



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-235

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
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ST4 6QG

Date: 17th August 2018

Tel: 01782 676474
Email FOI@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 20th July 2018 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding intravitreal injections for eyes.

As of 1st November 2014 University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) manages two hospital sites – Royal Stoke University Hospital, and County Hospital (Stafford). Therefore the response below is for the two sites combined from that date where appropriate.

Q1 Intravitreal injections for eyes:

Does your Ophthalmology department provide an intravitreal eye injection service?

A1 Yes

Q2 During 2017/18 financial year what is your total numbers of injections administered?

A2 6771 injections were issued from pharmacy (from the available records.)

Q3 If patient is indicated for treatment in both eyes do you deliver injections bilaterally at one appointment?

A3 No

Q4 Does your Ophthalmology department provide a one stop service for follow up patient? (i.e. patient has diagnostics, clinician review and an injection if indicated at one appointment)

A4 No

Q5 Does your Ophthalmology department provide a one stop service for a new appointment? (i.e. patient has diagnostics, clinician review and an injection if indicated at their first appointment- 1st loading dose)

A5 A the Trust we run a one stop service for the diagnostics and clinical review. We try and get the injection completed that day or the same week.

Q6 Who injects the patient's eyes and how many sessions do they deliver on a weekly basis (session is equivalent to 4 hours):

- a. Consultant Ophthalmologists?
- b. Trust Grade or Specialty Doctors (non - deanery trainees)?
- c. Junior (deanery) trainee doctors?
- d. Nurses?
- e. Opticians?
- f. Orthoptists?
- g. Other (please specify)?

A6 Please see below:

a. Consultant Ophthalmologists?	1 x session
b. Trust Grade or Specialty Doctors (non - deanery trainees)?	2 x sessions
c. Junior (deanery) trainee doctors?	None
d. Nurses?	9 x sessions (including double sessions)
e. Opticians?	None
f. Orthoptists?	None
g. Other (please specify)?	All the injectors provide extra injection clinics when the demand is required

Q7 How does your pharmacy department provide the intravitreal injection drugs?

- a. Specific for each patient i.e. has a patient label attached?
- b. In batches, not labelled specific for patients

A7 (A and B): Some of the intravitreal injection drugs are labelled for individual patients and some are sent as batches which are then booked out to the patients before another batch will be released from pharmacy.

Q8 Do you have an automated system that supplies the drug or is used to restrict access to the drug at the point of injection?

A8 No

Q9 If you do have automation who is your provider of the automation system?

A9 Not Applicable

Q10 During 2017-2018 financial year have you had any financial losses associated with the loss of these drugs through fridge failures? If so please quantify estimated cost.

A10 No

Q11 During 2017-2018 financial year have you had any financial losses associated with the loss of these drugs through inability to internally reconcile? If so please quantify cost.

A11 Information not held

Q12 During 2017-2018 financial year have you had any financial losses associated with the loss of these drugs through inability to reconcile with commissioners? If so please quantify cost.

A12 Information not held

Q13 Do you use blueteq to get prior approval from the commissioners before administering the drug?

A13 No, we request after the first injection is given. We follow the CCG's guidelines strictly and only inject the patients if they are within the guidelines.

Q14 How are you paid for the injection activity?

a. Do you have a locally agreed tariff with commissions that includes the cost of the drug? If so please specify separately the income for one attendance including market forces factor for new 1st injection appointment and follow up appointment.

b. Do you have a locally agreed tariff with commissions that excludes the cost of the drug for follow up appointments?

i. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography) and clinician review? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)

ii. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography), clinician review and injection delivered at the same appointment? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)

iii. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography), clinician review and injection delivered bilaterally at the same appointment? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)

A14 Please see below:

a. Do you have a locally agreed tariff with commissions that includes the cost of the drug? If so please specify separately the income for one attendance including market forces factor for new 1st injection appointment and follow up appointment.	No
b. Do you have a locally agreed tariff with commissions that excludes the cost of the drug for	No

follow up appointments?	
i. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography) and clinician review? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)	Average £73.93
ii. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography), clinician review and injection delivered at the same appointment? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)	Average £451.41 (including cost of drug)
iii. For diagnostic (usually Ocular Computerised Tomography), clinician review and injection delivered bilaterally at the same appointment? (Please specify income for one attendance including market forces factor)	Not applicable as we don't deliver bilaterally at the same appointment

Q15 How many patients do you have on your waiting list for "follow up" injections that are past their due date?

A15 None

Q16 Virtual OCT

Does your Ophthalmology department provide a "virtual" Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) clinic for patients. i.e. patient attends for dilation and OCT, with a review carried out by a medic who does not see the patient?

A16 The Ophthalmology department does not provide a "virtual" Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) clinic for patients. However, Choroidal Neovascularization (CNV) and Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO) do run a nurse led clinic, where the OCT is read and treatment discussed with the patient. If the patient has any problems they will be dilated and fundus checked.

Q17 If you do and the patient needs to be seen by a medic are they seen on the same day (one stop) or brought back on a subsequent appointment (different day)?

a. If seen on the same day do you achieve the standard OCT tariff or an enhanced locally agreed tariff?

b. If locally agreed tariff please can you provide the tariff for new (1st) appointments and follow appointments

A17 Not applicable

Q18 What patient pathways do you provide a Virtual OCT for? e.g. R1M1 diabetics, stable AMD (please list as many as are available)

Q18 Not applicable

*Please note that any individuals identified do not give consent for their personal data to be processed for the purposes of direct marketing.

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This letter confirms the completion of this request. A log of this request and a copy of this letter will be held by the Trust.

If you have any queries related to the response provided please in the first instance contact my office.

Should you have a complaint about the response or the handling of your request, please also contact my office to request a review of this. If having exhausted the Trust's FOIA complaints process you are still not satisfied, you are entitled to approach the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and request an assessment of the manner in which the Trust has managed your request.

The Information Commissioner may be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF or via www.ico.org.uk.

If following review of the responses I can be of any further assistance please contact my secretary on 01782 676474.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance