

Our Ref: NG/RM/24208
Date: 4th July 2024

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Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Reception: 0300 123 1535

Dear

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing in response to your e-mail of the 15th June 2024. Your request has been processed using the Trust's procedures for the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

Requested information:

Statistics

1. The number of unique patients that have received a diagnosis of Functional Neurological Disorder in total.
2. The same as above but since 2020 (the start of the tax year to the end of this tax year)
3. The total number of unique outpatients seen during the same four-year time period.
If your trust has a neurology service or department:
4. If applicable, the total number of outpatients seen for neurology during the same four-year time period since 2020.

Reporting

Note: 1a and 2a only apply if the answers to answers 1 or 2 respectively, are negative. I would also be grateful for yes/no answers where applicable.

1. Does the trust routinely record outpatient diagnoses of Functional Neurological Disorder onto their electronic recording system (which can later be queried electronically to ascertain this number)?
 - a. If the above answer is no, then does the trust routinely record this information for outpatients diagnosed with any other neurological condition(s) such as stroke (any kind)?
2. Does the trust routinely report the number of outpatient diagnoses of Functional Neurological Disorder to any other body (including NHS England, Government or any other third party) not including third parties which store or manage data on the trust's behalf such as the trust's IT firm. If so, to whom?
 - a. If the above answer is no, then does the trust routinely report this information for any other neurological condition(s) such as stroke?

Treatment

The below are only applicable if your trust has a rehabilitation, reablement or neurology service.

the use of "treatment" refers to physiotherapy, psychology, orthosis, orthotics, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, vocational therapy, rehabilitation, holistic services, musculoskeletal injections and/or any other physical intervention. Advice or the provision of information including leaflets, booklets, and web links/online content I have not classed as treatment for the purposes of these questions. If the only treatment offered is medication then also please state this.

1. Does the trust routinely provide inpatient treatment for FND?
2. Does the trust routinely provide outpatient treatment for FND?
3. Are these provided only within the local commissioning area or a nationwide service?

For clarification, the use of "unique" above refers to patients that have received the same diagnosis twice only being counted once.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust is not commissioned to provide Neurology Services. They are provided by University Hospitals of North Midlands (UHNM) locally.

The Trust will have a number of FND patients/ Service users on the caseload of various Mental Health teams. However, we do not routinely capture community diagnoses electronically at the present time and therefore cannot provide numbers of those with a primary or secondary diagnosis with any degree of confidence.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review of the management of your request. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Dr Buki Adeyemo, Chief Executive, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare Trust, Trust Headquarters, Lawton House, Bellringer Road, Trentham, ST4 8HH. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Griffiths
Deputy Director of Governance



Chair: Janet Dawson
Chief Executive: Dr Buki Adeyemo
www.combined.nhs.uk

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