

Freedom of Information Request

Ref: 24-233

10 April 2024

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 do hold the information you are requesting

1. Please detail the standard follow-up regime for newly diagnosed melanoma patients (Stages IA-IIIB) within your Trust, indicating the frequency of appointments and duration of follow-up (1-5 years) as per your clinical protocols. A table is provided below for your convenience, or you may return the information in an Excel spreadsheet.

Melanoma stage Year 1 follow-ups Year 2 follow-ups Year 3 follow-ups Year 4 follow-ups Year 5 follow-ups After year 5

Example IB 2 1 1 1 1 0

IA 2 follow ups in one year then discharge.

IB 2; 1; 1; 1; 1

IIA 2; 2; 1; 1; 1

IIB 4; 4; 2; 1; 1

2. Which of the following Melanoma NICE guidelines do you currently implement at your Trust/Health Board/other:

a. Pre-27th July 2022 NICE guidelines titled 'NG14: Melanoma: assessment and management' Yes or No

No

b. Latest NICE guidelines title 'NG14: Melanoma: assessment and management' released on the 27th July 2022. Yes or No

Yes

c. Using own Melanoma guideline for the Trust. Yes or No

No

i. If yes, please provide document in PDF format.

Not applicable

3. What is your current waiting time for sentinel lymph node biopsy for those confirmed with any stage melanoma? Please provide measure (Weeks, months etc, but please identify.)

We do not hold this information. This service is carried out at North Bristol NHS Trust. Please contact foi@nbt.nhs.uk for further information.

4. In the last 12 months for stage 2Bs melanoma only, what proportion of them had Pembrolizumab.

We are unable to provide this information - please note, the Trust does not hold the data in a format that would enable us to fully respond to your request to the level of detail required and a manual trawl for this information would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOIA provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty-day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

5. Is ultrasound used in any of the follow up pathways for the stages of Melanoma below for patients in your Trust, please answer Yes or No:

- IA Yes or No

No

- IB Yes or No

No

- IIA Yes or No

No

- IIB Yes or No

No

6. For the following NHS financial year dates, how many melanoma cases per year have been newly diagnosed in your Trust

a. 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23

Year	No of patients
2019/20	227
2020/21	163

2021/22	260
2022/23	234

7. Could you please confirm for your Trust in 2022/23 the following numbers of newly diagnosed Melanoma skin cancer patients and the number of these who have received a subsequent Sentinel Lymph Node biopsy by Melanoma Stage?

To help with the completion, we have inserted a table below for ease.

Melanoma stage Total patients reviewed Total sentinel lymph node biopsies completed

IA

IB

IIA

IIB

IIC

We are unable to provide this information. Our systems cannot break this information down.

Please note: To help with this question 6 & 7, the OPCS code for sentinel lymph node is 'O14.2 + ICD-10 code C43 Malignant melanoma of skin', then supported by the cancer stage.

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