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Request for Information Reference: 12.23.30

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

Email only

5th January 2024

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 11th December 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 Haematological Cancer and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

NB: All of the following requests are relating to the treatment of adults (16 years +) only.

The information we request is from your most recent data.

1. Which haematological cancers are treated at your trust?

Myeloma, High grade and low grade lymphomas, Chronic leukaemias, Acute leukaemia (non-intensive patients). Myeloproliferative Neoplasms

2. How many blood cancer patients are under the care of your trust?

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes for the entire community which we serve which is 600,000 patients. Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of

complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

3. Total number of haematological Clinical Nurse Specialists are in the trust?

4 Clinical Nurse Specialists in total, 3.60 whole time equivalent.

4. Total number of leukaemia specific CNS's are in the trust?

- **If you do have leukaemia specific CNS's in the trust, how many leukaemia patients are there per leukaemia CNS's?**
- **Do have myeloid and lymphoid specific CNS's and if so, how many of each?**

No disease specific CNS in the Trust, all CNS look after all conditions.

5. Are haematological/ blood cancer CNS's required to undertake normal ward duties?

CNS in haematology do not currently undertake normal ward duties other than review haematology patients.

6. Have you measured patient access to CNS's within the trust? If so, what was the outcome?

Through the National Cancer Survey. Results have always recorded favourable levels of patient access to CNS- above 80 %.

7. Do you have, or plan to have any funding in place for training more haematology or blood cancer specific CNS's?

No plans at present.

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 hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. 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