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Request for Information Reference: 02.18.47

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Email only

22 March 2018

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 22 February 2018 in relation to the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (Trust). We are dealing with your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information regarding prostate cancer. Specifically you asked for:

1. Please tell us which Trust, Health Board or Health and Social Care Trust you are responding on behalf of?

Answer: County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust and South Tees

2. Do you conduct multi-parametric MRI (mpMRI) scans before first prostate biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes, using T2-weighted, diffusion-weighted (multi-b ADC and high/long b) and dynamic contrast enhanced (DCE) sequences. **X**
- Yes, using T2-weighted, diffusion-weighted (multi-b ADC and high/long b) sequences but not DCE
- No

3. Do you refer men to another Trust/centre for mpMRI before biopsy?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes
- No **X**

4. What are your eligibility criteria/exclusion criteria for men to receive pre-biopsy mpMRI?

Answer: Any patient with suspected prostate cancer is a candidate for the treatment.

5. What percentage of eligible men receive an mpMRI scan before biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process?

Answer: Most of the patients, around 90%.

6. Has the percentage of eligible men receiving an mpMRI scan before biopsy increased in the last year?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes **X**
- No

6a. If Yes, how much would you estimate it has increased by?

Answer: 2-3/ Week

7. Are you using mpMRI before biopsy to rule some men out of a biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes
- No

Answer: At present No but in the future Yes.

7a. What percentage of men are ruled out of a biopsy?

Answer: Not at present for new diagnosis for active surveillance around 50% of biopsies are avoided.

8. What mpMRI scores and/or other clinical factors are used to rule men out of biopsy?

Please indicate with a X

- PIRADS **X**
- LIKERT
- PSAD
- OTHER

9. Do you intend to rule some men out of a biopsy in future?

Answer: Yes.

10. Do you carry out targeted biopsies in men with mpMRI lesions in addition to systematic biopsies?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes – cognitive/visual estimation **X**
- Yes – image-fusion
- No – systematic only

Answer: Yes, cognitive/ visual estimation at present and software fusion is intended.

11. In the last year, have you been successful in securing funding or new resources to provide or increase the use of mpMRI before biopsy?

Please indicate with a X

- Yes
- No **X**

11a. If Yes please provide further information (e.g. where from and for what)?

Answer: N/A.

12. Which of the following, if any, would help you adopt the use of mpMRI before biopsy?

Please indicate with a X

- An additional or new MRI scanner
- Increased MRI scanner availability **X**
- Reduced mpMRI scan time **X**
- Agreement to use Dynamic Contrast Enhancement **X**
- A scanner/magnet upgrade
- Support with scanner optimisation **X**
- Increased staffing levels **X**
- Additional training for radiologists **X**
- Other **X**

Answer: Please see above. With regards to 'Other', software based fusion).

12a. If you ticked 'Reduced mpMRI scan time' please estimate current scan time?

Answer: 45 minutes per scan.

13. Which of the following, if any, would help you further increase the use of mpMRI before biopsy?

Please indicate with a X

- An additional or new MRI scanner

- Increased MRI scanner availability **X**
- Reduced mpMRI scan time **X**
- Agreement to use Dynamic Contrast Enhancement **X**
- A scanner/magnet upgrade
- Support with scanner optimisation **X**
- Increased staffing levels **X**
- Additional training for radiologists **X**
- Other **X**

13a. If you ticked 'Reduced mpMRI scan time' please estimate current scan time?

Answer: 45 minutes.

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. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust website.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review by writing to:

The Chief Executive
County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
Darlington Memorial Hospital
Hollyhurst Road
Darlington
DL3 6HX

If, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.gov.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer