

FOI REF: 24/738

11th November 2024

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. What is the size of your trust's serviceable population?

There is no specific number for the population served by East Sussex Healthcare Trust. However, this is best quantified by the latest East Sussex County Council Population estimate of 555,484. The Trust will treat a number of patients not included in these figures, predominantly from Kent and West Sussex, though this is unlikely to materially increase the ESCC figure.

2. How many patients has the trust tested for the following clinical biochemical markers in the last 12 months?

a. C-reactive protein (CRP)

115,337.

b. High-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP)

Not offered.

c. Lipoprotein-a (Lp(a))

294.

3. Is there a limit to the frequency of the following tests per patient?

a. C-reactive protein (CRP)

No.

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b. High-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP)

Not offered.

c. Lipoprotein-a (Lp(a))

No.

4. Please provide the name and post code of all the pathology providers in your trust

Eastbourne District General Hospital (EDGH) BN21 2UD.
Conquest Hospital (CONQ) TN37 7RD.

5. Do you outsource any testing to commercial labs? If yes, please provide the names of each commercial provider

Synnovis.

Please answer the following questions for each pathology provider in your trust

6. Does the laboratory currently offer testing for the following?

a. C-reactive protein (CRP)

EDGH – Yes, CONQ – Yes.

b. High-sensitivity C-reactive protein (hs-CRP)

Not offered by either site.

c. Lipoprotein-a (Lp(a))

Referred to commercial lab by both sites.

7. What is the average turnaround time for an outpatient from blood sample collection to sharing of results for CRP and hs-CRP?

CRP on average in the last 12 months had a turnaround of 13 hours and 40 minutes; calculated from time sample was receipted in lab to time reported. We currently do not have the time of sample collection recorded.

8. Is CRP offered as a standalone test or part of a panel?

Standalone at both sites.

9. Is hs-CRP offered as a standalone test or part of a panel?

Not offered by either site.

10. **What machines are used to conduct CRP testing in your laboratory?**
EDGH uses Roche c702, CONQ uses Roche c501.
11. **What machines are used to conduct hs-CRP testing in your laboratory?**
Not offered by either site.
12. **What is the lowest limit of detection (in mg/L) that you report for CRP?**
The lowest limit of detection reported for CRP on both sites is <1mg/L.
13. **What is the lowest limit of detection (in mg/L) that you report for hs-CRP?**
Not offered by either site.
14. **How many requests for measurement of CRP did your laboratory complete in the last 12 months?**
EDGH 197362, CONQ 110341.
15. **How many requests for measurement of hs-CRP did your laboratory complete in the last 12 months?**
Not offered by either site.
16. **What is the maximum number of CRP tests that your laboratory can conduct in one month?**
A CRP test takes 10 minutes once test has been pipetted into reaction cell. The service runs 24 hours 7 days each week.
17. **What is the maximum number of hs-CRP tests that laboratory can conduct in one month?**
Not offered by either site.
18. **What is the cost of running a single CRP test in your laboratory? Please provide a breakdown of cost of running the test and all-in cost considering operations, FTEs etc.**
Reagent charge from supplier is 28p per test but information of all-in cost not held.
19. **What is the cost of running a single hs-CRP test in your laboratory? Please provide a breakdown of cost of running the test and all-in cost considering operations, FTEs etc.**
Not offered by either site.
20. **How much are you reimbursed for a single CRP test in your laboratory?**
NHS contract price is 69p.

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21. How much are you reimbursed for a single hs-CRP test in your laboratory?

Not offered by either site.

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

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net