

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/24/127

ADHD Assessments

Information Requested:

Please may you provide us with answers to the following questions:

1. Do you provide ADHD assessments?
Please specify if this is for children, adults or both.
2. How many people are **currently** on your waiting list for ADHD assessments?
Please break this down between children and adults.
3. How many assessments have you **carried out** every calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.
4. How many ADHD referrals did you **receive** each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
Please break this down between children and adults.
5. How many ADHD referrals did you **accept** each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
Please break this down between children and adults.
6. What is the (mean) average time patients wait between referral and an assessment for ADHD for each calendar year between 2018 and 2023?
If possible, please break this down between children and adults.

Response Details:

In response to question 1

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board (the UHB) provides ADHD assessments for children and young people under the age of 18 years. The neurodevelopmental assessment pathway conducted by the Children, Young People and Family Health Services (CYPFHS) Directorate is intended to provide a single route for the assessment of referrals for neurodevelopmental diagnosis. Pathway activity reporting is for the whole cohort accessing the pathway.

The UHB's adult secondary care mental health services also provide ADHD assessments.

In response to question 2

There are 3,173 patients under the age of 18 years on the waiting list for CYPFHS neurodevelopmental assessments, which includes ADHD assessment.

There are 867 adults on the ADHD assessment waiting list.

In response to questions 3

The number of CYPFHS neurodevelopmental assessments carried out is as follows:

- 2018 – 258
- 2019 – 138
- 2020 – 151
- 2021 – 182
- 2022 – 347
- 2023 – 215

In completing a search for the information requested in respect of adults, 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 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit') 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.

In response to question 4

The number of referrals received by the CYPFHS neurodevelopmental assessment pathway, which includes referrals for suspected ADHD, is as follows:

- 2018 – 1,556
- 2019 – 1,743
- 2020 – 1,394
- 2021 – 1,959
- 2022 – 2,644
- 2023 – 3,110

The UHB believes the section 12 exemption to apply in respect of adults and is therefore refusing your request.

In response to question 5

The number of accepted referrals for the CYPFHS neurodevelopmental assessment pathway is as follows:

- 2018 – 1,053

- 2019 – 1,084
- 2020 – 335
- 2021 – 918
- 2022 – 1,452
- 2023 – 1,895

The UHB believes the section 12 exemption to apply in respect of adults and is therefore refusing your request.

In response to question 6

The average time patients wait between referral and an assessment for the CYPFHS neurodevelopmental assessment pathway in weeks is as follows:

- 2018 – 27
- 2019 – 35
- 2020 – 51
- 2021 – 75
- 2022 – 90
- 2023 – 99

The UHB believes the section 12 exemption to apply in respect of adults and is therefore refusing your request.