

FOI 2259

27th March 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

How many red flagged GP referrals (urgent/emergency) have been downgraded from 1st Jan 2023 - 28 Feb 2024?

Response: Please see spreadsheet attached.

What was the reason for this?

Response: The referral did not meet NICE criteria

Were the patients/GPs consulted?

Response: Any Red Flag (RF) referrals from a GP, that are downgraded, a RF “downgraded letter” will be sent to the GP to advise that the referral has been downgraded to either an urgent or routine status with rationale as to why it has been downgraded. Following downgrade, GP’s have the opportunity to provide further rationale on the referral to the relevant secondary care service which may indicate the referral is now a red flag.

How many red flagged GP referrals (urgent/emergency) have been down graded from 1st Jan 2022 - 31st Dec 2022?

Response: Please see spreadsheet attached.

What was the reason for this?

Response: The referral did not meet NICE criteria

Were the patients/GPs consulted?

Response: Any Red Flag (RF) referrals from a GP, that are downgraded, a RF “downgraded letter” will be sent to the GP to advise that the referral has been downgraded to either an urgent or routine status with rationale as to why it has been downgraded. Following downgrade, GP’s have the opportunity to provide further rationale on the referral to the relevant secondary care service which may indicate the referral is now a red flag.

How many red flagged GP referrals (urgent/emergency) have been down graded from 1st Jan 2021 - 31st Dec 2021?

Response: Please see spreadsheet attached.

What was the reason for this?

Response: The referral did not meet NICE criteria

Were the patients/GPs consulted?

Response: Any Red Flag (RF) referrals from a GP, that are downgraded, a RF “downgraded letter” will be sent to the GP to advise that the referral has been downgraded to either an urgent or routine status with rationale as to why it has been downgraded. Following downgrade, GP’s have the opportunity to provide further rationale on the referral to the relevant secondary care service which may indicate the referral is now a red flag.

How many red flagged GP referrals (urgent/emergency) have been down graded from 1st Jan 2020 -31st Dec 2020?

Response: Please see spreadsheet attached.

What was the reason for this?

Response: The referral did not meet NICE criteria

Were the patients/GPs consulted?

Response: Any Red Flag (RF) referrals from a GP, that are downgraded, a RF “downgraded letter” will be sent to the GP to advise that the referral has been downgraded to either an urgent or routine status with rationale as to why it has been downgraded. Following downgrade, GP’s have the opportunity to provide further rationale on the referral to the relevant secondary care service which may indicate the referral is now a red flag.

Is there a difference between urgent/emergency?

Response: Emergency would apply to unscheduled patients (i.e. ED/Inpatient/trauma etc.)

Red flag is used in the elective sense and used by primary care GPs and/or Other Consultant referrals generated from outpatient clinics

Email: Foi.Team@Southerntrust.hscni.net