

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

1. I would be grateful if you could send the Trust's most recent planning document(s) for the diagnosis and treatment of **Alzheimer's Disease** including implementation of lumbar punctures (CSF) and Blood-based Biomarker testing. Please include planning documents that cover the entire Trust and specific department plans, such as neurology, psychiatry, care of the elderly, pathology or memory clinic teams.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTH) does not currently hold Trust-wide or departmental planning documents specifically for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease, including the implementation of lumbar punctures for CSF or blood-based biomarker testing. The Trust is not commissioned to provide diagnostic dementia services. These services are delivered by external organisations, as outlined below.

2. How many patients were diagnosed with **Alzheimer's Disease** (*ICD-10 codes = G30, G30.1, G30.8, G30.9, F00, F00.1, F00.2 or F00.9*) in your Trust in the last 12-month period for which data are available?

	Number of patients
Total Alzheimer' Disease	

DBTH does not provide diagnostic services for Alzheimer's Disease. These services are provided by Neurology teams from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STH) through outreach clinics, and by Memory Clinic teams operated by Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH).

3. How many patients were diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment and / or Mild Dementia due to **Alzheimer's Disease** (*ICD-10 codes = G31.84, G30.1, or MMSE scores = 21 to 24*) in your Trust in the last 12-month period for which data are available?

	Number of patients
Mild cognitive impairment (<i>ICD-10 = G31.84</i>)	
Early onset Alzheimer's Disease (<i>ICD-10 = G30.1</i>)	

Mild cognitive impairment (<i>Mini-mental State Examination</i> <i>MMSE = 21 to 24</i>)	
Mild cognitive impairment (<i>other sources of definition</i>)	

As noted above, DBTH is not commissioned to deliver any diagnostic services relating to dementia. These diagnoses are made either by Neurology services based at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust or Memory Clinic services provided by Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust.

For further information, you may wish to contact the following organisations directly:

- **Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust** – foi@sth.nhs.uk
- **Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDash)** – rdash.foi@nhs.net

4. Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out lumbar punctures (cerebrospinal fluid) for diagnosing patients with **Alzheimer's Disease**?

	Yes / No
Lumbar punctures carried out within the Trust itself	no
Lumbar punctures referred elsewhere and carried out external to the Trust	no
Trust does not carry out lumbar punctures to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease	yes

5. Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations to which the Trust refers patients for lumbar punctures in the diagnosis of **Alzheimer's Disease**.

Full name of organisation(s)
n/a

6. What is the average waiting time for a patient to get an appointment for a lumbar puncture to test for a diagnosis of **Alzheimer's Disease**?

	Number
Average waiting time (weeks)	n/a

7. How many lumbar punctures to test for **Alzheimer's Disease** took place in the last 3-month period for which data are available?

	Number of procedures
Number of lumbar punctures	0

8. How many Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) to test for **Alzheimer's Disease** were conducted in the last 3-month period for which data are available?

	Number of tests
Number of Blood-based Biomarker tests (CSF)	0

9. Where, if at all, does the Trust carry out Blood-based Biomarker (BBBM) tests from Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for diagnosing patients with **Alzheimer's Disease**?

	Yes / No
Pathology laboratory within the Trust	no
Pathology laboratory external to the Trust	no
Trust does not test for BBBMs to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease	yes

10. Please provide a list of the full names of other Trusts or other organisations, to which the Trust refers Blood-based Biomarker tests from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) for pathology in the diagnosis of **Alzheimer's Disease**.

Full name of Trust or organisation(s)
n/a

11. What is the average waiting time for pathology results to come back from Blood-based Biomarker tests?

	Days
Average waiting time (days)	N/A

12. To what extent are there plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease?

	Yes / No
Implementation of plans has started	
A plan exists and implementation has not started	
A plan is being developed	
There is no plan	yes
Other – please state	

13. Are the plans for service improvement of diagnosing Alzheimer's Disease related to:

	Yes / No
Cognitive assessment services	n/a
Biomarker services	n/a
None / neither	n/a

14. Which of the following services does the Trust have in place in preparation for increased service delivery for **Alzheimer's Disease**?

	Related to administration of lumbar punctures Yes / No	Related to Blood-based Biomarker testing Yes / No
Budget	n/a	n/a
People	n/a	n/a
Training	n/a	n/a
Clinic space / capacity	Na	n/a
Governance arrangements	N/a	n/a

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

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