

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference Fol/21/236

Specialist Headache Clinics

1. (a) Do you have a specialist headache clinic in your Trust?

Yes

(b) (i) If yes, please give details.

There is a weekly clinic and a monthly clinic to review patients that have been referred for headache/migraines. In addition, there is a monthly clinic for those patients requiring injection treatment.

(ii) If no, please give details of the clinic you would refer out to.

Not Applicable.

2. How many people did you support through your specialist headache clinics?

(a) In 2019?

246

(b) In 2020?

470

3. What is the average waiting time from GP referral to first appointment at the specialist headache clinics in your Trust (current or for when you last had data)?

26 weeks.

4. (a) Has Covid-19 affected the services provided by your specialist headache clinic(s)? (E.g. staff redeployment, virtual services rather than face to face, anything else)

(b) If yes, please give details.

At the beginning of the Covid pandemic, clinics were cancelled for approx. 6 weeks, as the neurology consultants had to provide cover on the medical wards. Clinics have run regularly since this time, majority of appointments are conducted via the telephone in the first instance, with patients only being asked to attend face to face if required (e.g. for injections).

5. How many full time equivalent (FTE) headache specialist doctors are employed by your Trust (in secondary care or GPs with an extended role)?

2.0WTE, however all the neurology consultants review patients with headache symptoms in their general neurology clinics.

6. How many FTE headache specialist nurses are employed by your Trust?

None.

7. (a) Do you have plans in 2021/22 to increase headache specialist services?

No.

(b) If yes, please give details.

Not Applicable.

8. (a) Do you have plans in 2021/22 to do additional work with GPs regarding education, community management or pathways?

Yes

(b) If yes, please give details.

We are planning to formalise a headache pathway, which would be sent to GPs and all referrers (e.g. how many different analgesics should be tried before being referred).

(c) If no, please explain any reasons (e.g. budgets / other priorities / another organisations' responsibility).

Not Applicable.

9. (a) Have you completed the Self-Assessment Questionnaire included in NHS Right Care's [Headache and Migraine Toolkit](#) within the past year?

No.

(b) If yes, did this indicate that the requirements of the headache and migraine system were:

a. fully met

b. partially met

c. not met

Not Applicable.

Access to CGRP medication

10. (a) Can eligible patients currently access Calcitonin Gene-Related Peptide (CGRP) medication through your Trust?

Yes.

(b) If yes:

(i) How many people are accessing CGRP medication through your Trust?

Approx. 100 patients.

(ii) What is the current waiting time to access a prescribing specialist?

26 weeks

(iii) Is the administration of CGRP treatments monitored by a headache specialist?

Yes - only administered in the specialist headache clinics.

(iv) Are both Ajovy (fremanezumab) and Emgality (galcanezumab) available to patients?

Yes

(c) If no, do you refer and fund it out of area? Please give details.

Not Applicable.

Training

11. (a) Do you have any education or training programmes with GPs in your area on migraine (e.g. regarding patient management in the community, patient information or referral pathways)?

No

(b) If yes, or if any is planned, please give details.

Headache pathway to be formalised.

Inequalities

12. (a) Are you aware of local inequalities of access to headache specialist services amongst any groups (e.g. by gender, ethnicity, disability, socio-economic groups)?

No

(b) If yes, please give details of the inequalities and any work you are doing or planning to address this.

Not Applicable.