

FOI REF: 24/837

13th May 2025

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) **For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received for wet AMD, diabetic macular oedema and retinal vein occlusion (Anti VEGf services) or perhaps referred to as medical retina?**

[We do not hold this information, as it is not recorded by the Trust.](#)

- 2) **For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you rejected as unsuitable or undeliverable by your Trust?**

[We do not hold this information, as it is not recorded by the Trust.](#)

- 3) **For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24 and current YTD, how many referrals have you received, triaged, booked and completed first assessment and treatment within the 2 week RTT advised by NICE and the college of ophthalmologists? We are looking for your Trust performance data against the 14 day standard as a % by month for the periods - 2023/24 and 2024/25.**

[0.](#)

- 4) a) **How many patients are currently on a waiting list for an appointment for first assessment and or treatment?**

[0. These patients are booked immediately from referral.](#)

- b) **How many have breached the 2 week RTT?**

[0.](#)

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- 5) a) **How many patients are currently on a waiting list for a follow up appointment and treatment?**
- 0.
- b) **How many of these have waited longer than the requested call back date stated as an outcome of their last assessment? (Ie overdue?)**
- 0.
- c) **How many are overdue by more than one month? (We exclude from this any patients who have cancelled / DNA'd or are unable to attend an appointment that has been offered.)**
- 0.
- 6) **Which drugs are your preferred for a new patient? Which drugs do you still use for follow-up patients?**
- New patients receive Vabysmo for AMD.
 - For diabetic patients the Trust uses Vabysmo and Eylea.
 - For Retina Vein Occlusion the Trust uses Eylea and will consider Vabysmo soon as it recently received NICE approval.
 - For follow-up patients the Trust uses Eylea and switches to Vabysmo where clinically indicated. There is very limited use of Lucentis.
- 7) **Does your trust follow a see and treat "one stop" clinic format?**
- The Trust currently has a 'two-stop' clinic.
- 8) **Does your trust follow treat and extend protocols where clinically appropriate?**
- The Trust follows the "treat and extend" strategy for new AMD patients. For Diabetic Macular Oedema and Retinal Vein Occlusion, the Trust follows the "Pro Re Nata" strategy, but is planning to move to "treat and extend" as soon as the Trust has the proper setting for this.

9) How many patients have you certificated as sight impaired or severely sight impaired in the FYs 2022/23, 2023/24 and year to date due to Wet AMD?

The information provided below is for patients where Wet AMD is listed in one or both eyes.

| | Partially Sighted, Sight Impaired | Blind, Severely Sight Impaired |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| April 2022 to March 2023 | 40 | 8 |
| April 2023 to March 2024 | 34 | 9 |
| April 2024 to December 2024 | 23 | 7 |

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