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Request for Information Reference: 10.23.77

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700
Email: cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net

Email only

20th November 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 24th October 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Bronchiectasis and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

1. Does the trust currently have a Bronchiectasis pathway?

No

- **If no, why?**
- **Is there a plan to implement one?**
- **And how so?**
- **Will it be based on the NICE and British Thoracic Society Guidelines?**

All patients are reviewed by a Respiratory Consultant and managed according to the BTS guidelines. The reason for this was initially due to the variation in patient's requirements. However, whilst this will remain the same for patients that are referred as an outpatient we are in discussion as to the quality improvements that may be achieved if a pathway is introduced to the acute medical wards to ensure that there is continuity of care.

- **If yes, please provide when the current Bronchiectasis pathway was implemented.**

- Are they based on the NICE and British Thoracic Guidelines?
 - Is physiotherapy a key part in your trusts acute Bronchiectasis management?
 - Since implementation, are more patients being referred to physiotherapy?
 - Has there been an improvement in patient outcomes/management of bronchiectasis?
 - Pre and post implementation, what are the referral statistics to physiotherapists?
2. Patient's being admitted into hospital with acute exacerbation of bronchiectasis, are they being referred to physiotherapists on admission?
 3. Average waiting time for referral to physiotherapists?
 4. How do you refer to a physiotherapist? Paper, digital or verbal communication?
 5. If there is a referral form to physiotherapy, what does this consist of?
 6. Is there a criteria for a patient (admitted with acute exacerbation of bronchiectasis) that they need to meet for a referral to physiotherapy?
 7. If so, what are the criteria?
 8. What have been the goals of the trust since the implementation of the Bronchiectasis pathway?
 9. And has there been improvement?
 10. Are the goals being achieved?

Not Applicable.

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I am sorry that I have not been able to provide all of the information you requested, however I hope that my explanation as to why this is not possible has been satisfactory. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator