

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: 25-075**

31 January 2025

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

**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

**Diagnosis Yes. Treatment 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) We are a spoke hospital within a network (Hub and Spoke model) Providing diagnostic vascular imaging. -**

**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

Not applicable

**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) .....

Not applicable

**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) .....

Not applicable

**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) .....

Not applicable

**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) .....

Not applicable

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

- Physiotherapist**
- Nurse**
- Exercise professional**
- Other (Please specify) .....**

Not applicable

**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) .....**

Not applicable

**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) .....**

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

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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**