

Executive Corridor  
Darlington Memorial Hospital  
Hollyhurst Road  
Darlington  
DL3 6HX  
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100  
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625  
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 03.19.40

Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

29 April 2019

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for your request for information received on 27 March 2019 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 IBS Clinics. Specifically you requested information as follows:

***With regards to Functional Bowel/ IBS Clinics provided by your Trust, please answer the following questions:***

***1) What national & local targets (if any) do these providers have re referral waiting times for Functional Bowel / IBS Clinics?***

Answer: The waiting time target for the service is 18 weeks referral to treatment.

***2) To what extent were these targets met by each provider in the last 3 years?***

Answer: The national standard is for 92% of patients to be referred for treatment within 18 weeks. The target has been achieved for 31 of the previous 36 months.

***3) Describe any patient self-assessment tool used a part of the referral pathway and/or prior to clinic appointment?***

Answer: Patients with constipation complete a PAC-QOL and PAC-SYM assessment prior to their first clinic appointment. This is a validated questionnaire which gives an indication of symptom burden and impact of their symptoms on quality of life.

***4) Are these tools electronic or paper-based? If electronic, which product is used?***

Answer: Paper based.

**5) Please provide the name and job-title of the lead clinician for each service**

Answer: Professor Yan Yiannakou, Consultant Neuro-gastroenterologist

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](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

**Joanna Tyrrell**  
**Freedom of Information Officer**