

Our Ref: FOI/14/099

24 November 2014

**Trust Headquarters**

Swandean  
Arundel Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3EP

Tel: 01903 843078  
Email:foi@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

Via email: request-228265-f1c8fe16@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Sir/Madam

## Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email dated 18 October 2014, in which you raised a number of additional questions, the answers to which are shown below.

### Question 1

Of the approximately 10% of people who were not diagnosed with ASC, did the Trust, as standard, or in any case, inform the individuals that they had a right to request an independent 2nd opinion or had the right to complain if they were dissatisfied with the findings of their assessment?

### Answer 1

We do not routinely advise patients about the right to a second opinion in these specific circumstances.

### Question 2

You state: "We are able to confirm that since the NBC began in 2007 it has had capacity to conduct approximately 44 comprehensive multi-disciplinary ASC assessments per year for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex." Can you confirm what number of these assessments prior to the NHS NICE Guidelines publication in June 2012, included clinical tools as part of the assessment process; and for the same time period, how many adhered to e.g. BMJ best practice regarding assessments of adults for ASC as a minimum?

### Answer 2

All assessments include clinical tools and adhere to best practice.

### Question 3

Can you confirm whether any of the approximately 10% of adults who were not diagnosed, were refused diagnosis because they had no childhood history available, and if so, the number.

**Answer 3**

We do not record this information.

**Question 4**

Of the approximately 10% of adults who were not diagnosed, can you confirm the number that were diagnosed with alternative conditions (and what those conditions were) and the number that were told they had some ASC traits but not enough for a diagnosis.

**Answer 4**

We do not record this information.

**Question 5**

You have only been able to supply male/female ratio prior to 2013, can you explain why you cannot supply this information post-2013? Even if the information has to be accessed manually it can still be provided from records. Technology would also be expected to improve information and statistics handling over time, not reduce.

**Answer 5**

Since September 2013 and the enhanced Brighton and Hove service that includes a specialist practitioner triage role the clinic has assessed 92 individuals and the male/female percentage ratio was 54/46 %.

I hope this information is helpful. However if you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date you received the response to your original request and should be addressed to:

Colm Donaghy  
Chief Executive  
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust  
Swandean  
Arundel Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3EP

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow

Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Lee', written in a cursive style.

**Peter Lee**  
**Head of Corporate Governance**