

Ref: FOI/2023/8631

Date Received: 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Response Due: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

You asked:

- 1. What are your current skin cancer patient clinical pathway guidelines e.g., from initial patient symptoms in a GP setting to specialist referral as well as treatment and follow-up procedures and protocol. Attached are two outdated CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) pathway guidelines for reference.**

62-day pathway is followed:

(No more than 62 days wait between hospital receiving GP referral and skin cancer patient receiving first treatment).

2-week urgent GP referral for query skin Cancer to first hospital appointment. (From hospital receiving GP referral – clock starts, and patients is usually seen within 14 days)

No more than 31 days wait from hospital clinical diagnosis / agreement of treatment plan and the start first treatment.

- 2. Does your skin cancer pathway include remote patient-clinic interactions (as opposed to face-to-face interactions), Yes or No and if yes, elaborate what they are and what stage in the pathway they're used e.g., teledermatology (the use of digital photography to assess patient lesions) at the GP stage.**

No, all patients on a 62-day pathway are seen face to face.

**3. What were your latest skin cancer pathway guidelines in 2019/2020 prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (announced as a pandemic by WHO on 11 March 2020).**

We followed NICE guidance and Whiston regional guidance (Merseyside & Cheshire skin cancer centre) in skin cancer.

If you are not entirely satisfied with this response, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Department via the email address provided. If we do not hear from you within 28 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,



Hazel Hendriksen  
Divisional Director of Operations for Specialist Services

**PLEASE NOTE:**

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to: Information Governance Department, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Suite 9, Buckingham Row, Brick Kiln Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XX.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision at:

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

Helpline number: 0303 123 111