

FOI REF: 22/477

26th September 2022

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500

Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

1. **Please provide information on (a) the longest, (b) the shortest and (c) the average length of time in days patients have had to wait for an appointment to be prescribed PrEP medication in each year since 2017**
2. **Please provide information on (a) how many people are currently waiting on an appointment for PrEP prescription and (b) how many people within your health board are able to prescribe PrEP.**

Please see the table below for the information requested above.

FOI 22/477 PrEP Medication - Total						
Question	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1a Longest Wait (Weeks)	N/A	Trial	Trial	44	28	8
1b Shortest Wait (Weeks)	N/A	Trial	Trial	3	0	0
1c Average Wait (Weeks)	N/A	Trial	Trial	32	2	6
2a Current Waiting List	N/A	Trial	Trial	0	0	0
2b Prescribers	N/A	Trial	Trial	N/A	N/A	7

Please note the following:

2017

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust were not offering any PrEP as IMPACT had not commenced and there was no national programme.

2018-2020

The Trust were only involved in the IMPACT clinical trial and therefore had no waiting list. The IMPACT trial commenced on 26th April 2018 and ended 12th October 2020 with the last date for initiation being 12th July 2020. All patients who met the trial criteria during this time were offered the opportunity to be involved in IMPACT, although it was not publicised outside of the clinic.

2021

The waiting list was discontinued in July 2021.

2022

To date across the service the longest wait is estimated at 3 to 4 weeks because the PrEP clinic lists are fully booked, due to follow up and other patient's booked initiations. Urgent cases are initiated on consultant advice or following PEP.

The Trust does not have a waiting list. Patients who wish to commence PrEP are offered the earliest available appointment on the clinic lists.

Currently patients find it difficult to get appointments due to limited clinic availability. We are offering 6 month supplies to patients who are well established with PrEP, who have demonstrated good adherence to their regime and who have no clinical risk indicators.

We ensure all patients accessing PrEP are offered an appointment before their stock will be depleted. The only time patients run out of stock is if they cancel or do not attend their booked appointments as we are often unable to offer an immediate alternative at short notice. These patients are offered the earliest possible appointments and advised to use additional barrier methods of protection in the meantime. We also counsel on how to safely protect themselves when resuming prep regime.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Linda Thornhill (Mrs)
Corporate Governance Manager
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net