

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 23-781**

1 November 2023

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

- We can confirm that we hold some of the information you are requesting

**How many patients are currently on your trust's waiting list for a cancer diagnostic test?**

As at 22/10/2023 there were 2695 patients on an open pathway following a GP suspected cancer referral and without a decision to treat. Many, but not all, of these will be waiting for diagnostic tests. It is not possible to provide the precise figure waiting for diagnostics as opposed to other types of step (such as an outpatient appointment or test results). Please note there may also be some patients waiting for diagnostics who are not on this type of cancer pathway, but it is not possible to accurately quantify those.

**How many patients were on your trust's waiting list for a cancer diagnostic test 12 months ago?**

As at 24/10/2022 there were 2494 patients on an open pathway following a GP suspected cancer referral and without a decision to treat. Many, but not all, of these will be waiting for diagnostic tests. It is not possible to provide the precise figure waiting for diagnostics as opposed to other types of step (such as an outpatient appointment or test results). Please note there may also be some patients waiting for diagnostics who are not on this type of cancer pathway, but it is not possible to accurately quantify those.

**What is the longest time a patient has had to wait for a cancer diagnostic test in the last 12 months?**

We do not hold this information as we are unable to reliably identify a 'cancer diagnostic' test for all modalities of test. Also tests requested as cancer priority may not be for diagnostic purposes.

**How many cancer diagnostic tests have been cancelled by your trust for non-clinical reasons in the last 12 months?**

We cannot provide this information as we are unable to reliably identify a 'cancer diagnostic'

test for all modalities of test. Also tests requested as cancer priority may not be for diagnostic purposes.

**What is the highest number of times a cancer diagnostic test for one patient has been cancelled by your trust for non-clinical reasons in the last 12 months?**

We cannot provide this information as we are unable to reliably identify a 'cancer diagnostic' test for all modalities of test. Also tests requested as cancer priority may not be for diagnostic purposes.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Data Protection Officer  
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**Freedom of Information Team**  
**University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust**