

Information Governance Department

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Ref: FOI2020/7085

Date Received: 28th September 2020

Response Due: 26th October 2020

Date: 16th October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

You asked:

1. Did you suspend your MRI before biopsy service for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

a. Yes - at radiology request

b. No

c. ~~We did not offer MRI before biopsy before the pandemic~~

2. If yes, have you now resumed MRI before biopsy for patients with suspected prostate cancer?

a. Yes

b. No

c. ~~No, but we refer patients elsewhere (Please state the referral area:)~~

d. N/A

3. Do you currently use a pre-MRI clinical triage for patients with suspected prostate cancer? By pre-MRI clinical triage, we mean a process, often Clinical Nurse Specialist led, that determines patient suitability for MRI before biopsy

a. Yes

b. No

4. Has your radiology department introduced any new MRI exclusion criteria for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of COVID-19?

a. ~~Yes (please specify)~~

b. No

c. N/A

5. If yes, do you plan to maintain any of these exclusion criteria once restrictions to limit patients' COVID-19 risk are lifted?

a. ~~Yes (please specify:)~~

b. No

c. N/A

6. Did you stop conducting biopsies for patients with suspected prostate cancer as a result of COVID-19 infection risks?

a. Yes

b. No - Not completely but stricter criteria

7. If yes, have you resumed biopsy services for patients with suspected prostate cancer?

a. Yes

b. ~~Yes, but only for a subset of patients (please specify:)~~

c. No

d. No, but we refer patients elsewhere for prostate biopsy (Please state the referral area:)

8. Do you offer transperineal biopsy under local anaesthetic?

- a. **Yes** – We have just started this procedure, but will continue Trans Rectal as well while we change over.
- b. **No**
- c. ~~No, but we plan to in future (please specify when if possible:)~~

9. Following an MRI scan for suspected prostate cancer, what criteria do you use to select patients for biopsy? Please include all that apply:

- a. **Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 1 or greater - no biopsy usually**
- b. **Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 2 or greater - no biopsy usually**
- c. **Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 3 or greater - not always – clinician/ patient choice**
- d. **Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 3 or greater, but only if PI-RADS or Likert score 3 patients have other clinical indications (such as age, ethnicity, PSA density) that make them higher risk - yes – e.g. PSA density**
- e. **Patients with a PI-RADS or Likert score of 4 or greater - yes**
- f. **We do not offer MRI before biopsy – N/A**
- g. **We do not currently biopsy patients – N/A**

10. Did you delay radiotherapy treatment for prostate cancer patients as a result of COVID-19?

- a. ~~Yes~~
- b. **No**
- c. ~~Partially (please specify:)~~
- d. **N/A (please specify:) We do not do radiotherapy in this trust**

11. If yes, have you cleared your backlog for prostate cancer radiotherapy treatment?

- a. ~~Yes~~
- b. **No**
- c. **N/A – We did not delay prostate cancer radiotherapy treatment**

12. Did you delay radical prostatectomy for prostate cancer patients as a result of COVID-19?

- a. ~~Yes~~

b. No

c. Partially (please specify:)

d. N/A (please specify:) We don't do RRP in this trust

13. If yes, have you cleared your radical prostatectomy backlog?

a. Yes

b. No

c. N/A – We did not delay radical prostatectomy for prostate cancer patients

14. To address your backlog did or are you using a protocol to risk stratify patients and prioritise patients with high-risk and locally advanced prostate cancer for treatment within 3 months?

a. Yes

b. No

c. No, we did not have a sufficient backlog to require patient prioritisation - N/A

15. Does your protocol apply to new patients with high-risk and locally advanced prostate cancer with the intention to radically treat them within 3 months of diagnosis?

a. Yes

b. No

c. N/A - We do not have a protocol for patient prioritisation

16. Do you have prostate cancer Personalised Stratified Follow Up (PSFU) protocols in place?

a. Yes

b. No

c. We are in the process of developing PSFU protocols

17. If Yes, do you have a digital remote monitoring system in place for follow up?

a. Yes (Please specify the name of the system used: e.g. My Medical Record, Patient Knows Best)

b. No

18. If no, do you plan to implement a digital remote monitoring system for follow up?

~~a. Yes -- (Please specify the name of the system you plan to implement: e.g. My Medical Record, Patient Knows Best)~~

b. No

19. Which of the following criteria are part of your follow up protocols? (please mark all that apply:)

a. Patients have access to a Support Worker who acts as their key worker for the duration of their follow up care. Yes

b. Patients have access to an online patient service that allows them to check test results, complete assessments, view patient information and message their clinical team. No

c. Patients attend a 4-hour supported self-management workshop with a group of 8 to 10 men to develop knowledge, skills and confidence to self-manage their condition. No

d. Patients do not need to attend routine appointments unless an issue arises. No

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,



Sanjay Arya
Medical Director

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, Wrightington Hospital, Hall Lane, Appley Bridge, 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 at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 1113