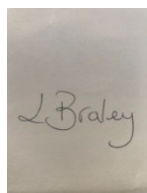
The Trust does not hold this information as the service only holds information for those children referred in.

7. Additionally, I would appreciate any insights into the challenges associated with finding or extrapolating this data, such as variations in assessments/criteria or inconsistencies in data tagging of patients.

The service does not collate statistical data on number of patients seen/referred who have heart defect. This would be documented during assessment where relevant but is not reportable.

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,



Lynne Braley
Director of Operations & Performance – Community Division

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