

FOI REF: 22/632

22nd November 2022

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. **In the most recent 12 months of data which you have access to, how many patients have been diagnosed with the following stages of prostate cancer:**
 - A) **Stage 1 and stage 2 - localised prostate cancer**

262
 - B) **Stage 3 cancer that has not spread to other parts of the body - locally advanced prostate cancer**

195
 - C) **Stage 4 cancer which has spread to other parts of the body - metastatic prostate cancer.**

104

2. **In reference to the answer for question 1:**
 - A) **what number, for each stage, received novel imaging?**
 - B) **what was the average, for each stage, time post diagnosis for them to receive the novel imaging?**

Clarification was sought asking you to be specific about which novel imaging modality you are referring to, i.e. are you talking about PET scanning as it is post-diagnostic and confirmation was received as follows:

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To clarify, I am looking for data relating to newer imaging modalities, in particular PSMA-PET/CT.

This consists of Prostate-specific membrane antigen PSMA which is a cell surface enzyme that is highly expressed in prostate cancer, several PET agents have been developed to bind to PSMA and serve as tracers for PET/CT.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not provide a PET-CT scanning service within the Trust. Patients are referred to University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust for this service. Their Freedom of Information team can be contacted via email at UHSussex.foi@nhs.net

3. **In the most recent 12 months of data which you have access to, how many patients in total initially sat within the urology department, but were referred to the oncology department before they develop metastases?**

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust does not centrally record this data. To enable the Trust to provide this information would require a manual review of over 500 sets of patient medical records which we estimate would take in excess of 125 hours based on a sample of 5 sets of records which took 15 minutes each to research. We are therefore applying Section 12(1) to this part of your request.

Section 12(1) of the Act allows a public authority to refuse to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of compliance would exceed the 'appropriate limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations). These state that this cost limit is £450 for public authorities which are not part of central government or the armed forces. The costs are calculated at £25 per hour per person regardless of the rate of pay, which means that the limit will be exceeded if the work involved would exceed 18 hours. The Trust estimates that the cost of complying with this request would significantly exceed the above limit.

4. **In reference to the answer for question 3, what number of these patients developed metastases prior to being referred to the oncology department.**

Please see answer to question 3.

5. **For all patients who have received darolutamide, what is the average duration of treatment?**

Please see answer to question 3.

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.

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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
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