Ref: FOI/2025/10568

Date Received: 4th March 2025

Response Due: 1st April 2025

Date: 19th March 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 4th March 2025, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

Ophthalmology Department & IT Record System

1. **Does your Trust have an ophthalmology department and/or provide ophthalmology clinics?**
   Yes.

2. **If so, what is the name of the principal IT record system used to document results from patient consultations within ophthalmology?**
   MediSIGHT.

Imaging Capabilities & System Integration

3. **Does the principal IT system allow clinicians to view images from scans conducted during a clinic visit?**
   Yes.

4. **Are there any types of medical images that cannot be imported into this principal IT system? If so:**
   • **What is the name of the IT programme used by clinicians to view these images?**
     Heyex, Forum.

   • **What is the name of the scan/modality that generates these images?**
     Spectralis OCT / OCTA, Zeiss Clarus 700.

Data Integration with National Systems

5. **Does the principal IT system integrate with the NHS Spine or other national patient record systems (e.g., OpenEyes, Medisoft, Epic)?**
   No.

6. **Does the system support the exchange of structured data with other NHS Trusts or external healthcare providers?**
   No.

Patient Access & Communication

7. **Does the system allow patients to access their ophthalmology records, including images, via the NHS App or another patient portal?**
   No.

8. **Are there any restrictions on how imaging data can be shared with patients and external providers?**
   Restrictions are due to the lack of patient portal.

Image Storage & Viewing Capabilities

9. **What is the storage capacity and retention policy for ophthalmology-related imaging within the IT system?**
   There is no limit.

10. **If images are not viewable within the principal IT system, does the Trust use a separate PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) for ophthalmology imaging?**
    No.

Future IT Developments & Interoperability

11. **Is the Trust planning any upgrades or changes to its ophthalmology IT infrastructure in the next five years?**
    The next hardware review will be 2029 as that is when the OS is end of support.

12. **Are there known interoperability challenges that affect the transfer of ophthalmology data within the Trust or between NHS organizations?**
    Services within the Trust can be given access to retrospective systems to view ophthalmology images. There are currently no electronic methods other than NHS Net to transfer ophthalmology data to other NHS organisations.

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 40 days, we will assume that we have been able to accommodate your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Yours sincerely,

Vicky Bateson
Senior Directorate Manager - Division of Surgery

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