



Ref: FOIA Reference 2018/19-425

Royal Stoke University Hospital
Quality, Safety and Compliance Department
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Date: 8th November 2018

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

Dear

I am writing in response to your email dated 17th October 2018 (received in this office on the 18th October) requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Orthoptic Department.

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 Please advise of your Orthoptic Department Structure, please indicate bands and WTE's

A1 Please see below:

- Head Orthoptist B8c, 0.6 WTE
- Deputy Head Orthoptists B8a, 1.11 WTE
- Advanced Orthoptists B7, 1.75 WTE
- Specialist Orthoptists B6, 3.63 WTE
- Orthoptist B5, 1.8WTE
- Lead Technician B4, 1.0
- Technicians B3, 3.49 WTE
- Administrator B2, 1.0 WTE

Q2 Does your Orthoptic Department carry out any of the below specialist clinics? Yes or no and who carries out these clinics?

- a) **Low Vision**
- b) **Literacy Difficulties**
- c) **Stroke**
- d) **Paediatric Contact Lens**
- e) **Adult Contact Lens**
- f) **General Adult**
- g) **General Paediatric**

A2 The Trust carries out the following:

- c) Stroke
- f) General adult

g) General Paediatric

All carried out at Royal Stoke, with only basic paediatrics at County Hospital

Q3 Do you have Optometrists who carry out refraction in your paediatric pathway?

A3 We provide Paediatric Ophthalmology shared care service where appropriate referrals are seen by Orthoptists and Optometrists, who have been accredited to participate in the service by the Royal Stoke Paediatric Ophthalmologists, in community/high street settings. This has run in the North Staffordshire area for 15+ years.

Patients who have conditions which need to be seen in the Acute setting will be seen by an Optician in at the Royal Stoke University Hospital.

Q4 What is the allocated appointment slot times for new and follow up appointments for the following clinics (in minutes)?

- a) Low Vision
- b) Literacy Difficulties
- c) Stroke
- d) Paediatric Contact Lens
- e) Adult Contact Lens
- f) General Adult
- g) General Paediatric

A4 Please see below:

- c) Stroke 45mins only at Royal Stoke
- f) General adult 45mins only at Royal Stoke
- g) General paediatrics 20mins both

Q5 Please can you provide the tariff for the below subspecialties, new and follow up, please indicate if multi-disciplined.

- a) Low Vision
- b) Literacy Difficulties
- c) Stroke
- d) Paediatric Contact Lens
- e) Adult Contact Lens
- f) General Adult
- g) General Paediatric

A5 Please see below:

- c) Stroke £81 (new), £53 (follow up)
- f) General adults £81 (new), £53 (follow up)
- g) General paediatrics £81 (new), £53 (follow up)

Q6 Do you have a clinical pathway for patients to be refracted within high street opticians? Yes or No

- a) If yes, what is the clinical criteria?

A6 The following is a list of conditions which are referred to the shared care service and are therefore seen by one of the accredited high street opticians, please note that the following applies to patients living in Stoke or North Staffordshire areas.

- Decreased vision – unilaterally and bilaterally
- Concomitant strabismus
- Inferior oblique over actions
- Asymptomatic A, V, Y pattern ocular motility disorder
- Mild ptosis = non pupil obscuring
- Convergence and accommodative insufficiency
- Specific Learning Difficulties
- Family history / parental concern
- Asthenopic symptoms
- Others deemed appropriate by Paediatric Ophthalmologist

Q7 If you refract the patient do high street opticians invoice you via the Hospital Eye Services Prescription Scheme? Yes or No

- a) If yes, do you claim this money back from Clinical Commissioning Groups or NHS England or part of tariff?**

A7 This money is not claimed back from CCGs

Q8 What is your first line of treatment for occlusion? Eg Atropine/patching?

A8 Patients/parents are offered both where appropriate.

Q9 Please indicate your pathway for supplying any aids/equipment to patients during or following consultation i.e. freely dispensed unlimited, patient payment, tariff, limited number of items supplied per visit? Please indicate your supplier/cost

- a) Prisms
- b) Planos
- c) Reusable occlusion patches (Fabric)
- d) Daily occlusion Patches (Sticky)
- e) Magnifier x 2
- f) LED Magnifier x 3
- g) LED Magnifier x 4 and above
- h) Pocket Magnifiers x 3.5
- i) Lanyards for pocket Magnifier
- j) Other Magnifiers
- k) TV Glasses
- l) UV filter glasses
- m) Hobby Magnifiers
- n) Replacement for broken Magnifiers
- o) Tinted glasses for visual stress
- p) Replacement for broken tinted glasses for visual stress
- q) Any other

A9 We provide

- a) Prisms from £10
- b) Planoes cheapest optometrist ~£10 per pair
- c) Reusable patches kays patches ~£10 each
- d) Daily patches Orthoptic supplies ~£10.50 per box of 50
- l) UV filter glasses if clinically necessary from their choice of local optometrist – HES price
- o) V occasional tinted glasses for visual stress = individual cost dependent on lenses

The remainder are provided by the Low Visual service only at Royal Stoke which is provided as part of the contract for supply and fit of the Low Visual Aids which is delivered by an outside optometrist provider

Q10 Low vision

What is your clinical referral criteria for your low vision service?

A10 Referred by the Paediatric Ophthalmologist who decides of clinical need to Low vision service

Q11 Literacy Difficulties

Do you provide colorimetry assessment as part of your literacy difficulties service?

A11 This is not provided at the Trust. (This may be provided by a few high street optometrists in the area.)

*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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An anonymised copy of this request can be found on the Trust's disclosure log, please note that all requests can be found at the following link: <http://www.uhnm.nhs.uk/aboutus/Statutory-Policies-and-Procedures/Pages/Freedom-of-Information-Disclosure-Log.aspx>

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,

L Carlisle

Leah Carlisle
Deputy Head of Quality, Safety & Compliance