

Trust Headquarters
Russell's Hall Hospital
Dudley
West Midlands
DY1 2HQ

Ref: FOI-042024-000804

Date: 08/05/2024

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Request

Please complete the questions below in relation to planned care and follow-up appointments.

Response

1a. Does your organisation follow the guidance set out in Section 5 (Recording RTT waiting times: Planned patients) of NHS England's ['Recording and reporting referral to treatment \(RTT\) waiting times for consultant led elective care'](#)?

At Dudley Group of Hospitals, we have a Planned Wait List Monitoring report, we use this at the start of each month to convert Planned patients that are past their repeat, we start an RTT the day after the repeat date.

1b. If so, do you follow the guidance with respect to the following types of planned patient (as defined in the guidance):

- Follow-up outpatients
- Cancer surveillance patients
- Active monitoring patients – **we use an outcome code that starts an RTT clock for patients who have been under active monitoring but there is now a decision to treat.**

1c. If so, at what point does your organisation place patients waiting for planned care (as defined in the guidance) on an active RTT waiting list? (e.g. the RTT clock starts as soon as a patient's care becomes 'overdue', or after a defined time period or tolerance following a patient's care becoming 'overdue'?) **A clock is started the day after the repeat date, for example if a repeat date is 30.04.24, a clock will start from 01.05.24 when the treatment/diagnostic is overdue.**

1d. If such patients are placed on an active RTT waiting list, do you report them on i) the Referral to Treatment statistics to NHS England which are published monthly as National Statistics, and/or ii) the Waiting List Minimum Data Set (WLMDS)?

2a. How many patients on your active RTT waiting list have been placed on this waiting list having been transferred from a planned care list (as defined in the guidance)? Please provide

the most recent available figures and state the date of those figures. **There are currently 347 patients on the Incompletes that have had planned pathways converted to active.**

2b. How long have these patients been on an active RTT waiting list?

1. 0-4 weeks (0-28 days) **5**
2. >4 -12 weeks (29-84 days) **142**
3. >12-18 weeks (85 days-126 days) **34**
4. >18-36 weeks (127 days-252 days) **85**
5. >36-52 weeks (253 days-364 days) **39**
6. >52-104 weeks (365 days – 728 days) **42**
7. >104 weeks (729 days or more) **0**
8. No date recorded. **0**

2c. How many of these patients are on an active RTT waiting list for the following RTT treatment functions?

1. **General Surgery Service 18**
2. **Urology Service <5**
3. **Trauma and Orthopaedic Service 0**
4. **Ear Nose and Throat Service 0**
5. **Ophthalmology Service 0**
6. **Oral Surgery Service 0**
7. **Neurosurgical Service No service at Dudley Group**
8. **Plastic Surgery Service 6**
9. **Cardiothoracic Surgery Service No service at Dudley Group**
10. **General Internal Medicine Service 0**
11. **Gastroenterology Service 68**
12. **Cardiology Service 0**
13. **Dermatology Service 0**
14. **Respiratory Medicine Service 0**
15. **Neurology Service 0**
16. **Rheumatology Service 0**
17. **Elderly Medicine Service 0**
18. **Gynaecology Service 0**
19. **Other - Medical Services 0**
20. **Other - Mental Health Services 0**
21. **Other - Paediatric Services 0**
22. **Other - Surgical Services 0**
23. **Other - Other Services 0**
24. **Unknown 0**

As per NHS Digital rules the Trust does not publish numbers lower than 5 as this could lead to the identification of the persons involved and cause distress to Families or Friends. The number of patients on an active RTT waiting list for the specified treatments requested is less than 5, so Exemption Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act is applied.

3. How many planned patients (as defined in the guidance), in each of the following categories, do not have a date that allows their overdue date to be calculated (e.g. a due-by / latest clinically appropriate date): **0**

- **Follow-up outpatients**
- **Cancer surveillance patients**
- **Active monitoring patients**

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right to appeal in line with guidance from the Information Commissioner. In the first instance you may contact the Information Governance Manager of the Trust.

Information Governance Manager
Trust Headquarters

Russell's Hall Hospital
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DY1 2HQ
Email: dgft.dpo@nhs.net

Should you disagree with the contents of our response to your appeal, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioners Office at.

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk

If you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust