

Information Governance Office
Maudsley Hospital
Denmark Hill
London
SE5 8AZ

Email: foi@slam.nhs.uk

17 December 2019

Dear Mr Gillet,

RE: Your Information Request

Thank you for your request for information received on 12th December 2019 regarding liaison psychiatry referral policy under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000).

You requested the following information:

1. At which general hospital(s) does your Trust provide liaison psychiatry services?

South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust is a provider of mental health services. The Trust provides liaison psychiatry services at the following hospitals: Croydon University Hospital, University Hospital Lewisham, Kings College Hospital and Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust

For each of the above hospitals, please answer the questions below:

2. Is there a written policy about prioritising patients who have been referred to liaison psychiatry, or determining which referrals to accept? (If No, please move to Question 6)

The enclosed Core 24 guidance is followed throughout all sites where liaison psychiatry services is provided by the Trust.

3. If so, is this policy made available to all (psychiatry and non-psychiatry) clinicians working within the general hospital? If so, please specify where (e.g. Trust intranet)?

CORE 24 guidance is operated throughout all our liaison services. CORE 24 guidance is widely available on the internet, enclosed is a copy for your reference.

4. Please attach the policy document if possible. We aim to extract only certain information from the policy document, so if the complete policy document cannot be sent, please send the following information:

Please refer to the response to question 3 above.

- a. Details on which locations this policy covers and which patients (i.e. inpatient ward/A&E/referrals) the policy covers.

Please refer to the response to question 2 above.

- b. Details on any guidelines to prioritise or determine which referrals to accept. Specifically:
- Patients should be medically fit for discharge prior to review
 - Patients should be medically fit for assessment prior to review
 - No restriction applied; all patients are reviewed
 - Any other methods used to prioritise patient referrals (please specify)

Please refer to the policy provided in response to question 3 above.

- c. Whether the policy states which professional group (e.g. psychiatrist, psychologist, and nurse) should review the referral and/or assess the patient? If so, please specify.

Please refer to the policy provided in response to question 3 above.

- d. When was the policy last reviewed or updated?

N/A

5. When (if at all) was local practice last audited against this policy and what were the findings?

This is done on an ongoing basis.

6. At your Trust, how do doctors refer patients to liaison psychiatry for review (e.g. by telephone, by electronic referral system, by email, by fax)?

All referrals are via telephone and email.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the Trust. This may be done by writing to the Information Governance Office at the above address.

If you have any queries about this letter or if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please do not hesitate to contact the Information Governance Office via foi@slam.nhs.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Yours sincerely,



Toyin Kazeem
Archives and Assurance Manager