

Our Ref: 339  
May 2024

## Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am requesting the following information on local healthcare and support service provision for multiple myeloma patients as part of a wider project (funded by Myeloma UK). Please provide the following information:

As of 1 Jan 2024:

- Total population size served by Regional Board- 440,000
- Number of hospitals providing oncology services -1 Trust
- Total number of consultant haematologists employees; specialist haematology registrars employed; consultant haematologists specialising in multiple myeloma; haematology clinical nurse specialists employed and multiple myeloma clinical nurse specialists. –

6 consultants  
1 speciality doctor  
2 clinical nurse specialist

During 2023 (1 Jan – 31 Dec), please provide the:

- Total number of multiple myeloma (MM) cases diagnosed (Please state which code(s) were used) –see attached spreadsheet
- If known, how many people were diagnosed with smouldering multiple myeloma? - see attached spreadsheet
- How many in-person haematology-based consultation/telephone haematology-based consultations/video haematology-based consultation took place for people diagnosed with MM?

I am writing to confirm that DBTH holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to [locate, retrieve, extract] information in scope of your request would involve extensive administrative work as there are not specific clinics for MM just general clinics, this would require reviewing each clinic and going on diagnosis then seeing which clinic type they were in which would not be feasible within the timeframe. Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, We have estimated that it would take more than 18 hours to carry out a manual search to locate, retrieve, and extract all the information you have requested. In this situation the associated cost would therefore exceed the appropriate fee limit of £450 set out under Freedom of Information & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2007.

The fee limit specified in regulations for NHS trusts represents the cost of one person spending 2½ working days at a rate of £25 per hour determining whether the Trust holds the information sought and then locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

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If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance

Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

During 2023 (1 Jan – 31 Dec):

- Were multiple myeloma (MM) patients discussed/reviewed at a MM specific MDT or general haematology MDT?

#### General Haematology MDT

- How frequently did MDT meetings meet?

#### Weekly

- What percentage of MM patients diagnosed in 2023 were reviewed/discussed at a MDT?

#### All

- Which professionals/disciplines are represented on MDT meetings for MM?

#### Consultants

#### Associate medics

#### CNSs

#### MDT Coordinators

#### Pathology –histology consultants

#### Imaging - consultants

- What supportive and palliative care services are available for MM patients?

#### CNSs and cancer care co-ordinator support

#### SPC team on site –Consultants/CNSs

#### Referral on as required to community services DN /SPC teams ,hospices etc

#### Holistic needs assessment and referral on to Cancer Information services –benefits .information etc

#### Haematology support group

#### Cancer Information and support –centre on site DRI-Sign posted to Aurora –Bassetlaw



**Doncaster and Bassetlaw  
Teaching Hospitals**  
NHS Foundation Trust

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