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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

Cadeirydd/Chair: **Emma Woollett**
Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive: **Mark Hackett**

gofalu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser
caring for each other, working together, always improving

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Dyddiad/Date: 13th September 2021
Ein Cyf / Our Ref: 21-H-020

01639 648363

FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk

[Redacted]

Corporate Services
Headquarters
1 Talbot Gateway
Baglan
Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

[Redacted]

I refer to your Freedom of Information Act Request acknowledged by ourselves on 16th August 2021. Your request sought information relating to Multiple Sclerosis.

1. Are your patients coded for the different sub types of MS (multiple sclerosis), Relapse remitting, primary progressive and secondary?
Please answer Yes, No, coding planned, partial coding, all patients coded
Coding planned

2. For secondary progressive MS are your patients coded?
Please answer No coding, coding planned, partial coding, all patients coded
Coding planned

3. What proportion of your MS patients have a diagnosis of secondary progressive MS (within all MS diagnosed patients?)
Please answer Unknown, <10%, 10-20%, 21-30%, 31-40%, >50%
Unknown

4. For MS patients requiring an MRI, what is the average waiting time?
Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months
2-3 months

5. For MS patients requiring an OCT, what is the average waiting time?
Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months
<1 month



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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Swansea Bay University Health Board is the operational name of Swansea Bay University Local Health Board

6. For MS patients what is the average waiting time for IV MS treatment?

Please answer <1 month, 2 – 3 months, 4 – 6 months, >6 months

2-3 months

7. When a patient has been diagnosed with MS, what is the average time from diagnosis of MS to initiate treatment?

This information is not held centrally. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

8. How many unscheduled admissions have there been for patients with a diagnosis of MS in any position between April – June 2021?

Please answer with the number of admissions

Please note that we have taken “unscheduled admissions” as “emergency admissions” with a diagnosis of MS recorded in any position. One patient may be admitted several times – we have counted these separately.

Apr-21	6
May-21	21
Jun-21	8
Grand Total	35

9. How many MS patients are being treated in neurology rehab?

Please answer the number of patients

This information is not held centrally. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.

10. Of the patients in Question 8, how many are being treated with an MS disease modifying drug?

Please answer with the number of patients

This information is not held centrally. To obtain this information would involve a manual trawl and search of records which we have estimated would significantly exceed the 18 hours limit set down by the FOI Act as the reasonable limit. Section 12 of the FOI Act and The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 provides that we are not obliged to spend in excess of 18 hours in any sixty day period locating, retrieving and identifying information in order to deal with a request for information and therefore we are withholding this information at this time.



11. How many MS patients are in the following EDSS (Expanded Disability Status Scale) groups? 1 – 3.5, 3.5 – 6.5, >7

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12. How many of your physicians can initiate MS disease modifying drug treatment? If possible please supply the physicians name

Two physicians - Dr Pearson & Dr Ingram

I hope this information is helpful. If you require anything further please contact us at FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

Under the terms of the Health Board's Freedom of Information policy, individuals seeking access to recorded information held by the Health Board are entitled to request internal review of the handling of their requests. If you would like to complain about the Health Board's handling of your request please contact me directly at the address below or register your complaint via FOIA.Requests@wales.nhs.uk.

If after Internal Review you remain dissatisfied you are also entitled to refer the matter to the information commissioner at the Information Commissioner's Office (Wales), 2nd Floor, Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HH. Telephone Number: 029 2067 8400.

Yours sincerely



Pam Wenger
Director of Corporate Governance

