

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

Ref: FOI-092024-0001134

Date: 12.12.24

Address / Email:

Dear

Request Under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please see information below.

Key Relevant Documents

1. Does your Trust have a Standard Operating Procedure - also referred to as a PSFU Protocol - that covers the PSFU pathway for breast cancer?

Yes	X
No	
Don't Know	

The Trust follows the PSFU Personalised Stratified Follow-Up pathway implemented by NHS England, however at present we do not have a published standard operating procedure.

If yes, please share your current, or most recent, version of this Standard Operating Procedure/PSFU Protocol.

2. Are all hospitals that form part of your Trust following the processes set out in the Standard Operating Procedure/PFSU Protocol for breast cancer?

Yes	X
No	
Don't Know	

The Trust follows the PSFU Personalised Stratified Follow-Up pathway implemented by NHS England, however at present we do not have a published standard operating procedure.

If no, please send the breast cancer related Standard Operating Procedure/PSFU Protocol of each hospital in the Trust

Information Provided about Breast Cancer Signs and Symptoms

This section relates to the information given to women about signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer and signs and symptoms of secondary breast cancer.

- At the end of hospital-based treatment do you provide primary breast cancer patients with information about the signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer?

Yes - for all patients	X
Yes – but not consistently	
No	

Please find attached PIL (Patient Information Leaflet re signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer.

If yes- please provide a copy of the information provided or a link to the information if it is available online. If this information is part of a longer document, please provide the full document.

- At the end of hospital-based treatment, do you provide primary breast cancer patients with information about the signs and symptoms of secondary breast cancer?

Yes - for all patients	X
Yes – but not consistently	
No	

Please find attached PIL (Patient Information Leaflet re signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer.

If yes- please provide a copy of the information provided or a link to the information if it is available online. If this information is part of a longer document, please provide the full document.

Number of Patients

- How many patients did you treat for primary breast cancer that finished their hospital-based treatment in each of the Financial Years 2022-23 and 2023- 2024?

	Number of Patients
2022-2023	349
2023-2024	366

- For each of the Financial Years 2022-23 and 2023-24, of the primary breast cancer patients that completed hospital-based treatment, please provide an estimate of what proportion were stratified to each follow up pathway?

- A PIFU pathway
- A Routine Follow Up pathway

If you can provide the figures spilt between the age under 45 category and age 45 and over category that would be useful but if the information is not readily available by age, please provide for all ages combined.

	% of patients					
	2022-2023			2023-24		
	Under 45	45 and over	All ages	Under 45	45 and over	All ages
PIFU						
Routine						

Follow Up						
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Of The total patients in hospital based follow up approximately 1300 in routine follow up (nurse – led) and 3400 patients in PCFU.

However, the Trust is moving over the next 10 months for all patients to be moved to PCFU – unless the patient is mentally or physically compromised and unable to participate in self-care, where a routine follow up may be more beneficial.

Patients with high-risk disease are still seen in PCFU, or routine follow up, but all continue with oncology follow up also.

- At the end of hospital-based treatment, is there a set period of time during which all patients in the Trust receive Routine Follow Up, with the decision between a Routine Follow Up pathway and a PIFU pathway being taken at a later date?

Yes- all patients receive routine follow up for a set period of time at the end of hospital- based treatment	Yes, unless chosen to go to PCFU.
No- patients are immediately placed on Routine Follow Up or PIFU	We are moving towards this.

If yes, which hospitals offer this and for each hospital how long is the set period of time?

Description of the Pathway

We are hoping to understand in more detail how the breast cancer PIFU pathway works and how people are able to make contact when they have a concern. If you are providing a Standard Operating Procedure/PFSU Protocol as part of your response, you only need to respond to questions 8, 9, 10 and 11 if the answers to these questions are not fully available in the document.

- If a patient wants to raise a concern about a breast cancer sign or symptom (either primary breast cancer or secondary breast cancer) while on a PIFU pathway, what are the options for them to do so (please tick all that apply):

A telephone service	X
Email contact	
Drop in clinics	
Other- please detail	An appointment will be made in the symptomatic clinic for assessment or referral elsewhere dependant on issue raised

Monitoring of the Pathway

- Are all breast cancer patients on a PIFU pathway logged and tracked on the organisation’s IT system?

All are logged	
All are logged and tracked	Yes
Some are logged	

Some are logged and tracked	
No	

10. Is there a standard time limit on how long PSFU pathways are available to breast cancer patients e.g. 5 years?

Yes	X
No	

If yes, what is the standard time limit?

5 years unless under 50 years – follow up continues until breast screening age

If yes, how frequently is the standard time limit applied?

Always	X
Most of the time	
Sometimes	
Rarely	

If any patients have a difference to the standard time limit, please detail and explain in what circumstances this occurs and the range of time limits?

11. When it is time for a breast cancer patient to be discharged from PSFU, do they receive any notification of this, e.g. by letter or phone call?

Yes	Booklet given in clinic or by post
No	
Don't Know	

If yes, please explain how they receive this notification and provide a copy of the standardised information they would receive at that point, if it is in written form.

We are keen to discuss in more detail the answers to this FOI with a small number of Trusts. If this is something you would consider, please let us know and we will follow up if needed.

- Yes
- No

If yes, the person to contact is:

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
 Dudley
 West Midlands
 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