

FOI 2957

6th May 2025

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Is there a dedicated respiratory plan for your Trust?

Response:

No

Does the Trust have an adult clinical respiratory lead?

Response:

Yes

Is the role of 'adult clinical respiratory lead' a paid position?

Response:

No

Does the Trust have a clinical respiratory lead for children and young people?

Response:

Yes – x3 Respiratory consultants

Is the role of 'clinical respiratory lead for children and young people' a paid position?

Response:

No

Does your Trust have a respiratory group?

Response:

Yes – Medical/Nursing team only

Is spirometry for adults commissioned in primary care across the Trust?

Response:

No

Where can (adult) patients receive a spirometry test in primary care?

At their GP surgery?

- a) **At another GP surgery**
- b) **In a community pharmacy?**
- c) **In a Community Diagnostic Centre?**

Response:

This information is not held by the Southern Trust. You may wish to redirect your question to the Department of Health at the following email address: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

Are there any other locations in primary care that spirometry tests are performed in your Trust?

Response:

This information is not held by the Southern Trust. You may wish to redirect your question to the Department of Health at the following email address: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

How many adult spirometry referral requests were received in the last financial year?

Response:

2921

How many adult spirometry tests were performed in the last financial year?

Response:

1669

Do you think the volume of spirometry currently available is:

Response:

The Freedom of Information Act grants members of the public the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. This information is not recorded.

Are you able to send adult patients for spirometry in a secondary care setting?

Response:

We are only accepting direct GP referrals from 2 practices otherwise, they need to be referred by a Trust doctor.

What is the current waiting list? (in weeks)

Response:

110 weeks routine

53 weeks urgent

Is spirometry for children available in primary care?

Response:

This information is not held by the Southern Trust. You may wish to redirect your question to the Department of Health at the following email address: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

Where can (child) patients receive a spirometry test in primary care?

- a) **At their GP surgery?**
- b) **At another GP surgery**
- c) **In a community pharmacy?**
- d) **In a Community Diagnostic Centre?**

Response:

This information is not held by the Southern Trust. You may wish to redirect your question to the Department of Health at the following email address: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

Are there any other locations in primary care that spirometry tests are performed in your board/trust?

Response:

This information is not held by the Southern Trust. You can direct your question to the Department of Health at the following email address: foi@health-ni.gov.uk

How many child spirometry referral requests were received in the last financial year?

Response:

Most patients are referred for respiratory assessment rather than specifically spirometry therefore this information is not recorded and therefore is not centrally located.

How many child spirometry tests were performed in the last financial year?

Response:

Approximately 840 tests, these are carried out in Craigavon Area Hospital and Daisy Hill Hospital

Do you think the volume of spirometry currently available for children is:

Response:

The Freedom of Information Act grants members of the public the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. This information is not recorded.

Are you able to send child patients for spirometry in a secondary care setting?

Response:

All information is from a secondary care team.

Does the Trust have any strategies in place for improving referral, attendance and completion of pulmonary rehabilitation (PR)?

How long is the waiting list for PR in your Trust? (in weeks)

Response:

Respiratory Pulmonary Rehab sits within the community team and it is 66 weeks for longest waiter.

Please give details about strategies your board/trust has in place for improving PR referral, attendance and completion.

Response:

COPD Bundle has Pulmonary rehab referral for consideration for all COPD patients on discharge, started in acute setting.

GPs/ Practice Nurses are also encouraged to refer patients.

Own Community Respiratory Teams actively encourage referrals and patient engagement from patients onto the programmes.

Pulmonary rehabilitation week each June is a social media campaign the Community Respiratory Team use as a platform to promote engagement with the SHSCT Programmes.

Does your Trust provide a specialist service for people living with interstitial lung disease or are they referred to another Trust? If no, which Trust?

Response:

Yes

Which roles do you currently have in your ILD team?

Response:

- Respiratory Consultant
- Rheumatology Consultant
- Radiology
- Respiratory SpR or clinical fellow
- Specialist respiratory nurse
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- ILD co-ordinator
- Dietitian

Can your ILD patients access pulmonary rehabilitation?

Response:

Yes, they can be referred to Community Pulmonary Rehab across the 3 areas
Newry & Mourne
Craigavon & Banbridge
Armagh & Dungannon

Can all your ILD patients access home oxygen?

Response:

Yes Oxygen therapy can be ordered for patients if indicated on assessment.

Community Respiratory Team manage the Home Oxygen service and review (HOSAR) SHSCT, patients can be referred by GP or any of the staff listed above from acute and community settings.

Who provides oxygen care to your ILD patients?

Response:

Assessment for oxygen therapy is initially screened and assessed at the ILD nurse clinic and pending outcome they are referred through to the relevant Community HOSAR team for full and comprehensive oxygen assessment, for ambulatory and long term oxygen.

Can all your ILD patients access palliative care?

Response:

Yes

Who prescribes and monitors antifibrotics? Do they have dedicated time for this?

Response:

Medics, ILD Nurse specialist and Resp ILD pharmacist can all prescribe antifibrotics. Community Respiratory team support ILD patients in community settings and at home and help manage the palliative stage of the condition, liaising with GP/ DN colleagues, titrating oxygen, accessing palliative medications and making recommendations within scope.

Does your Trust have dedicated ILD Clinics?

Response:

Yes, for nursing, however not for medics.

What do you think are the biggest barriers for improving respiratory outcomes in the Trust?

Response:

The Freedom of Information Act grants members of the public the right to access recorded information held by public authorities. This information is not recorded.

In your view, which programme of work has had the most significant positive impact on respiratory care or outcomes in your board/trust over the last year?

Response:

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