



19 March 2019

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Our Ref: FOI 2967

Thank you for your request concerning Eating Disorders waiting times.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

1) Please state the average waiting time from referral to treatment for eating disorders in days for your health authority's patients for the following financial years?

Our Eating Disorder teams work on an 18 week (126 day) target for referral to treatment start. This is measured differently for different people. Almost all these referrals will have been seen, assessed and put on a review programme, sometimes with dietetic input within 28 days or 4 days if they are urgent (BMI under 15 or rapid weight loss or medically compromised by the eating disorder).

Financial Year	Average Wait from Referral to Start of Treatment (Days) Adults
2015/16	33
2016/17	48
2017/18	79

2) Please state the 5 longest waiting times from referral to treatment for eating disorders in days for your health authority's patients in each of the following financial years?

Financial Year	Longest Wait for 'Referral to Start of Treatment' (Days) Adults				
	1	2	3	4	5
2015/16	180	191	196	257	275
2016/17	145	148	172	186	205
2017/18	335	287	281	231	226

Caveat: There is a number of reasons for the longer wait times e.g.

- Transition from CAMHS
- Transition from Inpatient to Community
- Treatment start date may not be for the start of treatment with the eating disorder team but with other interventions such as support works, dietician or psychotherapy.

- 3) **For patients referred for treatment at an inpatient eating disorder clinic, please state the average time from referral to treatment recorded in days for your health authority's patients in each of the following financial years?**

This information is not held in a reportable electronic format. To supply the information requested would involve reviewing every patient record and to carry out this task would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450.

Under Section 16 we can advise the number of our adult eating disorder patients that were admitted to a non HPFT hospital in the last 3 financial years.

Financial Year	Number of Adult Eating Disorder Patients Admitted to Hospital
2015/16	26
2016/17	24
2017/18	25

Note: some services users with an eating disorder may receive treatment within our mental health units as a secondary diagnosis to their primary mental health diagnosis.

- 4) **For patients referred for treatment at an inpatient eating disorder clinic, please state the 5 longest waiting times from referral to treatment recorded for eating disorders in days for your health authority's patients in each of the following financial years?**

We do not routinely collect this information and to go through every referral would invoke S12 – Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit¹.

- 5) **Please state the number of your health authority's patients currently in inpatient eating disorder clinics as of 02.07.18. I appreciate some of these may be out of area, but please include these patients if you have figures available?**

As of 2 July there were 9 of our patients in hospital.

- 6) **Please state the number of your health authority's patients currently in inpatient eating disorder clinics that are:**

- a) **Receiving psychological therapies**
- b) **On the waiting list for psychological therapies**
- c) **Not currently receiving psychological therapies**

We do hold this information². Once a patient is admitted to hospital, the hospital is responsible for their treatment plan.

- 7) **Please state the number of suicide attempts recorded in eating disorder clinics managed by your health authority in each of the following financial years. Please provide a breakdown by unit if figures are available.**

Not applicable, we do not manage any inpatient eating disorder units

¹ Section 12 - Cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit has been applied

² Section 1(1) Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled

(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and
(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

- 8) **Please state the number of suicides recorded in eating disorder clinics managed by your health authority in each of the following financial years. Please provide a breakdown by unit if figures are available.**

Not applicable – please see explanation under question 7.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Sue Smith

**Sue Smith
Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

