

Ref: CCG April 010 2016

Corporate Services
NHS Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group
The Department
Lewis's Building
Renshaw Street
Liverpool
L1 1JX

Email: foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk

5 May 2016,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request that we received on 6th April 2016, and for the clarification we received on 7th April 2016, with regards to Heart Failure.

Request/**Response**

1. What was the size of the patient population covered by your CCG in 2015?

513,491 Patient Population covered by Liverpool CCG as on 31st Dec 2015.

2. How many patients were diagnosed with heart failure across your CCG in 2015?

44 recorded in primary care, Liverpool CCG 1st Jan- 31st Dec 2015.

3. Does your CCG follow NICE guidelines to support the diagnosis of suspected heart failure? If not, what guidance does your CCG follow? Please provide a copy

Yes, Liverpool CCG follow NICE guidelines.

4. Please provide the details of those tests used to support the diagnosis of heart failure. Please provide details of where these tests are performed

An Echocardiogram, Electrocardiograms (ECG) and Basic Metabolic Panel (BMP), these tests are performed in Primary Care and Secondary Care.

5. Does your guidelines recommend the use of NTproBNP tests to support the diagnosis of suspected heart failure? If so, please provide the brand name and manufacturer of the test used.

Yes. We are unable to provide you with the brand and manufacturer information you have requested under section 1 (1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act as we do not hold the information you have requested.

We would recommend you contact our provider organisations:

- 1. Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust**
FOIrequests@aintree.nhs.uk
- 2. The Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust**
foi@rlbuht.nhs.uk
- 3. Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital NHS Trust**
FOIRequests@lhch.nhs.uk

6. Does your CCG follow NICE guidelines to support the management of chronic heart failure? If not, what guidance does your CCG follow? Please provide a copy

Yes, the CCG follow NICE guidelines.

7. Please provide the details of those tests used to support the management of chronic heart failure. Please provide details of where these tests are performed

Clinical examination and renal function, which can be performed in Primary Care and Secondary Care.

8. How many NTproBNP or BNP tests were performed across your CCG in 2015?

4046 NTproBNP or BNP tests were recorded in primary care for the period 1 January -31 December 2015 (Brain natriuretic peptide level & N Terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide level).

We do not hold the information of a full number of how many tests were performed across Liverpool CCG. As tests would have been undertaken in secondary care, at all providers in various settings i.e inpatient, outpatient, A&E Departments, the ambulance service and Urgent Care. We do not hold this information; you would need to contact the providers directly.

9. Are there any restrictions for using NTproBNP or BNP tests? If yes, please explain

No.

10. How many echocardiographs were performed across your CCG in 2015?

5119 Echocardiographs were recorded in primary care for the period 1 January 2015 - 31 December 2015.

This number is reflective of those that will have been coded onto a primary care system following a discharge summary. It is a guide based on the data we have on record, and reflects as it states those recorded in primary care.

We do not hold the information of a full count of how many tests were performed across Liverpool CCG. As tests would have been undertaken in secondary care, at all providers in various settings i.e inpatient, outpatient,

A&E Departments, the ambulance service and Urgent Care. We do not hold this information; you would need to contact the providers directly.

11. What was the average waiting time for an echocardiogram in your CCG in 2015?

There are various different routes to be referred for an echocardiogram as mentioned in Question 10. On the E-referral system the primary care waiting time for our local trusts as of today is less than 6 weeks.

We are not able to provide you with an average wait as we do not hold this information.

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review procedure is available to applicants who are unhappy with responses provided to FOI requests. You can formally request an internal review within a reasonable period of time (2 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a further review of that decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure in the first instance.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Should you require any further information, clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

**Customer Relations Lead
NHS Liverpool CCG**