

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request Reference FoI/23/487

Inflammatory Bowel Disease

1. To what extent are the British Society of Gastroenterology Inflammatory Bowel Disease (BSG IBD) colorectal cancer surveillance endoscopy recommendations been implemented in this Trust? If they are being partially implemented, please outline which areas are currently being met.

The BSG IBD recommendations are being followed but currently the waiting times are not being met due to the backlog following the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. What percentage of Inflammatory Bowel Disease patients are currently overdue their surveillance endoscopy based on the timelines set out in the British Society of Gastroenterology consensus guidelines on the management of inflammatory bowel disease in adults (2019)? Please provide this information broken down by high risk, intermediate risk and lower risk as out in this same guidance

In completing a search for the information requested, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) has confirmed that this information is not centrally recorded or collated. To retrieve the information requested would require a manual search through individual records and the UHB considers that this would exceed the limit set within regulations for responding to a request. The UHB has therefore relied upon the Section 12 exemption ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is refusing your request.

The UHB has estimated that to complete the work needed to respond to this request would exceed the time limit as set within regulations to respond to a Freedom of Information Act request. Under the Act there is an allowance of two and a half days, or 18 hours, to comply with a request and the cost limit set within the fees' regulations for this amount of work (18 hours) is £450 for the UHB. The fees regulations specify that the cost of complying with a request must be calculated at the rate of £25 per hour.

3. What plans are in place to manage the Inflammatory Bowel Disease colorectal cancer colonoscopy surveillance backlog in light of the COVID-19 pandemic?

The UHB Endoscopy service is currently following a recovery plan which looks to increase our Endoscopy capacity, infrastructure and operators, in order to reduce our backlog.