

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals

NHS Foundation Trust

Information Governance Department

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Email: foi@wwl.nhs.uk

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Ref: FOI/2024/10152

Date Received: 25th September 2024

Response Due: 23rd October 2024

Date: 23rd October 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to your request for information received on 25th September 2024, I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we do hold part of the information you have requested. A response to each part of your request is provided below.

In your request you asked:

1. **Does your Trust have a Standard Operating Procedure - also referred to as a PSFU Protocol - that covers the PSFU pathway for breast cancer?**

Yes	X
No	
Don't Know	

If yes, please share your current, or most recent, version of this Standard Operating Procedure/PSFU Protocol.

The Trust does not have a specific SOP however we follow the GM Cancer Guidelines. Please see attached.

2. **Are all hospitals that form part of your Trust following the processes set out in the Standard Operating Procedure/PFSU Protocol for breast cancer?**

Yes	X
No	
Don't Know	

If no, please send the breast cancer related Standard Operating Procedure/PSFU Protocol of each hospital in the Trust

N/A.

Information provided about breast cancer signs and symptoms

This section relates to the information given to women about signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer and signs and symptoms of secondary breast cancer.

3. At the end of hospital-based treatment do you provide primary breast cancer patients with information about the signs and symptoms of primary breast cancer?

Yes - for all patients	
Yes – but not consistently	
No	X

If yes- please provide a copy of the information provided or a link to the information if it is available online. If this information is part of a longer document please provide the full document.
N/A.

4. At the end of hospital-based treatment, do you provide primary breast cancer patients with information about the signs and symptoms of secondary breast cancer?

Yes - for all patients	X
Yes – but not consistently	
No	

If yes- please provide a copy of the information provided or a link to the information if it is available online. If this information is part of a longer document please provide the full document
Please see attached “GM Treatment Summary” document.

Number of patients

5. How many patients did you treat for primary breast cancer that finished their hospital-based treatment in each of the Financial Years 2022-23 and 2023- 2024?

	Number of Patients
2022-2023	146
2023-2024	215

6. For each of the Financial Years 2022-23 and 2023-24, of the primary breast cancer patients that completed hospital-based treatment, please provide an estimate of what proportion were stratified to each follow up pathway?

a) A PIFU pathway

b) A Routine Follow Up pathway

If you can provide the figures split between the age under 45 category and age 45 and over category that would be useful but if the information is not readily available by age, please provide for all ages combined.

	% of patients					
	2022-2023			2023-24		
	Under 45	45 and over	All ages	Under 45	45 and over	All ages
PIFU	Nationally, the target is 80% PSFU/PIFU and 20% a routine clinical pathway. However, the Trust does not have a reporting mechanism to obtain this information at the moment as this is a new pathway.					
Routine Follow						

Up	
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7. At the end of hospital-based treatment, is there a set period of time during which all patients in the Trust receive Routine Follow Up, with the decision between a Routine Follow Up pathway and a PIFU pathway being taken at a later date?

Yes- all patients receive routine follow up for a set period of time at the end of hospital- based treatment	
No- patients are immediately placed on Routine Follow Up or PIFU	X

If yes, which hospitals offer this and for each hospital how long is the set period of time?
N/A.

Description of the pathway

We are hoping to understand in more detail how the breast cancer PIFU pathway works and how people are able to make contact when they have a concern. If you are providing a Standard Operating Procedure/PFSU Protocol as part of your response, you only need to respond to questions 8, 9, 10 and 11 if the answers to these questions are not fully available in the document.

8. If a patient wants to raise a concern about a breast cancer sign or symptom (either primary breast cancer or secondary breast cancer) while on a PIFU pathway, what are the options for them to do so (please tick all that apply):

A telephone service	X
Email contact	X
Drop in clinics	
Other- please detail	

Monitoring of the pathway

9. Are all breast cancer patients on a PIFU pathway logged and tracked on the organisation's IT system?

All are logged	
All are logged and tracked	X
Some are logged	
Some are logged and tracked	
No	

10. Is there a standard time limit on how long PSFU pathways are available to breast cancer patients e.g. 5 years?

Yes	X
No	

If yes, what is the standard time limit?
5 years.

If yes, how frequently is the standard time limit applied?

Always	X
Most of the time	
Sometimes	
Rarely	

If any patients have a difference to the standard time limit, please detail and explain in what circumstances this occurs and the range of time limits?

N/A. All patients are discharged at 5 years.

11. When it is time for a breast cancer patient to be discharged from PSFU, do they receive any notification of this, e.g. by letter or phone call?

Yes	X
No	
Don't Know	

If yes, please explain how they receive this notification and provide a copy of the standardised information they would receive at that point, if it is in written form.

The Trust has not had a patient ready for discharge yet.

We are keen to discuss in more detail the answers to this FOI with a small number of Trusts. If this is something you would consider, please let us know and we will follow up if needed.

Yes	
No	X

If yes, the person to contact is:

N/A.

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,



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