

Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

1. Please provide details of all menopause services currently available at your trust for patients experiencing treatment-induced or cancer-related menopause.
Please include service names, whether they are cancer-specific, and any referral pathways.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (DBTH) does not operate a dedicated specialist menopause service specifically for patients experiencing treatment-induced or cancer-related menopause.

The only specialist menopause service that cancer teams within DBTH routinely refer patients to is the menopause service at the Jessop Wing, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Any detailed information regarding that service, including referral pathways and activity, would be best obtained directly from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals.

Within DBTH, menopause-related advice, support and information are provided by Breast and Gynaecology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) teams as part of holistic cancer care. This support is embedded within routine oncology pathways rather than delivered via a standalone menopause service, and therefore does not constitute a formally defined or separately commissioned menopause service.

2. Please provide the number of patients referred to menopause services for cancer-related or treatment-induced menopause for the last five financial years (2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26).
3. Please provide the number of patients who attended these services following referral, for the same years. If available, include first appointments, follow-ups.

The Trust does not hold this information in a reportable format.

As outlined above, menopause support within DBTH is typically provided informally as part of CNS-led holistic care rather than through a coded or discrete referral pathway. As such, these interactions are not routinely recorded as menopause referrals within Trust data systems.

Referrals to external specialist services (e.g. Sheffield Teaching Hospitals) are also not captured in a way that would allow reliable extraction of menopause-specific referral numbers over the requested timeframe. For these reasons, the Trust is unable to provide accurate figures for the number of patients referred to, or attending, menopause services for cancer-related or treatment-induced menopause.

4. Please provide the average and longest waiting times for access to menopause services for oncology patients for each of the last five financial years.

The Trust does not hold this information.

As DBTH does not provide a dedicated menopause service for oncology patients, waiting times for such services are not recorded locally. Any waiting time data relating to specialist menopause services would sit with the providing organisation (e.g. Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust).

Additional information

While menopause support is an important aspect of cancer care, within DBTH this is delivered as part of routine clinical practice rather than through a separately coded service. Consequently, the Trust is unable to produce a reliable dataset for menopause support activity.

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February 2026

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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