

FOI 2056

4.01.2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

1. Do you have a specialist service for long Covid patients? Please name the clinic/service

The Trust has a Post Covid Service which provides the following clinics/programmes;

- Post Covid Service MDT clinic
- Post Covid Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Dysfunctional Breathing clinic

2. How many patients in your local NHS area have been referred to the clinic/service to date?

Please see figures below for each element of the service from the commencement of the service on 01 November 2021 until 30 November 2023;

- Post Covid Service MDT clinic: 750 referrals had been received
- Post Covid Pulmonary Rehabilitation :127 referrals had been received
- Dysfunctional Breathing clinic: 42 referrals had been received

3. How many staff do you have working in the service FTE (full time equivalent) broken down by job title of:

Please see the number of staff per profession as at 30 November 2023;

a) Doctor:

0.75wte

b) Nurse:

0.4wte

c) Physiotherapist:

0.2wte

d) Occupational Therapist:

0.8wte

e) Clinical Psychologist/Psychiatrist/ CBT practitioner:

0.5wte

d) other, please specify

Dietician – 0.1wte

Admin – 0.28wte

- 4. For any doctors employed, please specify their specialism e.g. GP, cardiologist, neurologist**

The Doctor employed is a GP with Special Interest.

- 5. Does the service have the ability in-house to prescribe medications to long Covid patients?**

The service does not have this ability.

- 6. If so, please list the 3 most common drugs prescribed for long Covid patients by the clinic**

Not Applicable.

- 7. Does the service have the ability to order tests and scans?**

Yes. This service has the ability to order tests and scans.

- 8. If so please list the 3 most commonly ordered tests/scans/diagnostic questionnaires for long Covid patients by the clinic.**

The Trust advises that it is only in a position to report on blood tests and x-rays ordered from 01 April 2022 and is unable to provide detail on the type of x-ray or blood test ordered without a manual trawl of patient records. As at 30 November 2023 the following blood tests and x-rays had been ordered;

Blood Tests: 41

X-rays: 06

- 9. Please provide figures for how many patients referred to the clinic/service received the following type of treatment:**

- a) A wellbeing programme:**

All patients referred to the service received a copy of our holistic self-management document, which includes well-being advice and support.

- b) physical rehabilitation:**

80 patients have completed a Pulmonary Rehabilitation programme.

- c) psychological support:**

8 patients have completed a Psychology support programme.

- d) A brain retraining or Neuro Linguistic Programming-based course such as the Lightning Process, Gupta Programme or Nuffield programme (please specify which)**

Nil

- e) drug treatment:**

Nil.

- f) other, please specify:**

96 patients have completed a Fatigue Management Programme.



10. If not provided in-house, which of the following types of services does the clinic/service refer patients on to or recommend?

a) A wellbeing programme:

Yes

b) physical rehabilitation:

Yes

c) psychological support:

Yes

d) A brain retraining or Neuro Linguistic Programming-based course such as the Lightning Process, Gupta Programme or Nuffield programme (please specify which):

No

e) drug treatment:

Yes, a recommendation letter is sent to the patient's GP.

f) other, please specify

SHSCT Occupational Health Post COVID Rehabilitation Service, Pelvic Health Service, MSK Physiotherapy, Community Physical Disability Services, WRAP/Innovate Recovery, Southern Trust Tinnitus Service, Versus Arthritis, PIPS

11. Is the clinic expected to continue running after 2025?

The Trust is unable to answer this question as this will be determined by the commissioners of the service, the Strategic Planning and Performance Group (SPPG).

12.* For English ICBS only* Which NHS trust is responsible for the care of patients referred to a long Covid clinic in your area?

Not applicable to Southern Health and Social Care Trust.

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