

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 22-128

24 March 2022

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

Acute management of Venous thromboembolism:

1. Confirm whether the Trust routinely prescribes direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) in preference to low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) and warfarin for the management of standard acute venous thromboembolism (VTE)?

Yes

2. Please provide a copy of the Trusts' management policy on management of acute venous thromboembolism (VTE).

Please see attached Investigation and Management of Pulmonary Embolism document.

3. Does the Trust provide all patients with an unprovoked VTE a medical opinion from a thrombosis physician?

All patients are referred to and reviewed in our haemostasis thrombosis clinic

4. Does the Trust definition of an 'unprovoked VTE' include women using the combined oral contraceptive pill or hormone replacement therapy (HRT)?

No

5. Do investigations after an unprovoked VTE follow NICE guidance?

Yes

6. Per week, how many clinics are devoted to seeing patients with VTE in the Trust?

3

7. How many full-time equivalents are employed by the Trust to provide thromboprophylaxis and care of thrombosis patients from?

a) Nursing 2.2 WTE - work 7 days.

- b) Pharmacists 1 WTE + 0.6 wte pharmacy technician (outpatient service only, no currently funded inpatient provision)
- c) Medical 0.5PA for VTE lead Bristol VTE lead at Weston site, 0.125 PA

Thromboprophylaxis

8. Does the Trust routinely meet the 95% VTE Risk Assessment level required by NHS England?

No

9. Please provide the monthly percentage (admissions numbers/VTE risk assessments carried out) for VTE risk assessments carried across the Trust between 1st October 2021 – 31 December 2022.

We cannot provide an answer as the dates are in the future.

10. Does the Trust have dedicated funding for a team ensuring VTE prevention occurs?

No

COVID-19

11. Please provide a copy of the Trust's thromboprophylaxis protocols used to treat in-patients with COVID-19 pneumonia.

Covid-19 VTE clotting updated guidelines uploaded on the BNSSG remedy guideline pages <https://remedy.bnssgccg.nhs.uk/formulary-adult/local-guidelines/2-cardiovascular-system-guidelines/> and [remedy pathway \(bnssgccg.nhs.uk\)](https://remedy.bnssgccg.nhs.uk/remedy-pathway/).

Psychological care

12. Do VTE patients within the Trust have access to clinical psychological support?

No

13. How many sessions per week are provided by the Trust for VTE clinical psychological support?

Not applicable

Cancer-associated VTE

14. Does the Trust have a dedicated clinical lead for cancer associated thrombosis (CAT)?

Yes

15. Does a protocol exist for managing VTE in those with cancer?

Yes

16. Please provide a copy of the Trusts' protocol for managing VTE in those with cancer.

Please see the attached Cancer Patients Requiring Therapeutic Anticoagulation document

VTE prevention and management in the community

17. Please provide copies of VTE care pathways developed to support community clinicians with regards to:

- (i) Anticoagulation medication changes**
- (ii) Anticoagulation dosing.**

New VTE are reviewed by VTE nurses (PEs also seen by medical team). Complex patients and those potentially eligible for long term treatment or additional investigations are reviewed in haemostasis thrombosis clinic. Information given to patients and GP on anticoagulation at both these points.

18. Does the Trust have specific VTE guidance for:

- (i) System wide protocols?**
- (ii) E-consultation facilities?**
- (iii) On call clinician to discuss problems and seek advice from?**

The Trust does not have specific VTE guidance.

19. Please provide copies of the Trust's protocol documents for VTE prevention and management in

- (i) System wide protocols**
- (ii) E-consultation facilities**
- (iii) On call clinician to discuss problems and seek advice from**

The Trust does not have specific VTE guidance

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:

Director of Corporate Governance
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