

Ref: FOIA Reference 2024/25-739

Date: 15th May 2025

Email foi@uhn.nhs.uk

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 24th January 2025 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) regarding Claudication Services

We apologise for the delay.

Q1 Under the Freedom of Information Act I am sending this email requesting information on the intermittent claudication services within your Trust. The requested information has been outlined in the attached Word document. However, as some Trusts are unable to open attachments, I have also pasted it below. We would be grateful if the information could be provided in the format of a Word document.

Please don't hesitate to let me know if you need any more information or clarification.

Freedom of Information – Claudication Services

Services

Q1. Does your Trust currently provide a vascular service for the diagnosis and treatment of vascular diseases, specifically including vascular surgery and interventional vascular radiology?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Q2. If vascular services are available, is your organisation designated as a specialist vascular care centre or a hub centre within the network of care providers? (please select all that apply)

Specialist services: providing diagnostics and expert advice in an outpatient setting and providing elective and 24/7 emergency vascular services.

Hub centre: providing diagnostics and expert advice in an outpatient setting.

- ☐ **Specialist centre**
☐ **Hub**
☐ **Other (Please specify)**

Claudication clinics

Intermittent claudication: Intermittent claudication is the most common clinical symptom associated with peripheral arterial disease — walking (exercise) induced pain in the lower limbs caused by diminished circulation that is relieved by rest.

Q3. In your organisation, are there specific claudication clinics for patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No – If no please skip to question Q10

Q4. If yes, which healthcare professional usually sees patients in these clinics? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Vascular surgeon/medical doctor
- ☐ Vascular nurse specialist
- ☐ Allied health professional
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q5. In your organisation, what is the format of claudication clinics? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Diagnostic testing
- ☐ Disease counselling and treatment planning
- ☐ Offer lifestyle management
- ☐ Offer exercise
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q6. How frequently are claudication specialist clinics held?

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Every 2–4 weeks
- ☐ Every 2–4 months
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q7. What is the standard interval for routine follow-up for patients diagnosed with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Every 1 month,
- ☐ Every 3–6 months
- ☐ Every 12 months
- ☐ Determined by clinical need
- ☐ No formal follow-up
- ☐ Not Known
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q9. In your organisation, what is the current waiting time for patients with intermittent claudication between referral and 1st appointment in the vascular specialist clinics?

Please specify

Exercise

Q10. Are patients with intermittent claudication who attend your Trust offered a supported exercise programme specifically designed for claudication? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Verbal advice only

Q11. What is the format of the exercise programme for patients with claudication? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Supervised classes in hospital or community setting
- ☐ Virtual Supervised classes at home
- ☐ App based directed exercise at home
- ☐ Home/Unsupervised
- ☐ Don't Know

Q12. If a structured programme exists, where is this programme provided?

- ☐ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q13. Over what duration do these supervised exercise programmes typically last for patients diagnosed with claudication?

- ☐ 4-8 weeks
- ☐ 12-16 weeks
- ☐ More frequently than all the above options (Please specify)
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options (Please specify)

Q14. How long are the classes (in minutes)?

- ☐ 30-60 minutes
- ☐ 60-90 minutes
- ☐ More frequently than all the above options (Please specify)
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options (Please specify)

Q15. How often/frequently (times per week) do the classes meet?

- ☐ Once per week
- ☐ Every 2-4 weeks
- ☐ Every 2-4 months
- ☐ Less frequently than all the above options
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q16. Which healthcare professionals are involved in delivering the classes? Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Physiotherapist
- ☐ Nurse
- ☐ Exercise professional
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Smoking

Q17. In your organisation, where do you offer a smoking cessation service to patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Dietetics

Q18. In your organisation, where do you offer a dietetics service to patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Your hospital/ Trust, i.e within your organisation
- ☐ Another hospital/ Trust, i.e outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to primary care setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Referral to a private setting outside your organisation
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Psychology

Q19. Does your organisation offer a psychology service specific for patients with intermittent claudication?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No – If no please skip to question Q21

Q20. Is there a screening pathway for patients with intermittent claudication to be referred to a psychologist?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No – If no please skip to question Q21

Referral

Q21 What are the available pathways or methods by which patients with intermittent claudication are referred to the vascular service in your organisation? Please select all that apply:

- ☐ Vascular staff screen lists of hospital ward patients
- ☐ A telephone/pager referral system
- ☐ A paper referral form (collected in person/faxed/posted)
- ☐ Secure email system
- ☐ Electronic computerised system (e.g. patient record system)
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

Q22. Is there a standard proforma for referral to vascular?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

A1

Please refer to the attached document that you submitted. Please note that we were unable to edit this document. Therefore, we have highlighted our answers in yellow.

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

UHNM NHS Trust is a public sector body and governed by EU law. FOI requestors should note that any new Trust requirements over the EU threshold will be subject to these regulations and will be advertised for open competition accordingly.

Where the Trust owns the copyright in information provided, you may re-use the information in line with the conditions set out in the Open Government Licence v3 which is available at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>. Where information was created by third parties, you should contact them directly for permission to re-use the information.

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 relating to the response please 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.

Yours,



Leah Carlisle

Head of Data, Security & Protection and Health Records
Data Protection Officer