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Darlington Memorial Hospital
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Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625
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Request for Information Reference: 08.19.35

Direct line: 01325 743700
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Ms L Ellis
Email only

13 September 2019

Dear Ms Ellis

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information received on 16 August 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 the prostate cancer. Specifically you requested information as follows:

- 1. *Do you routinely conduct prostate MRI (bpMRI/mpMRI) scans before first prostate biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process? (please tick all that apply):***
 - a. *Yes, using T2-weighted, diffusion-weighted (multi-b ADC and high/long and dynamic contrast enhanced (DCE) sequences***
 - b. *Yes, using T2-weighted, diffusion-weighted (multi-b ADC and high/long sequences but not DCE***
 - c. *No but we refer to another provider (please provide details)***
 - d. *No (please provide details)***
- 2. *If yes, to 1a: What percentage of men with suspected prostate cancer receive mpMRI before biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process?***
- 3. *If yes, to 1b: What percentage of men with suspected prostate cancer receive bpMRI before biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process?***

4. ***What are your eligibility criteria/exclusion criteria for prostate MRI? (please tick all that apply):***
 - a. ***Age (please provide details)***
 - b. ***Symptoms (please provide details)***
 - c. ***Life expectancy (please provide details)***
 - d. ***Contra-indications (please provide details)***
 - e. ***Other (please provide details)***
5. ***Are you using results from the prostate MRI before biopsy to rule some men out of biopsy as part of the initial diagnostic process? (yes/no)***
6. ***Do you biopsy all PI-RADS or LIKERT 3 scores?***
 - a. ***Yes***
 - b. ***No***
 - c. ***Dependent on patient histology***
7. ***What threshold do you mostly use for ruling men out of biopsy?***
 - a. ***PI-RADs 3 and above***
 - b. ***LIKERT 3 and above***
 - c. ***PI-RADs 4 and above***
 - d. ***LIKERT 4 and above***
 - e. ***Varies depending on age (Please provide detail)***
 - f. ***Varies depending on other factors (Please provide detail)***
8. ***What percentage of men do you estimate are ruled out of biopsy?***

Answer Q1-Q8: Urology services are now at Sunderland or South Tees. If you wish to contact These Trusts in accordance with Section 16 of the Act (duty to provide advice and assistance) you can contact them via Email: South Tyneside and Sunderland email to foi@stft.nhs.uk and South Tees FOI team stees.foi.admin@nhs.net

9. Have there been any changes to your prostate MRI capacity in the last year? (please choose all that apply):

Answer: No.

- a. An additional or new MRI scanner**
- b. Increased MRI scanner slots for prostate**
- c. Agreement to use Dynamic Contrast Enhancement**
- d. No longer using Dynamic Contrast Enhancement**
- e. A scanner/magnet upgrade**
- f. other (free text)**

10. Has the number of radiologists at your trust/health board who report prostate MRI scans changed in the last year?

- a. Increased**
- b. Decreased - effective July2019**
- c. Stayed the same**

11. How many radiologists at your trust/health board report at least 250 prostate MRI scans per year?

Answer: 1 WTE

12. Which of the following processes do you follow to manage men ruled out of an immediate biopsy, but with a raised PSA?

a. NICE Guidelines: prostate cancer diagnosis and management (NG131) b. A local protocol (please provide details) c. Other (please provide details)

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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.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely



Joanna Tyrrell
Freedom of Information Officer