

FOI 2255

28th March 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

1) The number of patients per annum diagnosed with colorectal cancer within the Trust.

From 1st Jan 2022 to 31st Dec 2022 there were 251 Lower GI Confirmed Cancers.

From 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023 there were 271 lower GI Confirmed Cancers

2) the percentage of patients who receive surgery/ treatment

Breakdown of first definitive treatment and type from 1st Jan 2022 to 31st Dec 2022

Pathway	Surgery	Palliative	Chemo radiotherapy	Radiotherapy	Chemotherapy	Stenting	Active monitoring	No treatment
31 Day	80	21	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
62 Day	82	18	9	5	7	-	-	-

Breakdown of 1st definitive treatments – 01st Jan 2023 to 31st Dec 2023

Pathway	Surgery	Palliative	Chemoradiotherapy	Radiotherapy	Chemotherapy	Active monitoring	Watchful waiting
31 Day	107	10	7	<5	<5	<5	-
63 Day	92	10	14	5	<5	<5	<5

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality and, in line with this duty, the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves and the sensitivity of the information requested. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and

which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018.

3) % cure

This information is not centrally collated and we consider that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'appropriate limit' as defined by the FOI Act under Section 12. Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as the Southern Trust. This represents the cost of one or more person spending 18 hours or more in determining whether we hold the information locating retrieving and extracting the information.

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net