

Ref: FOI/00237/CCCG
8th July 2021

Dr Benjamin Viaris De Lesegno & Sabrina Khaloon
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Freedom of Information Requests
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Dear Dr Benjamin Viaris De Lesegno & Sabrina Khaloon,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Chronic Pain**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). I am able to provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 1st April 2020, NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG, NHS South Cheshire CCG, NHS Vale Royal CCG and NHS West Cheshire CCG merged to form NHS Cheshire CCG.

You asked:

- 1) How many consultations are there per year for chronic pain?**
- 2) How many patients per year does that represent?**

Our response:

1 - 2) During the 2020/21 financial year, there were 9,264 consultations with chronic pain services undertaken for 7,004 NHS Cheshire CCG patients. Of those 7,004 patients, 5,490 had one consultation only and the remainder had two or more consultations.

You asked:

- 3) What is the total cost of care per year for Chronic Pain?**

Our response:

3) Please be advised that NHS Cheshire CCG commissions chronic pain services as part of a wider block contract for a range of healthcare services. As a result of these block contracts NHS Cheshire CCG does not have a separately identified cost specifically for the chronic pain services element.

You asked:

4) What is the total cost of medication per year for Chronic Pain?

Our response:

4) NHS Cheshire CCG does not hold information on the total cost of medication per year for chronic pain. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to the NHS Business Services Authority (BSA) who provide prescribing and dispensing data and can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via the below link:

<https://applications.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/FOI/initRequestForm.do>

You asked:

5) Do you have a secondary care pain unit in the CCG? If so, how many referrals are made to this unit per year?

Our response:

5) During the 2020/21 financial year, there were 1,795 referrals made for NHS Cheshire CCG patients to secondary care pain services. Of those 1,795 referrals, 1,223 were to the Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust and 572 to Mid Cheshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

You asked:

6) Do you have community pain services? If so, how many consultations are made to these services per year? and what is the cost of care within these services per year?

Our response:

6) Please be advised that of the three commissioned providers of community pain services NHS Cheshire CCG only receives data from one, Central Cheshire Integrated Care Partnership (CCICP). During the 2020/21 financial year there were 4,032 consultations for NHS Cheshire CCG patients with CCICP for community pain services.

You may wish to redirect your request for the rest of this information to our other two commissioned providers of community pain services, who are listed below along with their contact details for Freedom of Information requests:

- *East Cheshire NHS Trust*
ecn-tr.foirequests@nhs.net

- *NHS Cheshire and Wirral Partnership Foundation Trust*
cwp.foi@nhs.net

NHS Cheshire CCG commissions community pain management services as part of a wider block contract for a range of healthcare services with providers. As a result of these block contracts NHS Cheshire CCG does not have a separately identified cost specifically for the community pain management service element.

If you have any queries or concerns, wish to request a review of our response or are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to this Freedom of Information request, please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Requests team; details provided at the top of this letter.

If you request a review of our response and are not content with the subsequent outcome, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Freedom of Information review procedure provided by NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely



Matthew Cunningham
Director of Governance and Corporate Development
NHS Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group

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